HONORARY MEMBER

P. W. Smail

Peter Smail’s contribution to farm forestry in Canterbury and New Zealand has been outstanding. The shelter and woodlot systems he has developed on his farm since 1953 have provided, and still provide, a valuable example to farmers in Canterbury, and are being adopted in other regions of New Zealand. Some 400 to 500 people, including farmers, overseas visitors and students from the School of Forestry and Lincoln College, visit his farm each year. He travels widely to participate in seminars, field days and other farm forestry activities and is a most active member of the Farm Forestry Association. He has been a strong advocate of the proper marketing of farm timber, and the recognition of tree growing as a legitimate source of farm income.

Peter Smail has conducted many trials on his property which have been the basis of sound practical articles in Farm Forestry, and has initiated comprehensive provenance trials of Cupressocyparis leylandii throughout the South Island (in conjunction with Dr J. W. Sturrock).

He is prominent also in other spheres of forestry, being a member since 1970 (and currently chairman) of the Selwyn Plantation Board.

The future path of forestry lies in the more intensive use of the land — most of which is held by farmers. The work of Peter Smail has made more likely the realisation of the opportunities which lie down that path; the Institute of Foresters is proud to have elected Peter Smail to honorary membership.