



School of Forestry News

New Undergraduate Curriculum

The School has just completed a revision of the B.For.Sc. curriculum which will be implemented in 1999. The major change is the inclusion of optional papers, which allow the student to take courses outside of the School of Forestry in each of the four years. This will make it possible for a forestry student to include, as part of their B.For.Sc., a number of courses in a particular discipline, such as economics, biology or sociology, and in fact to develop a 'minor' in the second discipline. Other changes make it easier for general B.Sc. students to take courses taught at the School of Forestry. Details of the new curriculum can be found in the 1999 Prospectus, which can be obtained from the Dean at the School, or by accessing our web pages at <http://www.fore.canterbury.ac.nz/>

Student Overseas Exchange Underway

Ashwood Ceasar and **Jared Wayman**, two undergraduate students at the School, have recently returned from Virginia Tech and State University in the U.S.A., where they were taking advantage of a newly-agreed exchange programme between institutions. A similar agreement has been reached with the University of British Columbia in Canada. The agreements provide a great opportunity for New Zealand students to learn about forestry in a whole new environment under a reciprocal arrangement, which permits students to pay the tuition fees in their home university while studying overseas. This year, 6 students from the School of Forestry will be involved: **Chris Goodwin**, **George Fyson** and **John Goudie** are taking third and fourth year courses at Virginia Tech and State University, while **Joanna Liddell**, **Hamish Allan**, and **Andrew Barr** are at the University of British Columbia, and in return three students from each of the overseas universities are enrolled in courses in the School of Forestry at Canterbury.

Comings

1. Professor **Roger Sands** and Ph.D. student **Bocai Zou** have just returned from Bordeaux, France, where they attended a July IUFRO conference on structural roots, and presented papers on aspects of soil physical factors and root growth.

2. Three new postgraduate students have just enrolled from Malawi, Norway and Nepal. According to **Victoria Mackisack**, Professor Sands' secretary, this brings to 32 the number of countries from which our postgraduates have come.

3. Twenty-eight fifth-form high school students visited the School of Forestry as part of the Siemens Science School, held in July to promote their awareness of the application of science in various disciplines. Giving the students 'hands-on' experience is a strong aspect of the Siemens Science School, and **Nick Ledgard** and **Karl Schasching** presented the students with 'hands-on' opportunities dealing with insects and pests, and mensuration and inventory. I understand that the research dealing with possum guts, a favourite of past visiting school groups, unfortunately couldn't be presented this year.

4. **Te Taru White**, Coordinator of the Maori Forestry Association, visited the School as part of the Dean's Lecture Series, and presented an overview of the Maori forestry resource and vision, as well as some insight into the Maori approach to planning of forestry management.

5. **Mr Ian Wild**, a lecturer in Forest

Management and Inventory at the School of Forestry at Melbourne University, is visiting the School for half a term as a guest lecturer in FORE 320, Management of Wood Production. Welcome Ian!

6. **Dr Kenneth Hobson** has recently returned from a visit to the Department of Entomology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. While there he collaborated with UW entomologist **Dr Ken Raffa** on an investigation into the pheromonal behaviour of the natural enemies of a pine bark beetle called the pine engraver. Dr Hobson also attended an international meeting of scientists concerned with the application of new molecular techniques to questions in bark beetle field ecology.

and Goings

We recently said goodbye to postgraduates **Rachel Ebbet**, whose thesis was titled 'The Ecology of Lowland Totara in the South Island, New Zealand', and **Nur Masripatin**, 'Modelling Growth of a Tropical Rain Forest', who have successfully completed their Ph.D. studies. Congratulations to you both!

Ron O'Reilly

Lincoln University News

Forest Economics

Dr Hugh Bigsby has returned from his study leave in Canada. Upon his return, Hugh and **Dr Lucie Ozanne** have begun working on a conjoint analysis of New Zealand consumer acceptance of environmental certification, funded by Lincoln University's New Development Fund and the Public Good Science Fund. This issue is also being examined in the Christchurch area by students in the third year Forestry Project paper, who are conducting market research as a part of their studies.

Silviculture

Dr Don Mead, Honorary Research Fellow in Forestry, returned from a one month trip to Chile. He attended the Silvotecn X conference in Concepcion and helped forest companies on their tree nutrition problems.

Dr Scott Chang recently received

funding from the Asia 2000 Foundation to establish staff and student exchange programs with Nanjing Forestry University of the People's Republic of China. This follows a visit to the Forestry University by Drs Chang and Mead last year. Scott also received funding from the Brian Mason Scientific and Technical Trust for agro-forestry research at Lincoln.

Forest Ecology

Several postgraduate students have completed their theses in forest ecology and conservation over the last 9-12 months. These include:

The effect of deer browse on the recruitment of mountain beech in the Kaweka Forest Park (**Cathy Allan**, M.Sc.)

Dioecy in a lowland terrace rimu forest, south Westland (**Stan Van Uden**, M.Appl. Sci.)

Elder as a facilitator of succession,