

Visit by British Columbian and United Kingdom Foresters

From May 5th to May 17th 1998, under the auspices of the BC Festival of Forestry, a group of professional foresters will be visiting New Zealand. In all there will be 15 foresters (7 from BC and 8 from the UK — including the President of the UK Institute of Chartered Foresters, Mr George McRobbie) plus four partners. As well as seeing many aspects of forestry and visiting several companies and organisations in the northern halves of both islands they will be addressing local NZ Institute of Forestry meetings in both

Rotorua and Nelson.

For most of the visitors this will be their first visit in New Zealand. A larger group from Canada was expected but the uncertainties about the future of the forest industry there has probably led some to reconsidering the wisdom of leaving British Columbia at this time. The privatisation issue will certainly be discussed while the group is here as this is an issue which is continually being debated in both BC and the UK.

Aphid found on pines

The pine aphid *Esigella californica* was discovered in Canberra, in mid March, on *Pinus radiata*. Subsequently it was found on New Zealand grown avocados imported to Sydney. This prompted MAF staff to search for it in New Zealand and aphids have been collected from Radiata pine from a number of sites near and north of Auckland. These have still to be positively identified.

The species is not considered a major pest in its native habitat, but it is known to damage pines in France.

Honour for Dr Wink Sutton

In the 1997 Queen's Birthday Honours Dr Wink Sutton was made an officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM). The citation which accompanied the award read:

"For the services to Forestry. Dr Sutton is regarded as an international authority on plantation forestry and was leader of the Radiata Pine Task Force until 1982. He is a Past President of the New Zealand Institute of Forestry."

At the time of the award Wink was Director of Strategic Planning with Fletcher Challenge Forests. At the end of June 1997 he took early retirement and now plans to have his own forestry consulting company.

Forestry Expo 1998

The three-day New Zealand Forest Industries International Exposition in Rotorua from February 17 to 20 attracted 11,600 trade visitors plus a large number of the general public. The numbers attending the demonstrations in Kaingaroa forest were slightly down on 1994. The organiser of the expo, Terry Horan, said that overseas visitors commented on the extremely high standard of the exhibits. There were over 300 exhibitors.

The Institute of Forestry ran a series of seminars on all three days. Some seminars were well attended; others less so. The Institute's presence was organised by Paul Smale.

Maori Forestry Association

In February, Maori tribes formed an association to promote the development of their forestry holdings. Maoris own an estimated 250,000 ha of land already planted, plus very large areas that could be developed. Mr Taru White, a spokesman for the association, noted that most of their assets were being managed very conservatively and the association's first goal was to get Maori into mainstream industry activities.

Mr Taru White also spoke to the Institute of Forestry's meeting in Wanganui (see Institute News).

Applicant for registration

The following person has applied to become a Registered Forestry Consultant:

Bruce Patrick Lancaster

Gisborne

Under the NZIF constitution, any members of the Institute may send objections in writing within 20 days of Journal publication to:

The Registrar,
NZIF Registration Board,
PO Box 1340, Rotorua.

Forest holdings of the NZFFA members

A survey of members of the NZ Farm Forestry Association conservatively estimates they own and manage 200,000 ha of forests. On the basis of the survey about 68% of members own less than 10 ha; 24 % have between 10 and 40 ha with 8% over 40 ha.

This area compares to 288,000 ha owned by Fletcher Challenge Forests and 333,000 ha owned by Carter Holt Harvey.

Registrations from Consultants Scheme

The following have resigned from the consultants scheme:

Bruce Childs	1/39 Rita St, Mt Maunganui
Ross Usmar	PO Box 35-481, Auckland 10
Ken Bannan	PO Box 1127, Rotorua

FAO Forestry

Dr M. Hosny El-Lakany has been appointed as Assistant Director-General and head of the Forestry Department of the Food and Agriculture Organisation. Dr