Rotorua went on a study tour to review new developments in forestry and wood processing, and to inform industry staff on educational developments. They visited the Pan Pacific sawmill in Hawkes Bay, where they were shown plans for the $50 million expansion. They met with Carter Holt Harvey staff in Napier, and were shown chainsaw pruning operations.

On the coastal road south, they saw farmland being developed into forestry, and viewed the Ernslaw plantings. They met with Harwood Trust, to discuss scholarship support for Diploma in Forestry students. In Masterton they visited Juken Nissho to get an overview of forestry operations and processing facilities.

This year for the first time Diploma in Forestry students were eligible for the Rayonier New Zealand forestry scholarships. A Waiariki student received one of the four scholarships which were awarded.

Lecturers from the Waiairiki Faculty of Forestry on a field visit at Juken Nissho, Masterton, looking at re-establishment of a forest which was harvested last year.

NEW INFORMATION

Interactive approach for environmental seminar

Following the success of last year’s environmental seminar Greening the New Zealand Forest Industry, the NZ Institute of Forestry, in association with the Commonwealth Forest Association and the NZ Farm Forestry Association, is holding a second seminar this February.

Organiser Tim Thorpe, convenor of the NZIF Environmental Working Group, says the seminar will be held in Christchurch and Rotorua on February 25 and 27 respectively to offer attendees a choice of venues.

Titled Green & Growing: An Interactive Approach to Forestry and the Environment in New Zealand, the seminars will feature a stimulating range of speakers representing social, environmental and political interests, as well as forest growing, processing and marketing.

Four Sessions

“The aim of the Green & Growing seminars is to take a holistic approach to the forest industries’ interaction with the wider environment,” says Tim Thorpe. “Our objective is to create greater practical understanding of forestry’s impacts and the complex interrelationships that exist, and to raise awareness of some of the initiatives being undertaken.”

A stimulating array of speakers has been lined up for the four seminar sessions, which will examine future trends, marketing and distribution, processing and forest growing as they relate to the wider environment. In the first session of the day Professor Wayne Cartwright, Professor of Strategic Management in Auckland University’s Department of International Business, will examine key signals for social, environmental technological and political change, supported by specific commentators from environmental, forestry and local government perspectives.

Under marketing and distribution the keynote session will focus on New Zealand’s image from the customer’s end of the chain, with commentary on forest certification, the Asian market perspective and corporate marketing.

Processing and the environment promises to be a lively session, with the keynote speaker from Rayonier New Zealand presenting a case study on the company’s new MDF plant and commentators on social, environmental and technical perspectives, including Greenpeace representatives and Mayor of Dunedin City, Sukhi Turner.

The final session of the day will focus on forest growing, looking at environmental issues “down on the ground” that affect the practising forester. As well as commentary on technical issues and a Landcare perspective, this session will particularly focus on the implications of forestry and environmental issues for Maori, with speaker John Ruru.

“We are excited about the calibre of speaker we have attracted for both the Christchurch and Rotorua seminars, and the potential for everyone to be involved in extensive discussion on these important topics,” says Tim Thorpe. In a breakaway from the traditional workshop sessions, extended discussion sessions following presentations by each keynote speaker and supporting specialists will provide greater opportunity for attendees to exchange ideas and opinions without fragmenting the seminar into groups. “This interactive format will allow us to back up broad discussion touching on important philosophical issues with specific detail and we’re hoping our audiences will take advantage of the opportunity to make their own contribution.”

The seminar is being held at the Quality Hotel, Durham Street, Christchurch on February 25 and at the Quality Hotel, Fenton Street Rotorua on February 27. The registration fee is $75.00 for NZIF, CFA and FFA members, $35 for students and $115 for non-NZIF members. Further enquiries and registrations should be sent to Pat Towersey, P.F. Olsen & Co Ltd, PO Box 1127, Rotorua, phone 0-7-357 4135, fax 0-7-357 5185.