

Congress News

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Queensland, Australia



What a welcome!

It was five years in the making, and it showed!

The XXII IUFRO World Congress was officially opened in the grandest of ways yesterday, with a two-and-a-half hour ceremony marking the occasion.

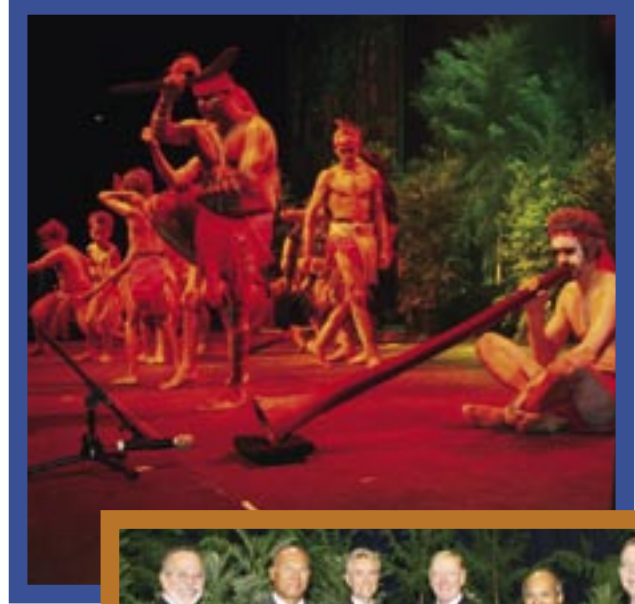
A highlight of the event was a special Indigenous Welcoming Ceremony by the Yuggera Aboriginal Dance Troupe, who opened in the ceremony with cultural fan-fair.

President of IUFRO Risto Seppala spoke of his vision for IUFRO and for the congress, while Senator the Honourable Ian Macdonald, Minister for Fisheries Forestry and Conservation discussed the present situation of forestry in Australia. Queensland Minister for Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, the Honourable Gordon Nuttall discussed the Department's strong tradition of research and development in forestry.

The ceremony also provided a fitting opportunity for the Host Scientific Nation Awards to be presented to two Australians Dr Garth Nikles and Dr Sadanandan Nambiar, as well as the presentation of IUFRO Scientific Achievement Awards to leading scientists from around the world.

There would be some proud mums out today!

Indigenous welcoming ceremony by the acclaimed Yuggera Aboriginal Dance Troupe.



Ariel Lugo, Hosney El-Lakany, Risto Seppala, Senator Ian Mcdonald, Jim Varghese and Gary Bacon at the opening ceremony.

Trade display an international affair



Japanese delegates ready to enjoy the IUFRO trade display (from left) Hidenori Suzuki, Masahiro Iwacka, Yozo Yamada and Hirokazu Yamaguchi.

If you want to hear about the latest in forestry technology and innovations, you need to look no further than the congress trade display, which opened in the Exhibition Hall yesterday.

The Honourable Peter Beattie, Premier of Queensland officially opened the trade display at the IUFRO Welcome Ceremony last night.

A total of 45 exhibitors from 15 countries are using 64 booths spaces to exhibit the latest services, products and technologies available to the forestry sector, and this makes the display the largest ever for an IUFRO congress.

Industry associations, private growers, research equipment manufacturers and research providers from around the world have joined Australian agencies to showcase the latest and greatest in forestry.

The Trade Display finishes tomorrow night, so make sure you make the most of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!



News from Australia's forestry sector...

ForestrySA's Research program – an integral part of plantation forest management

ForestrySA is committed to the economic, environmental and social aspects of sustainable forest management.

South Australia has a long history of plantation research and development and over the years, key findings have enabled ForestrySA to use forest management systems that produce a range of log products for manufacturing customers of paper, posts, sawn timber and other engineered timber products.

ForestrySA's research program plays a major role within the organisation's Integrated Management Systems and this program assists in developing best practice standards for customer service, forestry operations and environmental management.

Where appropriate research programs are undertaken collaboratively with industry and research providers. Key result areas for the ForestrySA research program include:

- Increasing plantation productivity;
- Minimising environmental impact; and
- Minimising costs.

