



# Congress News

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Queensland, Australia

## Tree planting ceremony

**In line with established International Union of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO) tradition, a tree-planting ceremony at Southbank Parklands launched the XXII IUFRO World Congress in Brisbane yesterday, ahead of the grand opening ceremony this morning.**



Five Australian species were planted in the popular Southbank Parklands, just across the road from the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, however the highlight was the unveiling of the rare Wollemi Pine – a species the world thought extinct until recently.

Jim Varghese, Director – General for the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, joined with Malcolm Snow, Chief Executive Officer of the Southbank Corporation, to unveil the Wollemi and to officially mark the start of the IUFRO Congress.

Risto Seppala, President of IUFRO spoke of the strong tradition tree planting ceremonies have in their congress, and children from a local indigenous school presented poems about what trees mean to them.

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries forestry scientists, DPI and F's commercial group, DPI Forestry and the Birkdale Nursery, have been working to propagate the Wollemi Pine to bring it back from the brink of extinction. This is the first public viewing of the species in Queensland.

## Welcome to Brisbane and IUFRO!

### G'day IUFRO delegates,

Five long years of preparation for this event has lead up to this moment – the first day of the XXII IUFRO World Congress in Brisbane, and as Chair of the Congress Organising Committee, I am extremely pleased to welcome you all to Australia.

Over the coming six days, you will experience one of the richest technical programs in the history of the Congress, with five keynote plenary sessions, 15 sub-plenary sessions, over 135 technical sessions and a range of business, satellite and divisional meetings.

Rest-assured, you will come away from IUFRO more knowledgeable and connected than you are today which is really exciting.

As many of you are aware, this is the first time an IUFRO Congress has been held in the Southern Hemisphere, and we are very pleased to be welcoming the 2000 people from more than 90 countries to our warm climate and our Australian way of life.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can during the Congress – perhaps even tonight at the special welcome reception at 6pm. Cheers!

Gary Bacon, Chair, Congress Organising Committee



Welcome to the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre!



# News from Australia's forestry sector...

### *New silvicultural alternatives for Tasmania*

On 19 May 2005, the Federal and Tasmanian governments signed the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement.

This package introduced a number of significant changes to the management of Tasmanian forests, including commitments to establish significant new conservation reserves, reduce clear-felling in old-growth forests to 20 per cent of the old-growth harvest area by 2010, and plant 16,000 hectare of new eucalypt plantations on State forest by this date.

Forestry Tasmania has drawn on international research to create new harvesting approaches in old-growth forest, with alternatives to clear felling that are ecologically, socially and economically viable.

In addition, a comprehensive research program was established eight years ago by Forestry Tasmania at the Warra Long Term Ecological Research site, to investigate options.

This program has recommended adoption of a mixed silvicultural strategy involving variable retention, including:

- **aggregated retention:** for most old-growth wet eucalypt forest, by retaining unharvested aggregates within coupes;
- **clear-felling:** for smaller coupes in steeper country, where worker safety would be compromised by other methods of harvesting; and
- **group and single-tree selection:** in nominated Special Timber Management Units, where safe, economical and ecologically viable.

According to Native Forests Principal Research Officer, John Hickey, the organisation looked for ideas that would work from other areas with tall old-growth forest, including Canada and north-western USA.

"In the Pacific North West, researchers have put together the idea of a variable retention harvest," John Hickey said.

"The majority of the felled area is within one tree length of the standing old forest. Biologically, it is very different to clear-felling," he said.

# What's happening?

## MONDAY 8 AUGUST PROGRAM

**For the in-depth guide to what's happening each day and where to be a part of the action, check out your Daily Program, which is found in your delegate handbook.**

- **10am** Official Opening of the XXII IUFRO World Congress – please be seated by 9:50am. (Great Hall)
- **12:00** Keynote Plenary Session: Ariel Lugo, USA
- **12:30** Lunch
- **13:30-15:30**
  - Keynote Panel* with Ariel Lugo, Robert Nasi, Coert Geldenhuys and David Lamb (Plaza Terrace Room)
  - Sub-Plenary 141:* Integrating approaches to achieve multiple goals: intensive management, extensive management or conservation? (Great Hall)
  - Sub-Plenary 142:* Utilizing Genetic recourses to further sustainable forestry (Plaza Ballroom)
- **15:30** Refreshments
- **16:00-18:00 Technical Sessions**
  - 006:* Biodiversity and Plantations – Oxymoron or Opportunity? Integrating Approaches to Achieve Multiple Goals: Intensive Management or Conservation?(Great Hall)
  - 069:* Using Genetics and Silviculture to Manage Multiple Stress Complexes in Planted Forests (Plaza Ballroom)
  - 083:* The contributions of Tree Physiology to Understanding the Effects of Climate Change (Plaza Terrace Room)
  - 012:* Wood production in Agroforestry and in Short-Rotation Forestry Systems – Synergies for Rural Development (Room M3)
  - 031:* Indigenous Peoples and Commercial Enterprises in Forestry (Room P5)
  - 075:* Properties and Utilization of Plantation Timbers – "Plantation Wood as a Substitute for Native Forest Resources" (Room M4)
  - 079:* Modelling Multi-Dimensional Forest Dynamics for Multiple-Purpose Management Objectives (Room P1)
  - 115:* Building Synergies between Institutions and Conventions Dealing with Non-Wood Forest Products (Room P2)
  - 059:* World Forests in the Global Balance – Changing Paradigms (Room P3)
  - 073:* International Networking in Education (Room P4)
  - 151* Research Demonstration: Long Term Multi-Purpose Experiments in the Forest Sector (Room M2)
  - 018:* Integrating Wood Production within Sustainable Forest Management (Room F1)
- **18:00** Welcome Reception. Been meaning to catch with old forestry pals, or just want to meet some new friends? This is a great opportunity to relax with a glass of wine or beer, mix and mingle and settle in for a memorable IUFRO Congress. The Premier of Queensland, the Honourable Peter Beattie, will be at the reception to welcome you to Queensland and to officially open the Trade Display.

