



Ministry of Environment and Forestry



First Announcement

IUFRO Acacia Conference 2017
"Towards a sustainable future for *Acacia* plantations"
Yogyakarta, Indonesia 24 - 28 July 2017

We are pleased to announce that the IUFRO Acacia Conference 2017 will take place in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from Monday, July 24th to Friday, July 28th 2017

BACKGROUND

For the past 30 years, acacias have been one of the major forest plantation species of choice in the tropics, particularly in South-East Asia. Selected acacia species have high rates of growth, are tolerant of acidic, low nutrient and degraded soils, and in Indonesia have been easy to establish in landscapes dominated by *Imperata* grassland. Harvested plantation acacias are now an important global resource with >3.5M ha grown in Asia, Africa and South America. They supply fibre for pulp and paper industries, wood for furniture, building materials, and charcoal and other fuels, as well as being used for the protection of water catchments.

After several successive and successful rotations, growers are now facing various challenges that threaten the sustainability of planted acacia forests. Pests and diseases, soil compaction, weed invasiveness and a changing climate are now major topics of interest to researchers working with interested parties to seek ways of confronting and adapting to these challenges.

Thus the central theme of the Conference is "Towards a sustainable future for *Acacia* plantations". It will bring together researchers, plantation managers and policy makers from around the world for an intensive five days of exchanging views. Researchers from various countries are expected to present their latest findings, and plantation managers will be able to get first hand information.

The Conference aims to encourage sharing of knowledge and experience within and across disciplines, to identify key areas for future research, and to strengthen links with those persons responsible for forest management. To develop the last, we

include an Industry Forum at which senior company managers will participate in a panel discussion.

The challenges confronted for growing acacias in the recent years are much more complex than 20 years ago when the species was first being established. The content of this second meeting is based on the recommendations of the *Acacia* 2014 Conference in Hue, which in particular urged geneticists and pathologists to work together with managers to resolve problems associated with major diseases. Hence, a specific theme on Disease and Pest Management is offered.

This meeting of IUFRO WP 2.08.07 is hosted by Centre for Forest Biotechnology and Tree Improvement, Agency for Research Development and Innovation, Ministry of Environment and Forestry Republic of Indonesia.

CONFERENCE THEMES:

The program will be organized along the following themes:

1. Plantation management for sustainable production.
 - Biophysical drivers of productivity and site management;
 - Edaphic characteristics and productivity;
 - Site rehabilitation and effects on soils.
2. Diseases and pests
 - Distribution, dynamics and spread of *Ganoderma* root-rot disease
 - Distribution, dynamics and spread *Ceratocystis* stem wilt and canker disease;
 - Biology, aetiology and host-pathogen interactions;
 - Screening for disease tolerant germplasm;
 - Development and deployment of biological control agents.
3. Genetics and breeding
 - Using polyploidy to develop desirable traits;
 - Prospects for molecular approaches to tree improvement;
 - Development and deployment of new clones;
 - Breeding of *Acacia* hybrids.
4. High-value wood products
 - Management for sawn-timber products and veneer;
 - Wood quality and timber processing;
 - The economics of solid-wood vs. pulpwood production
5. Smallholders and forestry
 - Social drivers and barriers to adoption and diffusion across regions;

- Gender impacts on production and marketing.

6. Risk evaluation and mitigation

- Mitigating damage and spread of *Ceratocystis* caused by browsing and branch breakage by squirrels, monkeys and elephants;
- Linking disease mitigation strategies to the characteristics of the landscape;
- Responding to changing climates;
- Ecological impacts and weed invasiveness;
- Needs for biosecurity.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The conference is aimed at researchers of all scientific disciplines involved in the thematic fields of the conference. The conference should also attract forest industry professionals and policy makers.

FIELD PROGRAMME

- A mid-conference visit to inspect trial sites of acacia and small-scale sawmilling of acacia timber near Yogyakarta;
- A post conference tour for those interested who wish to see industrial plantations producing fibre for a large pulp mill in Riau province in Sumatera, and the attendant problems associated with their ongoing sustainability, or acacia community plantations and the associated industry in the District of Pacitan, East Java.

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission	1 st January – 28 th February 2017
Author Notification	1 st April 2017
Full paper Submission	1 th June – 1 st July 2017
Registration:	
Early bird	1 st January – 30 th April 2017
Regular	1 st May – 30 June 2017
Late	1 st July – 24 th July

CONFERENCE VENUE

The Alana Hotel and Convention Centre
Jalan Palagan Tentara Pelajar Km. 7, Yogyakarta INDONESIA

Yogyakarta is a cultural city rich of Javanese cultures. It is also a centre of higher education. Participants of the Conference will enjoy the natural and cultural charm of the city.

CONTACT AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Purnamila Sulistyawati

Centre for Forest Biotechnology and Tree Improvement

Sleman Yogyakarta 55572

INDONESIA

Email: purnamila@biotifor.or.id