

Workshop and study tour focuses on Cypress

Brailsfords Limited is running a one-day workshop and three-day study tour of the Cypress industry in June. *Macrocarpa* and *Lusitanica* offer forest growers a realistic alternative to *Radiata* pine and some unique management options to grow quality timber to fill a widening market gap. The cypresses can be intensively pruned and harvested on a 20-25 year rotation, yielding high volumes of quality logs.

Radiata pine dominates New Zealand's forest industry with 90 per cent of the plantation estate dedicated to its production. This species provides us with some unique forestry opportunities with its high yields of clear wood and industrial timber on a relatively short rotation. However, it is becoming increasingly evident that *Radiata* pine is not suitable for specialist end uses where appearance and performance are important. Traditionally native and imported timber have been used for these purposes.

An uncertain future for harvesting and dwindling supplies of these timber provide an opportunity for specialty purpose plantation timbers that have good appearance and performance qualities. Cypresses are perhaps our best plantation species option.

The major cypress species grown in New Zealand include *Macrocarpa*, *Lusitanica*, *Lawson's* and the

Leyland's. They are well known with a proven track record and hence warrant more attention. All Cypresses have similar wood. It is characterised by an attractive grain, medium to low density and more importantly, natural durability, low shrinkage and excellent stability. Cypress wood is highly suitable for interior and exterior joinery, weatherboards and boat building and although it has low surface hardness, it is becoming more widely used in furniture.

Over the past 10 years, more attention has been directed towards Cypress by Forest Research, farm foresters and the private sector. This has resulted in better seed lots, establishment and tending systems, the selection and testing of cultivars with improved growth, form and tending qualities.

Cypresses have unique qualities that allow them to be managed at relatively high stockings on short rotations (20 years plus) while yielding high volumes of logs with good processing qualities. The virtual absence of pith and even wood property gradient from the centre of the tree to the outer means that young logs can be milled with a high recovery of quality timber. This, coupled with a high basal area growth capacity, can result in good diameter growth at high stocking in young stands.

The author of *The Cypress Growers Handbook*, Stephen

Brailsford, along with other industry experts will be running the Cypress growers workshop and study tour.

To find out more information on the workshop and study tour of the Cypress industry between 26 June and 28 June inclusive. Contacts: Brailsfords Limited at telephone, 03-329 6296; fax, 03-329 6295; email, sb-bfm@clear.net.nz

Wood Stain Research

Research into sapstain on *Radiata* pine logs has landed University of Waikato student, Paula Cooper, an award that allows her to present a paper in Hawaii.

Ms Cooper has been working with Carter Holt Harvey Forests to develop a theoretical sapstain danger index, which guides them on how soon certain *Radiata* pine logs should be either treated for sapstain or processed. Ms Cooper developed a method for validating this index as part of her Master of Science degree. The \$500 award from the university's biological sciences department helped her travel to an international conference on wood preservation.

She was able to do the research with the support of Technology New Zealand's Graduates in Industry Fellowship.



Puhi Nui Motor Lodge

Close to Forest Research.

First choice for forestry visitors to Rotorua.

Special rates for

NZ Institute of Forestry members.

Reservations: 0800 100414
Phone: (07) 348 4182
Fax: (07) 347 6595
Email: puhinui@puhinui.co.nz

ForTrade

The specialist classad space aimed at the forestry trade.
Classified Advertising at Competitive Rates.

CONTACT
NZ Journal of Forestry
Tel: (07) 349 4107
Fax: (07) 349 4157
bms@wave.co.nz

Can't see the Wood for the Trees?

If forestry is your game, let the wordsmiths work out the words while you work in the woods.

Business Reports

Company Profiles

Newsletters

Cost effective Brochures

Annual Reports

Business Media Services Ltd

Tel: (07) 349 4107; Fax: (07) 349 4157

email: bms@wave.co.nz