



## Conference background and aims

Forestry in Europe is evolving a multi-purpose role in which concerns over the environment, biodiversity and the provision of amenity and recreational facilities match the more traditional requirements of timber production. As this policy evolves and the impact of diversifying management practice becomes apparent, the demand for forecasting and decision-support systems to inform the management of multi-purpose forests and its effects on the forestry woodchain also increases.

Knowledge of the quality of standing timber and its impacts on production, processing and design throughout the forestry woodchain are emerging issues of growing concern. If timber is not to lose its current market share, valued to €15–20 billion for softwood materials in Europe alone, new and existing material must be to the correct specification standard and fit for purpose. The wood processing industries therefore require detailed knowledge of product properties to compete with other materials.

### Focus and Objectives

**The forestry woodchain – new and current research into valuing and enhancing the quality of timber and wood-based products from primary production to end user.**

**The objectives of the conference are to bring together the latest international research throughout the forestry woodchain. Every stage in the woodchain will be explored, with the emphasis on quantifying and predicting quality.**

## Who should attend?

The conference is open to all those involved in forest and woodland management, policymakers and planners, environmental and conservation scientists, and those concerned with the production, processing, specification and use of timber.



## Why this conference is important to you

- Forest managers need guidance to enable them to make informed decisions on production.
- Wood products industries need to know they will have a regular supply of consistent quality timber to inform future decisions on processing, manufacturing, specification, design and use.
- Scientists need guidance on future directions of relevant research.
- Policymakers need guidance to inform and recommend local, national and global policies on multi-purpose forestry, based on knowledge of outturn by volume and quality, impacts on industry and likely future effects of environmental change.
- Environmentalists and conservationists need to assess the ecosystem impacts of multi-purpose forest management.
- Public organisations need assurance that multi-purpose forests are sustainably managed.

### ... and the benefits?

- Keeping up to date with developments in the entire woodchain.
- An opportunity to present your research/findings.
- The opportunity to publish in peer-reviewed publication.

## Papers and posters

Over 70 papers have been submitted. Arrangements are being made for publications in peer-reviewed journals including: *Forest Ecology and Management*, *European Journal of Forest Research* and *Forestry*.

Extended abstracts will be available at the conference.

Deadline for submission of full papers for peer review: 31 October 2004.

## Conference programme

**DAY 1** 28 September 2004

### Quality of wood and timber

**Inaugural session** CHAIR : Tim Rollinson, Forestry Commission, UK

**Session 1:** Wood properties. 1 invitation lecture & 4 papers  
CHAIR: Arto Usenius, VTT, Finland

**Session 2:** Quality in standing timber. 1 invitation lecture & 4 papers  
CHAIR: James Pendlebury, Forestry Commission, UK

### Poster session

**DAY 2** 29 September 2004

### Wood and timber properties: processing, impacts and influences

**Session 3:** Laboratory and industrial processes. 1 invitation lecture & 4 papers  
CHAIR: Marco Fioravanti, Florence University, Italy

**Session 4:** Timber drying and distortion. 1 invitation lecture & 3 papers  
CHAIR: Name to be confirmed

**Session 5:** Climate change impacts. 1 invitation lecture & 2 papers  
CHAIR: Reinhart Ceulemans, Antwerp University, Belgium

**Session 6:** Forestry woodchain. 1 invitation lecture & 2 papers  
CHAIR: Jean-Michel Leban, INRA, France

### Conference dinner

**DAY 3** 30 September 2004

### Tree and timber grading and forecasting

**Session 7:** Grading and forecasting. 1 invitation lecture & 4 papers  
CHAIR: Risto Päivinen, EFI, Finland

**Closing address:** Name to be confirmed



## Registration procedure

### Venue

James Watt Centre 1, Heriot-Watt Conference Centre, Edinburgh

Venue and travel details are available from Edinburgh Conference Centre at [www.eccscotland.com/](http://www.eccscotland.com/)

### Costs

#### Conference registration fee: £195

To include

- Lunches
- Tea/coffee at breaks
- Abstracts booklet
- Poster facilities

#### Accommodation: £45 per night

Single/ensuite, including breakfast

#### Conference dinner

4 course Scottish banquet

#### Early registration is advised

£195 by 13 August 2004

£215 after 13 August 2004

Please complete the Registration form and return it to Esther Ker at the address shown.



Kiln dried timber stack



Forest Research

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