

## Science and Business News April 2005

### IUFRO 'Sustainable Forestry in Theory and Practice' Conference

130 delegates attended the IUFRO 'Sustainable Forestry in Theory and Practice: recent advances in Statistics and Modelling, Inventory and Monitoring, Information and Knowledge Management, and Policy Science' conference, held at the University of Edinburgh earlier this month.



90 international forest scientists visit Forest Research at NRS at the end of the IUFRO Edinburgh Conference.

The conference, organised by Forest Research (FR), discussed how recent developments in areas of 'numerical forest science' have influenced, and have been influenced by, the policy in support of sustainable forest management.

The conference opening address was given by FR's Chief Executive, Professor Jim Lynch, who described the links between research and policy supporting Sustainable Forestry Management in Britain. The four conference themes (Statistics and Modelling, Inventory and Monitoring, Information and Knowledge Management and Policy Science) included: climate change and carbon sequestration models, integration of data sources from inventories, multiple criteria decision models, linking knowledge with wisdom - bringing scientific information and scientists into the policy process. Each parallel session was preceded by a plenary keynote presentation from Professor Norman Johnson (Oregon State University), Dr John Thornley (CEH), Dr Chip Scott (USDA Forest Service) and Dr Mike Rauscher (USDA Forest Service). Delegates from 20 countries were present to hear the 62 presentations and look at the large collection of poster presentations. In addition 90 delegates enjoyed two field trip outings to Glentress Forest and Dawyck Botanic Gardens followed by a visit and 'whisky tasting' at the Northern Research Station in Roslin.

The conference proceedings will be produced on CD, and will be available later this year. A book will be published by CAB International at the end of this year entitled 'Sustainable Forestry', and will contain a selection of papers from the conference, many written by Forest Research authors.

### FR participates in DTI woodfuel supply chain mission to US

Andy Hall of FR's Forest Management Division, was one of eight participants in a DTI-led woodfuel supply chain mission to USA in January. The ten-day mission aimed to identify procedures or equipment used in the US that could assist the UK efficiency of harvesting, handling, processing, distribution, delivery and storage of wood for heating and energy applications. The team, made up of foresters, engineers and academics, paid particular attention to:

- Mechanised harvesting of timber, especially hardwoods; limb handling;
- Felling methods (chainsaw vs. shears);
- Handling of residues; and Machinery preferences (for example – the choice of dedicated or multifunctional equipment or modified agricultural machinery.)

The north-east United States (Vermont, New England, Virginia, Maryland and Delaware) was chosen as the mission's destination because its timber species, geographical factors and woodfuel usage have similarities which may translate to UK conditions. The mission's findings will be published on [www.globalwatchonline.com/missions/tmsmrep.aspx](http://www.globalwatchonline.com/missions/tmsmrep.aspx) later this Spring and presented at a Global

Watch Mission Seminar '*Woodfuel Supply Chain Infrastructure*', on 19 May at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire.

### **EFORWOOD progresses**

Forest Research has received notification that the Integrated Project proposed under the EU Sixth Framework Programme on 'Tools for Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Forestry-Wood Chain', (otherwise known as EFORWOOD,) has passed its final evaluation by the EU and will be formally approved later this year. This 4-year project will bring together some 30 leading forest research institutes and forestry SMEs from throughout Europe. It is co-ordinated by Skogforsk in Sweden and aspires to produce the first ever Sustainability Impact Assessment of the complete forestry wood chain in Europe. FR's involvement will be in three main areas, namely: the management of stakeholder involvement across the whole project; in areas related to forest resources management; and in examining forest to industry interactions where aspects such as harvesting, transport and wood quality aspects are considered.

## **Forthcoming Events**

**Full details of FR's events are available on FR's internet site:**

**[www.forestresearch.gov.uk/events](http://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/events)**

### **31 May to 3 June, ForestSAT 2005, Sweden**

Conference about the operational tools in forestry using remote sensing techniques.

<http://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/website/forestresearch.nsf/ByUnique/HCOU-4Z2KQ6>

### **8 June, Pests and Diseases of Amenity Trees, Milton Keynes**

A workshop to raise awareness of pests and diseases which can affect amenity trees.

<http://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/fr/INFD-6AQKQX>

### **14–15 June, Trees in a Changing Climate, Surrey**

A conference to bring home the implications of climate change to all those who plant trees.

<http://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/fr/INFD-64GGZJ>

### **22 June, International Pavillion, Royal Welsh Show Ground, Builth Wells, Powys**

Sicrhau Coed o Well Ansawdd 'I gefnogi'r Strategaeth Coetiroedd i Gymru', Comisiwn Coedwigaeth Cymru, Ymchwil Coedwigaeth.

Delivering Improved Timber Quality 'In support of the Wales Woodland Strategy Objectives', Forestry Commission Wales, Forest Research. <http://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/fr/INFD-6C2D6X>

### **14-16 September, Atlantic Oakwoods Symposium, Oban**

Collating current knowledge with a view to identifying the need for further research and the role of these woods in conservation planning. <http://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/fr/INFD-6A5HK4>

## **New Publications**

FCIN065 *Water use by trees*. April 2005. T Nisbet, Forest Research.

FCIN066 *Development of multiple leaders in Sitka spruce and Japanese larch following outplanting*. April 2005. M Perks, S Smith, C McEvoy.

IEA Information Note *Greenhouse gas benefits of small scale biomass heating systems in the United Kingdom*. 2005. R Heaton and R W Matthews. IEA Bioenergy Task 38 Greenhouse gas balances of biomass and bioenergy systems, Graz. Available from FR's Biometrics Division.

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