Major projects currently being undertaken by ForestrySA often in collaboration with other organisations include:

- Use of LIDAR for estimation of plantation productivity;
- Monitoring of long-term plantation productivity across multiple rotations of Radiata pine;
- Trialling alternatives for chemical weed control;
- Management of Radiata pine mid-rotation nutrition;
- Extending regimes for minimising chemical herbicide use and costs, and
- Identifying water use by plantations.

For further information on ForestrySA and its research program visit their stand at the IUFRO Congress Trade Display or visit www.forestry.sa.gov.au

The Interview

FACE THE FUTURE

They're young, they're the face of forestry's future, and they're out in force at the IUFRO World Congress.

In an exclusive interview, 'Congress News' speaks to Moriz Vohrer from Germany, a Commissioner, and Member of the International Forestry Students Association (IFSA)

Interviewer: So Moriz, tell me about the Association.

Moriz: The IFSA was established to enrich forestry students' education in any way possible and provide a link between professional foresters and the student community. It has been established for 20 years and includes 50 universities from 30 different countries around the world as members.

Interviewer: What's your area of interest?

Moriz: I'm very interested in the Kyoto Protocol and it's affect on forestry.

Interviewer: How have you found the congress so far and how does it fit with your vision of the IFSA?

Moriz: If students from the Association ask me about who the 'big shots' of forestry are, I can now tell them, and provide information on who does what and where it happens. This is very exciting and a great opportunity for the Association. The congress has been very well organised, and I know a lot of people are very astonished about how great it is, and how many people there are here!

Interviewer: Moriz, although you usually live in Germany, you have been here in Australia doing your internship with the Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, Importantly – have you learnt to surf yet?

Moriz: I have tried once, but I wasn't very good at it. Ian Last, from DPI Forestry, took me out on to the waves once, and he said that the reason I couldn't get up on the board was the poor waves – although I think he was just being nice!

Editors note: Find out more about the International Forestry Students Association by logging on to www.ifsanet.net. Like any students, this group is missing no opportunity for a good time, and will be having a special gathering tomorrow night (Wednesday) at one of Brisbane's local night spots. If you are a member, or an alumni member and want to reminisce about the good-old-days of being a student, meet at the BECC front entrance at 7:30pm.

Pop Quiz

What do you think about the congress so far? Is this your first time to Australia? What has been the highlight so far? Tell us your thoughts by emailing iufronews@hotmail.com

Watch this space!

New IUFRO Group

A new Research Group is being formed on "Intercultural communications in forestry and the forest industry" in Division 6. Anyone interested in this should join the business session in Room M7 at 20.30 on Tuesday evening, or contact Dr. Natalia Vinokurova via the Congress message-board.

E-Forum

Did you know that through the IUFRO E-forum, you can provide your comments to IUFRO's future strategy and the congress resolution? You can access this great facility by logging on to any of the computers here at the congress.

Do you know what day it is today?

While today might be Tuesday 9 August 2005, it also marks something else that is very relevant to the IUFRO Congress and its theme. Today is the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples.

Do you know someone worth 2 million Swedish Crowns?

Come and hear about the Marcus Wallenberg Prize from two Australian winners and two members of the selection committee, today at 12:3—1:30 in the Plaza Terrace Room.

Taskforce – new meeting place

The IUFRO Taskforce on Traditional Forest Knowledge will hold its meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 19:00-21:00 at the Congress venue (not at the Carlton Crest Hotel as originally planned). Meet on the Foyer Level at the round table near Merivales Restaurant to the right of the Congress registration area.

Word of the day: (environmental) stress

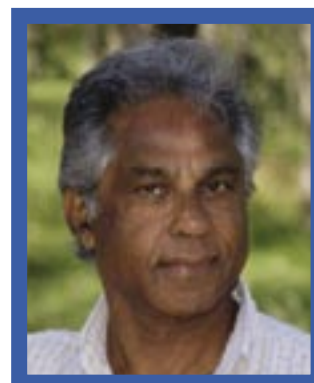
What does this term mean to you? The Multilingual Pocket Glossary says the definition is 'Any environmental fact that affects health and functioning of an organism, population or ecosystem and restricts their growth and/or reproduction; eg: significant shortage of soil moisture may place a plant under stress. Any stimulus or other factor acting to disturb the steady state of an organism or other system.' But don't take their word for it! Share your opinion at the session on 'Added value of forest terminology for forest stakeholders, Friday 16:00-18:00 room F1.

