

August 2014



## Forest Research Update

### Update from the Forest Research Committee

This is the first more detailed update from the new Forest Research Committee on the changes that have occurred to the organisation and management of forest growing research since FOA and FFA assumed responsibility for the management of the programmes funded by the new Forest Growing Levy Trust on 1 April 2014. Given the breadth of the work involved the Research Committee includes a number of observer representatives in addition to the full membership representation which, like all other committees, is exclusive to FOA and FFA. The introduction of the forest growing levy is a significant step forward by the forest growing sector, and with that, change has been necessary. The work of Future Forests Research and the FOA administered Biosecurity Committee have provided excellent foundations for the new R&D structure.

Dear {FIRST\_NAME|Forest Investor}

### Changes to Organisation of R&D

The transfer of responsibility for the management of forest growing research from FFR to FOA is now complete and following the agreement of the Harvesting Theme Members, FFR has been refocused on the PGP Steep Land Harvesting Programme. This programme did not receive funding from the Forest Growing Levy Trust when funding allocations were determined earlier this year due to the list of candidate projects exceeding the available funds. Associated with the refocusing of FFR on the harvesting programme has been a reduction in the size of the FFR Board, a change in the trustee shareholder of the company from Scion to an independent trustee company and a management agreement being put in place with FOA to cover the management of the company. These changes have all been agreed by the Ministry of Primary Production, the 50% investment partner in this programme, concluding a reasonably smooth transition process.

Whilst FFR managed the levy funding to the Sustainable Intensification (GCFF) and Diverse Species programmes from 1 January 2014, responsibility for all of the forest growing research programmes supported by the forest growing levy passed to the new R&D management structure on 1 April 2014. The R&D programme is overseen by a joint FOA/FFA Forest Research Committee, chaired by David Balfour of Timberlands. The committee members are Grant Dodson (City Forests), Patrick Milne (Farm Forestry Association), Philip Elworthy (Matariki Forests), Dave Lowry (Hancock Forest Management), Ian Hinton (Timberlands) and Glen Murphy (Wairiki Institute of Technology). Warren Parker, Chief Executive of Scion, attends the committee meetings. The programmes are being managed out of the FOA office located in the PF Olsen building on the Scion campus site.

[Top](#)

### Research Programmes Supported by the Forest Growing Levy Trust

Five research programmes have been funded by the Forest Growers Levy Trust, these being:



### RECENTLY PUBLISHED REPORTS

The following reports have recently been published on the website:

Minimum Zoospore Concentration for Red Needle Infection - [Link](#)

Chemical Control of Red Needle Cast - [Link](#)

Molecular Differentiation and Distribution of *Cyclaneusma minus* morphotypes from *Pinus radiata* in New Zealand - [Link](#)

Efficacy and Persistence of Phosphite for Control of RNC in *Pinus radiata* - [Link](#)

Use of Remotely Sensed Data for Forest Inventory Purposes in Tairua Forest - [Link](#)

Programme	MBIE	Forest Grower Levy	Scion	Other	Total
Diverse Species	-	0.300	0.250	-	0.550
Sustainable Intensification (GCFF)	3,380	1.600	-	0.200	5.180
Fire	0.700	0.06	0.05	0.300	1.110
Phytophthora	2.200	0.400	0.500	0.270	3.370
Bioprotection	-	0.300	0.080	0.030	0.680
Foliar Diseases	-	0.340	1.890	0.160	2.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.280</b>	<b>3.000</b>	<b>2.770</b>	<b>1.230</b>	<b>13.280</b>

Each of these programmes has a Technical Committee made up of industry subject matter experts who have been appointed for their technical knowledge and expertise and not as company or organisation representatives. This is important as the programmes are for the benefit of all forest grower levy payers.

A single Technical Committee is providing oversight of the three forest biosecurity/forest health research programmes. The industry members on these committees are:

Emerging Species	Forest Biosecurity	Sustainable Intensification (GCFF)
Patrick Milne (Chair)	Dave Lowry (Chair)	Ian Hinton (Chair)
Simon Rapley	Wei-Young Wang	Dave Lowry
Mark Dean	Nigel Heron	Philip Elworthy
Graeme Manley	Mark Forward	Peter Oliver
Marika Fritzsche	Paul Stevens	Aaron Gunn
	Bill Dyck	Kit Richards

The Technical Committees have met on two occasions, on 10th April 2014 as a joint Technical Committee, and in the second week of July to discuss programme progress to 30 June 2014 and the programme for the next 12 months.

The FFR Harvesting Technical Steering Team will not change and the existing Fire Research Committee that has Grant Dodson as the FOA representative, along with representatives of other rural fire stakeholders, will continue as is.

Separate Cluster Groups are being formed where there is a need to bring together researchers and industry practitioners to jointly work on specific areas of research with a focus on uptake of research outcomes. The LIDAR cluster group is a good example of a successful cluster group.

[Top](#)

## Forest Growing Research Conference

The inaugural Forest Growing Research Conference for forest growing levy payers will be held in Rotorua from Wednesday 29th October – Friday 31st October 2014. It is intended that this will be an annual event to provide an update on the levy funded forest growing research programmes. Future events may be held in different locations. The conference will cover:

- Improving Economic Returns

### RECENT WORKSHOPS

GCFF Workshop June 2014 - [Link](#)

### UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Forest Growing Research Conference:  
29th - 31st October 2014  
Further details to come.

### Websites:

FOA Research - [Link](#)  
- Research Programmes  
2013 - 2019 - [Link](#)

FOA - [Link](#)

FFA - [Link](#)

Forest Growers Levy Trust - [Link](#)

- Biosecurity Research
- Alternate Species for Diversity and Risk Management
- License to Operate issues

The conference will include a field trip to Kaingaroa Forest on Thursday 30th October where these issues can be discussed in the field and a dinner on the Wednesday night where annual science awards will be presented.

More details will be provided shortly but mark these days in your diary now and keep free.

[Top](#)

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## Access to Research Results and FFR Website

Intellectual Property owned by FFR is in the process of being transferred back to Scion who will hold for the benefit of the NZ forest growing industry. It has been decided that the former cooperative research documents dating back to the mid 1980's will be made freely available unless it is in the wider interests of the industry to restrict access to any of this material. It has also been agreed that the outputs from the non-harvesting FFR programmes will be restricted, for three years, to those FFR members (via secure website access) who supported these programmes. After three years it will be made freely available, with the same proviso that wider access will only be restricted where it is in the wider interests of the industry to do so.

The FFR website has been rebranded to reflect the new arrangements and will be used to provide access to the outputs of the Forest Growing Levy Trust funded research as well as the FFR member's research and the steep land harvesting research outputs that are restricted to investors in this programme. If you have any issues with access to the website then please continue to deal with: Veronica Bennett [via email](#) or phone 07 921 7246.

[Top](#)

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