Improving Forest Health on Commercial Plantations

Report by the Coordinators of IUFRO Working Party 7.02.13: Rebecca (Beccy) Ganley, New Zealand, Rodrigo Ahumada, Chile, Angus Carnegie, Australia, and Carlos Pérez, Uruguay

Working Party 7.02.13 “Forest Health in Southern Hemisphere Commercial Plantations” held its first conference from 21-23 March 2018 in beautiful Punta del Este, Uruguay. The meeting was a great success with over 50 participants from eleven countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Uruguay.

The meeting started with a series of highly informative talks about the forest industries and the main pests and pathogens in individual countries. Eucalypts are used as a plantation species in most of the countries represented, with pines as the second most common plantation species. While there is a wide range of pests and pathogens affecting these plantation species, it is very clear that there are several common issues shared by all.

The keynote speakers set the scene for the conference, highlighting the most important issues facing forest health in commercial plantations: biosecurity, surveillance, diagnostics, as well as impacts and management of pests and diseases. These talks were complimented by a selection of excellent oral presentations and posters.

Pest and diseases in eucalyptus plantations
The field trip included visits to a variety of eucalypt plantations (Eucalyptus globulus, E. dunnii and E. smithii) in Maldonado and Lavalleja with different pests and diseases. Among these there were invasive species such as Teratosphaeria nibilosa, T. pseudoeucalypti, T. gauchensis and Thaumastocoris peregrinus, as well as a native pathogen, Aramburri cognata (syn. Innocutis jamaicensis). We heard from forest growers and scientists about the impacts these pests and pathogens are having on the plantations and the management strategies in place to control them.

The day was capped off by visiting a beautiful winery ‘Viña Edén’ (Eden’s Vineyard) with stunning vistas across the Serranías del Este, where attendants spent the afternoon tasting wine and enjoying a selection of locally produced foods while continuing forest health discussions and ideas for future collaborations.

Commitment to strengthen collaboration
The outcome from the conference was a commitment to increased collaboration between researchers working on common issues. This will be facilitated by establishing a list of researchers who work on forest health issues in commercial plantations, to be hosted on the webpage of IUFRO Working Party 7.02.13.

The Working Party is also planning to prepare two publications, one on forest health issues in Southern Hemisphere plantations and the other on the economic impacts of pests and diseases in Southern Hemisphere commercial plantations. It is hoped that both publications will provide industry and governments with clear information on the costs and impacts of biological invasions, allowing them to better manage biosecurity and forest issues in their countries. The book of abstracts is available here: https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-7/70000/70200/70213/publications/

Future activities
The Working Party is planning to host a session on forest health in commercial plantations and a Sirex management workshop (tbc) at the next IUFRO World Congress in Curitiba, Brazil 29 September - 5 October 2019. There are also plans for a conference in 2021 (tbc) to be held as a joint meeting with another Division 7 Forest Health Working Party.

Words of thanks
We would like to acknowledge the organizing committee, in particular Gustavo Balmelli, for all their hard work in preparing the conference. We are also grateful to Roberto Scoz from INIA, and for the support of Universidad de la República, INIA, GIPF, NSW Primary Industries, Bioforest and Scion, as well as the sponsors UPM, Los Eucaliptus S.A., Montes del Plata, Forestal Atlantico Sur, FORESUR GIE and PEDECIBA for making this meeting possible.

A big thank you goes to all the speakers and participants who made this a truly memorable conference!

We are proud to have hosted the first meeting of Working Party 7.02.13, and to have shared experiences with many researchers coming from several countries sharing similar problems. Thanks to everybody for the support and see you all in Curitiba!!!!
7th International Gall Symposium

Report by György Csóka, Coordinator of IUFRO WP 7.03.02 (Gall-forming insects)

The International Symposium of Cecidology subtitled ‘Ecology and evolution of gall-inducing arthropods’ was held between 3 – 8 March 2018 at the Huisun Experimental Forest Station, Nantou County, China-Taipei. It was the seventh event in a row of symposia dedicated to gall inducing arthropods (the first one took place in Krasnoyarsk, Siberia, in 1993).

The chair of the organizing committee was Professor Man-Miao Yang (Department of Entomology, National Chung Hsing University, Taichung; President of the Taiwan Entomological Society), and the co-chair was Dr. Gene-Sheng Tung (Division of Botanical Gardens, Taiwan Forestry Research Institute, Taipei). There were 101 participants from 16 countries (Australia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Korea, Poland, Romania, Sweden, South Africa, China-Taipei, Turkey, USA, UK). The total number of presentations was 55 (35 oral and 20 posters).

The presentations covered many different aspects of cecidology and many different taxa of galling-inducing arthropods. A specific workshop on invasive gallers was also held as part of the event. The book of abstracts (together with more information about the conference) can be found at the website: http://www.letsgall.tw/. The proceedings of the symposium will be published as a special issue of the “Formosan Entomologist”, journal of the Taiwan Entomological Society. The 8th symposium is planned to be held in California, United States, in 2022.

These were the dry facts about the symposium. But there are far more things to be told... There is a story behind the slogan of the meeting: “Let’s Gall Taiwan!” Have a look at http://www.letsgall.tw/about/ to find out more. The Huisun Experimental Forest with its extremely diverse mountainous landscape, subtropical forests, rich spring flora and fauna provided excellent surroundings for the conference. The meeting was extremely well organized from a technical as well as from a social point of view. So many charming small details were put into the program, including a traditional tea ceremony, dyeing silk scarfs with gall dye, a “fig wasp show”, spectacularly illuminated trees, a huge bonfire and a tribal dance performed by native children at the farewell party, just to mention a few. The organizers tried (and succeeded) to show the beauty of the country and their souls at the same time.

The post-conference trip was similarly fascinating and friendly showing even more natural beauties and traditions. I feel (and I am surely not alone with this feeling) that I have left half of my heart on the island of Taiwan.

2018 World Wood Day

The theme of the 6th annual World Wood Day (WWD) celebrations that took place on 20-25 March 2018 in Angkor, Siem Reap, Cambodia, was Life. In the course of the event a symposium, woodcraft activities, folk art workshops, music festival, design projects, children's event and a tree planting were held. Find out more at: http://www.worldwoodday.org/2018/regions/Cambodia#

In 2019 World Wood Day will be celebrated in Stübing near Graz, Austria. Find preliminary information here: https://www.iufro.org/discover/noticeboard/other-announcements/

World Wood Day is traditionally co-sponsored by IUFRO Research Group 5.15.00 - Forest Products Culture: https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-5/50000/515000/

The TOOLBOX - Every IUFRO Unit has it!

The TOOLBOX is a special guide for IUFRO officeholders. You can find it in the blue box of your IUFRO Unit webpage. It presents all the noteworthy information about working in the IUFRO network in a clear and concise way.

Make yourselves familiar with HELPFUL DOCUMENTS OF IUFRO. They come in handy when you want to check the fundamentals of the organization such as the Strategy or the Statutes, or when you just need some guidance on how to best conduct your IUFRO activities.

Your toolbox also contains an updated Powerpoint PRESENTATION for explaining IUFRO to newcomers. The presentation includes a link to the IUFRO explanatory VIDEO, which is also available on the IUFRO homepage: https://www.iufro.org/
IUFRO Activities Marking the International Day of Forests & World Water Day


IUFRO Spotlight #58 – To build a healthier city, build a better forest
IUFRO published an article to present recent innovative studies conducted in Canada and the U.S. that show that trees remove air pollution – both gaseous and particulate pollutants – and that this has a beneficial effect on human health.


GFEP Interview: Forests and Water for Cities

Watch the interview here: https://youtu.be/qd1YJ7aoYG0

Publications
https://www.iufro.org/publications/

New on the IUFRO Blog: The Power of Science to Halt Deforestation
Science and research can offer significant contributions to halting deforestation and increasing the area of healthy forests around the world in a sustainable manner:

This article has been re-blogged from a blog coauthored by Vincent Gitz (FTA) and IUFRO Vice-President John Parrotta about Session 16 on "The Role of Science and Research" at the Halting Deforestation conference: http://forest-streessagroforestry.org/the-power-of-science-to-halt-deforestation/ organized by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests organized from Feb. 20-22 2018 in Rome, Italy.

At the conference IUFRO underscored the importance of platforms bringing together science with policymakers, the private sector and other stakeholders. Such platforms are key for increasing mutual understanding, aligning research priorities with the needs of stakeholders, enhancing uptake and implementation. There are many examples of substantive, transformative knowledge available in research that can be transferred and scaled up for greater impact.

Conference Proceedings
First Working Party 7.02.13 meeting: Improving forest health on commercial plantations (see report on page 1) 21-23 March 2018, Punta del Este, Uruguay
https://www.iufro.org/publications/proceedings/proceedings-meetings-2018/#c27421


Silvology - Redefining the Biological Science for the Study of Forests
Gabriel Hemery and Jens Peter Skovsgaard propose a formal definition for a term that describes the scientific study of forests and woods.


IPBES Land Degradation and Restoration Assessment Report
The dangers of land degradation, which cost the equivalent of about 10% of the world’s annual gross product in 2010 through the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services, are detailed for policymakers, together with a catalogue of corrective options, in the three-year assessment report prepared by more than 100 leading experts from 45 countries. John Parrotta (IUFRO Vice-President) was one of the Coordinating Lead Authors of the report.

The report was produced by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and approved at the 6th session of the IPBES Plenary in Medellin, Colombia, in March 2018. Read reports from the session at: http://enb.iisd.org/ipbes/6-plenary/

The Assessment report deals with the entirety of land-based ecosystems, including but not limited to soil, and also covering the aquatic ecosystems enclosed and fed by the land, such as rivers and lakes. The complete report (inclusive of all data) will be published later this year. To access the Summary for Policy Makers online go to: https://www.ipbes.net/outcomes

Podcast on Bark Beetles (in German)
"Was Waldbesitzer gegen Borkenkäfer tun können" produced by BFW, Vienna, Austria
Related article: https://bfw.ac.at/ru/bfwcms_web?dok=10380 Link to the podcast: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmdHkrLKJEg

Unasylva 250 – Forests and Sustainable Cities
"Cities need forests" is a key message from the 250th edition of FAO's Unasylva journal, published to coincide with this year's International Day of Forests (IDF) on 21 March and its theme of "Forests and Sustainable Cities":

Forest Policy and Economics – Information on Latest Issues:
Volume 89 (April 2018)
Orchestrating forest policy making: Involvement of scientists and stakeholders in political processes

Volume 90 (May 2018)
Find out about articles here:

Special Issue Volume 91 (June 2018)
Forest policy and governance: Taking stock of multiple environmental social sciences
Edited by Dodik R. Nurrochmat, Eny W. Astuti, Lukas Giesen, Ahmad Maryudi

The summarizing intro chapter is available for free download at: https://authors.elsevier.com/c/1Wv-F4v2D1OuH0

Calls for Manuscripts:
The Green-Blue Nexus: Forests, Landscapes and Services
The deadline for submissions of papers to this issue of Ecological Processes with Lead Guest Editor Christine Fürst of Martin Luther University, Germany, is 30 September 2018. Find out more: https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-8/80000/80100/80102/

Forest and Society (F&S) - Journal Invites Papers
As a young and strongly emerging research journal Forest and Society (F&S) is openly welcoming submissions with a main geographical focus on Southeast Asia. The F&S journal is university-driven (UNHAS Indonesia), interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed, open-access (non-predatory), and free of charge. For more information visit: http://journal.unhas.ac.id/index.php/fs/index, or write to: Muhammad Alf K. Sahide: alfik.mksr(at)gmail.com, forest_society(at)unhas.ac.id

Forests Special Issue on Forest Insects and Pathogens
Forests is running a Special Issue entitled Forest Insects and Pathogens in a Changing Environment: Ecology, Monitoring & Genetics (IUFRO Joint Meeting of WP7.03.05 & 7.03.10) edited by Dr. Dimitrios N. Avtzis and Dr. Rudolf Wegensteiner.
Deadline for manuscript submissions: 6 August 2018
http://www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special_issues/IUFRO_Meeting_WP7.03.05_7.03.10

Forests Special Issue on Planted Forests and Climate Change
This special issue of Forests will present selected papers from the IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress. The issue will be edited by Christophe Orazio, Elena Paoletti and Margarida Tomé.
Deadline for manuscript submissions: 11 August 2018
http://www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special_issues/IUFRO_2017_planted_climate

Positions
https://www.iufro.org/discover/noticeboard/position-announcements/

Assistant Professor – Outreach/Extension
Silviculture
Submit application by 8 June 2018
The Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia, invites applications for a fiscal year (12-month, 1.0 EFT) tenure-track, 75% outreach and 25% research appointment offered at the rank of Assistant Professor and stationed at the University of Georgia Campus in Tifton, GA, USA. Individuals with expertise in the broad area of silvicultural issues relevant to southern ecosystems are encouraged to apply. Details: https://facultytabs.uga.edu/postings/3614

Positions for Tenure Track Assistant Professor (or above)
Submit application by 15 June 2018
The Department of Soil and Water Conservation of National Chung Hsing University, China-Taipei, is inviting applications for the position of Tenure Track Assistant Professor (or above).

Silviculture and Forest Biodiversity Faculty Positions
Submit application by 3 September 2018
The School of Forestry and Resource Conservation, National Taiwan University, China-Taipei, currently has one opening in each of the following areas: 1) Silviculture or Tree Physiology.
5 Fully-Funded MSc Scholarships in Tropical Forestry
Submit application by 31 May 2018
The School of Environment, Natural Resources and Geography, Bangor University, U.K., is pleased to announce that up to 5 fully-funded scholarships (each worth over £14,550 to cover tuition fees) are available for applicants from the following developing commonwealth countries to study for a MSc Tropical Forestry by distance learning: Ghana, Guyana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The scholarships are only available for entrants who are able to start the programme in September 2018.
Details: https://www.bangor.ac.uk/energy/postgraduate-courses/tropical-forestry-msc-international-commonwealth-scholarship-distance-learning

International Scholarships available for MSc Course in Tropical Forestry
Submit application by 30 October 2017 for scholarship applications starting the course in October 2018.
Technische Universität Dresden (TUD), Germany, has DAAD scholarships available for the 2018 MSc Course in Tropical Forestry (see details under further down under "University Courses and Summer Schools").
For details write to: tutor(at)forst.tu-dresden.de
TUD: https://tu-dresden.de/bu/umwelt/forst/inter/tropen

University Courses and Summer Schools

Professional Course in International Forest Governance
Apply by 30 April 2018
Participants will be introduced to concepts of international governance, discussing power, democracy, participation and policy pathways.
Date: 9–27 July 2018
Venue: University of Freiburg, Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources, Germany
Organizers: Daniela Kleinschmit (Chair of Forest and Environmental Policy, University of Freiburg), Peter Kanowski (Professor of Forestry, Fenner School of Environment and Society, Australian National University)
Details: http://www.forstpolitik-umweltpolitik.uni-freiburg.de/lehre/IntForGov?set_language=de

Master of Science in Tropical Forestry at TU Dresden, Germany
Submit application by:
31 May 2018 (applicants from outside EU)
15 July 2018 (applicants from EU)

The Master course organized by the Department of Forest Sciences, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, Technical University of Dresden qualifies future decision-makers and change agents to develop sustainable forest management strategies and implement development-relevant interventions in rural and peri-urban areas. Its international orientation and socio-economic focus make this program unique in Europe. The 2-year course begins in October every year.
Details: https://tu-dresden.de/studium/vor-dem-studium/studienangebot/sins/sins_studiengang?autoid=107

15th University of Eastern Finland (UEF) - United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) Course on Multilateral Environmental Agreements
Submit application by 31 May 2018
The special theme of this two-week course on international environmental law-making and diplomacy will be: The Environment and Human Rights. The course will take place on 20–30 August 2018 in Joensuu, Finland. It is intended for experienced government officials engaged in international environmental negotiations, other stakeholders, as well as researchers and academics in the field of international environmental law.
Details: http://www.uef.fi/en/web/unep

Summer School: Old-Growth Forest Research
Submit application by 15 May 2018
This summer school on 2-8 September 2018 in Nyzhne Selyshche, Western Ukraine, offers scientific training for Master and PhD students interested in old-growth forests, and for Ukrainian scientists working in this field. Organizers: Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Ukrainian National Forestry University UNFU, Carpathian Biosphere Reserve CBR, Bern University of Applied Sciences HAFL
Details: https://www.wsl.ch/en/about-wsl/events/courses/summer-school-old-growth-forest-research.html

Short Course: Introduction to Wood Science
Professionals who work in the forest products industry but have not received a formal degree in wood science will receive a practical understanding of the fundamentals of wood and the processes used to convert it into solid wood products.
Date: 11 June 2018, 8:00 am to 3:30 pm
Venue: Madison, Wisconsin, USA
Organizers: Forest Products Society, USDA Forest Products Laboratory
Details: http://fpsconvention.org/short-course/

Awards
Nominations Open for the MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity 2018
The MIDORI Prize, a biennial international prize co-organized by the AEON Environmental Foundation and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), honors three individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
The call for nominations remains open until 15 June 2018: http://www.aeon.info/ef/en/prize/
Nominate Candidates for IUFRO Congress Awards!
Deadline for submission of nominations: 31 August 2018

The XXV IUFRO World Congress to be held from 29 September to 5 October 2019 in Curitiba, Brazil, provides us with another opportunity to honour outstanding scientific achievements and contributions to forestry with a range of IUFRO Awards. You are invited to nominate suitable candidates for the various categories of awards: https://www.iufro.org/news/article/2017/03/06/iufro-world-congress-2019-nominations-for-awards/

For more information and nomination forms, please check the website: https://www.iufro.org/discover/awards/

Forest Restoration Survey

IUFRO Survey Seeks Expert Input on Adaptive Measures in Forestry and Forest Restoration

The members of the IUFRO Task Force on Forest Adaptation and Restoration under Global Change are conducting a survey to gain data and insights for developing best practice approaches for forest adaptation and restoration under global change.

This survey relies on the knowledge of experts and professionals from forestry and related fields and their information about actual examples of Adaptive Measures in Forestry and Forest Restoration.

If you are working or have experience in this field, please participate in this survey! You can choose among 13 languages. It will take approximately 15-20 minutes to fill in the survey and we would like to thank you in advance for your time and consideration. Find the survey here: https://gdi.thuenen.de/wo/limesurvey/index.php/883655

IUFRO Meetings

Search our online calendar for a full list of meetings: https://www.iufro.org/events/calendar/current/
Find non-IUFRO meetings on the IUFRO Noticeboard: https://www.iufro.org/discover/noticeboard/
Also search for forest-related events in GFIS at: https://www.gfis.net

16-18 May 2018

Tourism Naturally Conference
Zell am See – Kaprun, Austria
IUFRO 6.02.00
Contact: Ulrike Proebstl, ulrike.proebstl(at)boku.ac.at
http://ifl.boku.ac.at/tnc2018/

11-13 Jun 2018

Transformations towards a New Era in Small Scale Forestry
Vaasa, Finland
IUFRO 3.08.00
Contact: Teppo Hujala, teppo.hujala(at)uef.fi
Heimo Karppinen, heimo.karppinen(at)helsinki.fi
http://www.uef.fi/en/web/ssfo2018

20-22 Jun 2018

Reforestation Challenges: 4th Int'l Conference
Belgrade, Serbia
IUFRO 3.02.00, IUFRO Task Force on Sustainable Planted Forests for a Greener Future
Contact: Vladan Ivetić, vladan.ivetic(at)sfsb.bg.ac.rs
reforesta(at)reforestationchallenges.org
http://www.reforestationchallenges.org

21-23 Jun 2018

AForGen 2018
Kranjska Gora, Slovenia
IUFRO 2.04.11
Contact: Maria Höhn, Hohn.Maria(at)kertk.szie.hu;
Marjana Westergren, marjana.westergren(at)gozdis.si
http://aforgen.org/aforgen-2018/

27-29 Jun 2018

SILVA Network Annual Conference: Quality Management and Accreditation for Study Programmes in Forest Sciences and Related Disciplines
Castelfranco, Veneto, Italy
IUFRO 6.09.00
Contact: Mika Rekola, mika.rekola(at)helsinki.fi

26 Aug-1 Sep 2018

IUFRO WP 7.02.01 Root & Stem Rots Conference
Uppsala, Sweden
IUFRO 7.02.01
Contact: Rimvydas Vasaitis, rimvydas.vasaitis(at)slu.se
Jan Stenlid, jan.stenlid(at)slu.se
https://www.slu.se/iufro-roots2018

28-31 Aug 2018

Int’l Symposium of SFEM2018/IUFRO 4.02.02: Combining Multiple Inventory Techniques and Management Science to Preserve the Forest Ecosystem for Future Generations
Nantou, China-Taipei
IUFRO 4.02.02
Contact: Chinsu Lin, twfem2015(at)gmail.com
https://sites.google.com/view/sfem2018/home

11-15 Sep 2018

18th International Symposium on Legal Aspects of European Forest Sustainable Development and Wildlife: Skills and Vocational Training
Chisinau, Moldova
IUFRO 5.12.00, 8.02.05, 9.06.00
Contact: Rastislav Sulek, rastislav.sulek(at)tuzvo.sk
Vitalie Gulca, vitalie.gulca(at)gmail.com

13-14 Sep 2018

Forest Landscapes in Times of Changing Climate and Water Resources
Corvallis, Oregon, United States
IUFRO Task Force on Forest Adaptation and Restoration under Global Change; IUFRO Task Force on Forests, Soil and Water Interactions
Contact: Adam Xiaohua Wei, adam.wei(at)ubc.ca
https://www.iufro.org/science/task-forces/forest-adaptation-restoration/activities/
17–20 Sep 2018

Cool forests at risk? The Critical Role of Boreal and Mountain Ecosystems for People, Bioeconomy, and Climate
Laxenburg (Vienna), Austria
IIASA, IUFRO
Contact: IUFRO Headquarters, office@iufro.org
https://ibfra18.org/

17-21 Sep 2018

Managing Eucalypt Plantations under Global Changes
Montpellier, France
IUFRO 2.08.03, 1.02.01,
IUFRO Task Force Forest Biomass Network
Contact: Jean-Paul Laclau, jean-paul.laclau@cirad.fr
https://eucalyptus2018.cirad.fr/

28 Sep 2018

The Sixth International Casuarina Workshop: Climate-resilient Casuarina for Bioenergy Production
Bangkok, Thailand
IUFRO Task Force Forest Biomass Network
IUFRO 2.08.02
Contact: Viktor Bruckman, viktor.bruckman(at)oeaw.ac.at
https://www.iufro.org/science/task-forces/forest-biomass/activities/

1-5 Oct 2018

Adaptive Management for Forested Landscapes in Transformation
Posadas, Misiones, Argentina
IUFRO 8.00.00
Contact: Sandra Luque, sandra.luque(at)irstea.fr
http://iufro2018posadas.com/

5-9 Nov 2018

5th International Conference on Forests and Water in a Changing Environment
Valdivia, Chile
IUFRO 8.00.00, IUFRO Task Force on Forests, Soil and Water Interactions
Contact: Kevin Bishop, kevin.bishop(at)slu.se
http://forestsandwater2018.cl/

5-9 Nov 2018

Era of Sustainable World - Tradition and Innovation for Wood Science and Technology
Nagoya, Japan
2018 Joint convention between Society of Wood Science and Technology and the Japan Wood Research Society
IUFRO 5.00.00
Contact: Pekka Saranpää, pekka.saranpaa(at)luke.fi

8-11 May 2019

World Conference - Forests for Public Health
Athens, Greece
IUFRO 6.06.00
Contact: Christos Gallis, cgalis(at)fri.gr