Too much time on your hands?

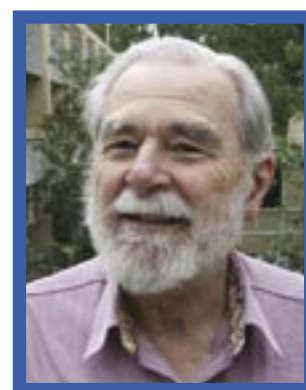
People interested in joining the Commonwealth Forestry Association or having information about forestry courses at the Australian National University should enquire at the National Association or Forest Industries stand or by speaking to Bob Newman (0418 443 910).

Scientific Award Winners

Congratulations to Host Nation Scientific award winners Dr E K Sadnanandan Nambiar and Dr Garth Nikles!



Dr E K Sadnanandan Nambiar



Dr Garth Nikles

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.

Keynote Presentation

Eugene Van As

Keynote presentation: 8:30am-9:30am, Tuesday 9 Aug (Great Hall)
Keynote panel: 10am-12:00pm, Tuesday 9 Aug (Plaza Terrace Room)
Country: South Africa

Non-Executive Chairman of South Africa's Sappi Limited, the world's leading producer of coated fine paper, Eugene Van As, is highly regarded in the forestry industry. His XXII IUFRO World Congress keynote presentation is titled 'The importance of wood science and forest science in helping developing countries develop viable forest industries'.

Eugene Van As joined Sappi in 1977 as the Managing Director of Sappi Kraft (Pty) Limited and in 1978, became the Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Sappi Limited. He is now the Non-Executive Chairman, a Director of Sanlam Limited and a Trustee of a range of education and research bodies.



Eugene Van As will present his keynote address this morning



OUT & ABOUT!

Federal Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation Senator Ian Macdonald (left) and IUFRO president Risto Seppala inspect a Wollemi pine at the opening ceremony on Monday 8 August.



Discussing the development of hardwood hybrids at the Department of Primary and Fisheries (DPI&F) trade display were (from left) David Lee (Australia) Dai Limin, (China) Garth Nikles (Australia); and Gary Sexton (Australia).

Yuggera Aboriginal Dance Troupe make their entrance during the opening ceremony.



Scientific Achievement Awards were presented at the opening ceremony.

Pre-congress training delegates were shown the time of their life in Gympie



COMING *Tomorrow!*

• Keynote Address

Tomorrow's keynote address will be presented by Joseph Gosnell (Canada), who will speak on 'Harvesting and Management of Natural Resources under the Nisga's Final Agreement'.

• Don't forget IUFRO Business Sessions!

There are a number of IUFRO Business Sessions being held tonight from 19:00-22:00. Please refer to page 69 of your program book for the full listing of the various meetings and times. Additional information regarding the unit number and name can be found on the IUFRO website - <http://www.iufro.org>

• More action in the trade display area – today and tomorrow!

Demonstrations of the Global Forest Information Service (GFIS) will be conducted in the trade exhibition today and tomorrow. An opening statement will be presented by the IUFRO President, Risto Seppala, this morning at 09:00 and Hosny El-Lakany, Assistant General Director FAO Forestry will be presenting tomorrow at 12:30.

President's Discussion – not to be missed!

A special President's Discussion will happen tomorrow at 13:30-15:30 chaired by President of IUFRO, Risto Seppala. The session will also include presentations from Ron Trosper (Canada), Fernando Montenegro (Ecuador), Marc Stephenson (Canada) and Jim Walker (Australia). This will be held in the Plaza Terrace Room and is a session not to be missed!



INTERNATIONAL HOST



AUSTRALIAN HOST



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