

Media Release Aus Timber 2002

A Practical Introduction to Farm Forestry

Farmers looking for a grassroots introduction to farm forestry will welcome a "farm forestry package" being put on at AusTimber in early April 2004.

AusTimber 2004 is a major international conference and exhibition for the forest industries which is held every four years in Albury NSW.

AusTimber consists of a two day industry conference, a three day equipment exhibition and an in-forest demonstration of harvesting and plantation establishment equipment. Exhibitors come from all round the world to attend AusTimber, and over 12,000 people are expected to converge on Albury for this event.

The "farm forestry package" will be held in Albury over two days, on the 2nd -3rd April 2004, and will focus on the practical opportunities for adding value to the farm forest.

In particular the package is aimed at giving farmers an overview of the latest technology and equipment available which could assist in overcoming the disadvantages of a small scale operation.

The "farm forestry package" will comprise;

- a half day seminar
- a half day visit to the AusTimber exhibition site where there will be a wide range of forest equipment on display including several portable sawmills.
- a half day visit to the AusTimber in-forest demonstrations - about an hour out of Albury - where over 50 machines will be seen in action.
- a half day visit to a nearby farm where forestry has been successfully integrated into farming operations.

Some of the subjects to be covered in the seminar will be:

- new and innovative equipment and products for the establishment and maintenance of plantations and native forests on farms.
- new and innovative equipment for small scale harvesting
- new and innovative processing equipment to add value to the farm forest products (sawing, drying, treatment etc)
- the integration of existing on-farm skills, labour and equipment in the farm forestry venture.

People interested in presenting papers at the half day seminar are encouraged to contact John Moore: phone 02 6023 6161, fax 02 6023 6166 or email john.fcs@bigpond.com

For more information on AusTimber email info@austimber2004.com or visit the web site www.austimber2004.com