# Dinner welcomes IUFRO Board



**IUFRO Board Members were given a very special welcome on Friday, when a fabulous Queensland dinner, hosted by the Director – General of Department of the Primary Industries and Fisheries Jim Varghese, was thrown in their honour.**

A three-course meal featuring Queensland produce and local wines was on the menu, as well as an opportunity to relax and enjoy the company of international delegates before the hectic IUFRO Congress ahead.

During the evening, a special presentation was made to Jim Varghese marking DPI Forestry's certification with the Australian Forestry Standard.

"This certification will give Queensland's timber industry access to a "chain of custody" process for green labelling their products - when sourced from DPI Forestry - as coming from sustainable managed forest resources," Mr Varghese said.

"Collaboration between science, government and industry is imperative to the continuous improvement and innovation of international forestry research and let tonight be a wonderful continuation of that vision."



60 scientists called Gympie home

## Pre Congress TOURS

**Forestry scientists from countries including Slovakia, Russia, Costa Rica and Peru converged on Gympie, Queensland, last week to participate in special training courses aimed at reducing poverty through sustainable forestry management.**

The four pre-congress training workshops were held over four days, and involved practical and intensive training.

Sessions included effective proposal writing, the use and latest advancements in Information Technology in forest research and the role of public affairs and public relations in sustainable forestry.

Most of the course participants were from developing countries and were able to attend through a unique scheme called the Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC).

## Australia Post STAMPS

Australia Post has released a special line of stamps to coincide with the 22nd IUFRO World Congress; ensuring delegates can keep in touch with their international colleagues in style.

The new definitive series of stamps themed 'Native Trees' will be launched today.

The new stamps feature trees from different habitats around the country, including species such as the Snow Gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*), Wollemi Pine (*Wollemia nobilis*), Boab (*Adansonia gregorii*), Karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*) and the Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*).

Collectors can procure their first day covers, franked with the special congress logo from the Australia Post stand in the trade display.

## Keynote Presentation

**Ariel E Lugo**

**Keynote presentation: 12:00-1:00pm Monday 8 Aug (Great Hall)**

**Keynote panel: 1:30pm-3:30pm Monday 8 Aug (Plaza Terrace Room)**

**Country: Puerto Rico**

Director of the International Institute of Tropical Forestry in Puerto Rico, a unit of USDA Forest Service, Ariel E Lugo's XXII IUFRO World Congress keynote presentation will be on 'Conservation challenges to tropical forestry.'

His research interests have focused on the ecology of tropical forest landscapes, including carbon and nutrient flow, system response to disturbance, and strategies for management and conservation. Ariel E Lugo's publications number over 400.

## General house keeping

### Poster Awards

Session organisers are reminded that they should provide a nomination for the best poster in their session to the IUFRO Secretariat Office in the Main Foyer by 7:00pm on Wednesday.



# OUT & ABOUT!

COMING  
*Tomorrow!*

International Forestry Students Association plant their roots in Brisbane



Frits Mohren (The Netherlands) and Bob Luxmoore (USA) at the Wollemi Tree Planting Ceremony



Yuggera Aboriginal Dance Troupe at tree planting



Pre-congress training logs on to new IT developments



Pre-congress training was practical and hands on

Risto Seppala, President of IUFRO and Jim Varghese, Director-General DPI&F enjoy Friday night dinner.



Thought Monday was good? Check out some of what's in store for Tuesday. Here are some highlights:

- **The Congress Exhibition** will continue to be open for you to visit, and find out about the latest in forestry initiatives around the world. This is the largest array of exhibitors ever to be at an IUFRO World Congress so enjoy!
- **Eugene Van As** will present his keynote address 'Importance of Wood Science and Forest Science in Helping Developing Countries Develop Viable Forest Industries'. Be there bright and early at 8:30am in the Great Hall.
- **Sub-Plenary sessions** will cover 'Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change' and 'Promoting Development Through Improvements to the Forest-Wood and Products Chain'
- **The Marcus Wallenberg Prize** will be featured in presentations by Australian awardees during a special lunch-time event.



INTERNATIONAL HOST



AUSTRALIAN HOST



PRINCIPAL SPONSOR



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry