Acknowledgements

The support of the following is gratefully acknowledged:

- Technical Forest Services Pty Ltd
- IFarm
- SFM Forest Products
- Pentarch Forestry Services (Tas)
- Private Forests Tasmania
- Robert Downie (‘South Rhodes’)

Disclaimer

This information has been prepared and collated by Private Forests Tasmania and every reasonable endeavour has been used to ensure that the material was accurate. No legal responsibility can or will be accepted by Private Forests Tasmania for the accuracy, completeness, or relevance of such information to the user’s purpose. Before undertaking any significant forestry or revegetation project it is recommended that you seek personal professional advice from Private Forests Tasmania on the particular matter.

For further information please contact:
Private Forests Tasmania
Ph: (03) 6777 2720
Email: admin@pft.tas.gov.au
Web: www.pft.tas.gov.au
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Invitation

FIELD DAY
Plantations in South Eastern Tasmania

Friday 27th November 2015
9:30am to 3:00pm

Meet at Runnymede Cricket Ground – Woodsdale Road
(Just off the Tasman Highway – see reverse for locality map)

Are you an ex MIS landlord and now own the plantation?
Do you have questions about managing your plantation?
If so, come, look, listen and have your say

Others also welcome

RSVP essential by Thursday 19th November to
Diana – Ph 6777 2720 or email diana.hall@pft.tas.gov.au

Complimentary morning tea and lunch provided
(Please advise any special requirements on RSVP)

PLEASE BRING YOUR HIGH VISIBILITY VEST AND HARD HAT
(Some will be available on the day)

Proudly supported by:

IFARM
TECHNICAL FOREST SERVICES PTY LTD
PRIVATE FORESTS TASMANIA
Field Day Program

Runnymede, Levendale & Hobbs Lagoon, 27th November 2015
Plantation Options and Plantation Management in Drier Areas

9:30 Registration
Runnymede Cricket Ground
- Meet and greet over morning tea

10:00 - 11:00 STOP 1 - Plantation adjacent to cricket ground
(Lead by IFarm staff)
- Management issues for forest owners
- Preparing for the fire season and controlling insect damage
- Plantation productivity and mortality
- Game management - inside and outside the plantation

11:15 -12:00 STOP 2 - ‘Ex-Rowlands’ Plantation - Woodsdale Road
(Lead by SFM staff)
Topics for discussion include:
- Planning, forest certification, silvicultural management options (such as thinning) and potential forest products
- Plantation Productivity in Drier Environments
  (Dr Jody Bruce, Senior Experimental Scientist, CSIRO)
- Current and emerging markets (Pentarch Staff)

12:15 - 1:15 Lunch at Levendale Hall

1:45 - 2:45 STOP 3 - South Rhodes Road (Property of Rob Downie)
- Management options on lower rainfall sites
- Radiata pine as a plantation species option
- Pine silviculture and markets for products
  (Sandra Hetherington, Norske Skog)

2:45 - 3:00 Windup and Finish
Privately Managed Plantation in Southern Tasmania

Privately Managed Plantations of Southern Tasmania

Private Plantation on Private Land

- Hardwood
- Softwood

Private Plantation on Crown Land

- Hardwood
- Softwood

Note: Plantation areas on map not to scale - representation only.
STOP 1 – Runnymede Cricket Ground

1. Fire Management
   Discussion lead by Dr Stephen Bresnehan, Community Engagement Officer (South), Fuel Reduction Unit at Tasmanian Fire Service.
   Stephen will lead discussion on Fuel reduction, basics of asset protection, municipal fire hazard abatements and building for bushfire.

2. Managing fire risk in plantations
   Discussion lead by Robin Dickson, Operations Manager, IFARM and Nick Martin, Forester, Technical Forest Services.
    What can I do to minimise the risk of my plantation being destroyed by fire?
    Can I insure the plantation against fire damage?

3. Factors affecting plantation productivity
   Discussion lead by Dr Jody Bruce Senior Experimental Scientist, CSIRO.
    What are the key factors that affect the productivity of a plantation?

4. Fertilizer, managing Insects and maintaining productivity
   Discussion lead by Robin Dickson from IFARM and Nick Martin from IFarm/ Technical Forest Services.
    Should I fertilise my trees or would money be better spent on managing/ minimizing insect damage?

5. Game & wildlife management
   Discussion lead by Robbie Gaffney, Game management Unit, DPIPWE.
    Property based game management planning.

   Clive Woolridge, Manager, Technical Forest Services will discuss game management during the establishment of plantations.
    Protecting seedlings and small trees when establishing plantations and protecting the rest of the farm from game residing in native forest and mature plantations.
    The role of shooting in protecting farm and forestry assets.
    Engaging professional shooters verses recreational shooters.

6. Insurance
   The following information is available from the Hardwood Plantation Portal on the Private Forests Tasmania web site www.pft.tas.gov.au

   As administrators/liquidators continue to wind-up the insolvent MIS entities such as FEA and Gunns, many landowners who had leased land to these companies are now acquiring freehold title to the plantations on their land. Although often acquired for a ‘peppercorn’, these timber assets may now have significant value and owners are reminded that plantation insurance is readily available. It is advisable to consider
planted insurance before we enter the fire season as insurers may place embargoes on writing new policies while there are active fires.

**AFG Plantation Insurance Scheme**

The following information is available at the [Australian Forest Growers](https://www.afg.asn.au/Insurance) website.

Australian Forest Growers is the national association representing and promoting private forestry and commercial tree growing interests in Australia. If you grow trees commercially for wood or non-wood products, or you would like to, AFG can help you.

**Protecting your Investment**

Plantation trees are valuable, and become more so over their lifetime. Recognising this, most private forest growers insure their trees against fire, windstorm and other selected perils. Forest insurance is a specialised service offered by only a few insurers. The insurance market is cyclical. When there is surplus underwriting capacity, insurance is easy to obtain and rates fall. At other times, insurers withdraw capacity, and premiums rise. The effects of this market cycle can be exaggerated by the fact of there being so few insurers.

**Features of the Scheme - Coverage**

A plantation can be insured for total and partial loss as a result of fire, lightning, windstorm (cyclone) and aircraft damage. The Lloyds of London forestry policy is not subject to co-insurance average which means that if the value of the property insured exceeds the sum insured, then you would be required to contribute proportionally to each and every loss.

**Agreed value policy**

The value of the plantation is agreed at the time the cover is placed, depending upon species, age, location, condition and management. In the event of a loss, the plantation owner is paid the agreed value. Recommended valuation tables are available for Pinus radiata and Eucalyptus globulus, and are published in the insurance proposals by the brokers. The valuations are prepared by an independent national firm of consulting foresters and endorsed by Australian Forest Growers. Valuations in the range of high, medium and low are available in most states. Members have the right to submit different valuations for particular circumstances or other species for the underwriter’s acceptance.

**Qualification for acceptance**

A plantation is automatically accepted for insurance at the rates current for the Scheme subject to a period of qualifying membership of Australian Forest Growers, provided the plantation meets the requirements for management and firebreaks. There are set dates each year by which a commitment to insure must be made.
No claim bonus and continuity discount
The Scheme currently provides a discount of 3% per year for each consecutive year of renewal, up to a maximum of 21% after 7 years. A further discount of 3% per year for each claim-free year (up to 21% after 7 years) is available as a No Claim Bonus. The maximum combined discount for continuity and no claims is currently 42%.

Extensions and public liability
Public liability cover is available as an extension of the policy. Other optional extensions include: claims preparation costs, and loss mitigation expenses up to a maximum of $100,000 and removal of debris - 10% sum insured or $250,000 whichever the lesser.

Plantation loss limit
The maximum loss limit on any one plantation is $12 million.

Salvage and replanting
Growers have the option of reducing the cost of insurance on older pine trees by, insuring 'net of salvage'. Another option is to insure for the cost of replanting only.

Deductibles
A range of 'deductibles' (sometimes called 'excess') enables growers' to choose their own levels of financial risk. The higher the deductible the plantation owner is prepared to accept, the lower the premium will be. Premiums are currently well below 1% of the plantation value each year, and the premium is lower in areas of lower risk and can be reduced by various deductions over time.

For information please contact:
Sarah Paradice - Executive Officer
Australian Forest Growers
PO Box 351 Jamison Centre Macquarie ACT 2614
Unit 10, Building C, Trevor Pearcey House, Traeger Court, 28-34 Thynne Street
BRUCE, ACT 2617
Phone: 02 6248 9168   Email: National.Office@afg.asn.au
STOP 2 - Ex-Rowlands Plantation, Woodsdale Road

Site Introduction
- Known as Ex-Rowlands NG113.
- *E. nitens* planted in the spring of 2002 (13yr old).
- Started as share farm with Mr Rowlands.
- Purchased by Gunns Ltd and eventually sold to Resource Management Systems (RMS) which IFARM manage.

Site Quality
- Rainfall 700-800mm/yr – which is a moderate amount for eucalypts.
- Low fertility soils.
- Impeded drainage in subsoils is limiting rooting depth in lower lying areas.

Actions taken by Forest Managers to combat expected lower productivity
*A good start is important!!*
- Seedlings planted into cultivated ground with good soil moisture.
- Vigilant game control.
- Additional fertiliser.
- Adopted low insect damage thresholds.

Current Plantation – Products and Harvest Options
- Traditional wood fibre (pulp) markets are coming from low bases but are improving, particularly while the AUS$ remains low, however prices for these products are not expected to regain the value of what was being offered several years ago any time soon.
- New markets are evolving – for example unpruned *E. nitens* products are now being exported into overseas log peeling markets.
- With the advent of higher value plantation products, thinning of stands part way through a rotation and growing plantations for longer periods becomes more viable and could be more attractive (particularly as replanting is expensive).
- On sites of lower rainfall and or poorer soils there tends to be higher rates of mortality. Stress is created by competition for limited moisture and nutrient resources. Stressed trees are more prone to insect attack. Therefore, thinning ASAP allows an intermediate return and frees up moisture and nutrients for individual retained trees. In the process the landowner is able to get a ‘second bite at the cherry’ by producing more valuable products, of larger piece size, to be sold into a more buoyant market.

Forest Practices Plans
- Required for all live commercial operations or for non-commercial operations where trees are greater than 5m tall or have the potential to be greater than 5m tall.
- Plans vary in production costs from a few thousand dollars to several thousand dollars.
• There are fees and levy costs over and above the production costs.

**Private Timber Reserves (PTR)**

• These are useful for the protection of your rights to grow and harvest trees when dealing with council planning schemes, they have no relation to any of the Managed Investment Schemes and can be added or removed as plantations are planted or harvested.

• Once declared, a PTR is registered on the title with the land being dedicated to the growing, managing or harvesting of trees.

• Forestry operations on land declared a PTR still require a certified Forest Practices Plan, but do not require Development Approval from the local council.

• Should a landowner wish to convert a plantation back to agricultural use, the PTR is easily removed by application to the Forest Practices Authority, through Private Forests Tasmania.

**Demand for Forest Certification**

• In Australia there are two organisations that offer forest certification – Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

• Most products and buyers now need one of these before they will purchase your wood.

• There are two ways to certify forests – the landowner can obtain certification or the forest manager can obtain certification. Both ways have significant costs, however if you are the landowner seeking certification you will incur all the set up and maintenance costs, whereas the second option allows for costs to be spread out in time and billed on a negotiated and competitive $/tonne basis.
STOP 3 - South Rhodes Road

Property:  “South Rhodes”
Owned by:  Rob Downie

Area: 2,311 Ha
Mean Annual Rainfall 600 - 650 mm/yr.
820 ha *E. nitens* plantation.
205 ha Radiata Pine Joint Venture with Norske Skog.
166 ha Hobb’s lagoon and other dams.
1,108 ha balance leased to Peter and Nanette Hazel.
3,200 ml water right.

Property History
Originally part of “Stonehedge” which was owned by Rob’s great grandfather, Joe Darling, in about 1900.
Part of approximately 4,500 ha previously owned and developed by Jim Hall in the 1970’s and 80’s.
Bought by Michael Lawrence who leased 774 Ha in 2006 and 46 Ha in 2009, to Gunn’s Plantation Limited for *E. nitens* plantations.
Bought in 2011 by Hobb’s Enterprises, a private company owned by Robert Downie.

Plantation Management
Radiata has been thinned twice with a planned clearfall harvest in 6-8 years time (2022)
Plan to manage the *E. nitens* over a long rotation regime with several thinnings and clearfalling at about 30 years.
Radiata Pine Joint Venture Stand Information: Established 1992-1993

First Thinned 2007

**Table 1**: Post T1 Assessment conducted 2007. Expected results at time of the assessment are in ();

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coupe</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Stocking(SPH)</th>
<th>DBH(cm)</th>
<th>MTH (m)</th>
<th>BA(m²/ha)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LE02z</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>527 (450)</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>16.7 (17.0-19.6)</td>
<td>17.6 (24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LE03z</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>533 (450)</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>16.5 (15.9-18.4)</td>
<td>19.5 (20)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Second Thinned 2014-2015

**Table 2**: Post T2 Summary of Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LE02z</th>
<th>LE03z</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean dominant height (m)</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>23.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean stems per hectare</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean diameter at breast height (cm)</td>
<td>30.5</td>
<td>33.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Basal Area (m²/ha)</td>
<td>24.9</td>
<td>27.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Volume (m³/ha) post thinning</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Volume (m³/ha) pre T2 thinning</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAI pre T2 thinning (m³/ha/yr)</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: T2 Target BA was 25m²/ha
Approximately 12ha was too steep to mechanically thin
(Also not thinned in 2007)

Date: Thinned in Summer 2014-2015
Species: *P. radiata*
Ha Thinned: 151ha (LE02z) & 29ha (LE03z)
Planted Year: 1992 (LE02z) & 1993 (LE03z)
Ownership: NSPM JV on Private Land (Hobbs Enterprises)
Assessment: Post T2 Thinning

LE02z 148.2 tonnes sawlog, 9447.5 tonnes pulplog (63 tonnes/ha)
LE03z 37.45 tonnes sawlog, 1589.65 tonnes pulplog (56 tonnes /ha)
Image 1: ‘South Rhodes’ Plantations
Image 2: Outrow Thinning in Radiata Pine
Technical Forest Services Pty Ltd
Clive Woolridge, Manager
PO Box 639, St Leonards, TAS 7250
Ph: 0407 331 023
Email: cwoolridge@technicalforestservices.com.au
Web: www.technicalforestservices.com.au

Technical Forest Services P/L (TFS) is a Tasmanian owned and operated company with its Head office based in Launceston. Founded in July 2002 by Clive Woolridge. Now with staff in Launceston, Scottsdale and Hobart, with experience working throughout Australia and globally TFS offers a broad range of services throughout the Plantation, Native Forest and the Agricultural Industries.

Examples of these services include, but not limited to:
- Inventory
- Assessments
- Surveys
- Auditing
- Planning
- Fire prevention and control

As the Forest Industry has evolved over the years TFS has been a driving force behind the development and modernisation of methods and techniques within all areas of its operations. The motivation behind this has been the provision of prompt, accurate and appropriate information and services.

IFARM
Robin Dickson - Operations Manager
PO Box 639, St Leonards, TAS, 7250
Ph: 0407 331 662
Web: www.ifarm.com.au

Independent Forest and Resource Management Pty Ltd (IFARM) was established due to forest management demand. As the Australian plantation industry has restructured over the last few years, the need for independent forest and asset managers has increased.

IFARM employs highly experienced and well respected foresters to undertake the management roles. Locally located staff ensure prompt and efficient responses to management tasks. All staff are well versed in the Tasmanian Forest Industry.

IFARM manages forestry assets for international investors and well as providing management services to local native forest and plantation owners. Management services can include one off or long term advisory roles.
SFM Forest Products
Jason Bolch – Operational Planning Manager
70 Hampden Road, Battery Point TAS 7004
Ph: 6223 3536
Mobile: 0418 399 720
Web: www.sfmes.com.au

SFM Forest Products is a Tasmanian owned forestry company that manages both native forest and plantations on private properties. We operate in Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales and Queensland. We have three offices within Tasmania at Burnie, Launceston and Hobart. After discussions with Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association regarding the collapse of Managed Investment Scheme plantations, SFM set up the Aggregated Plantation Program (APP). This program will enable the aggregation of the many private plantation owners across Tasmania. Aggregation of the resource will allow for increased market access and security, improved fire management coordination and professional advice when required.

Membership to the APP is free and provides you with a range of benefits including:

- Initial plantation assessment and ongoing annual report on the growth, management and marketing of your plantation;
- Inclusion in SFM’s Fire Management area enabling representation and coordinated approach with fire authorities in wildfire events;
- AFS or FSC Forest Certification of your resource, increasing market access;
- All year round access to expert plantation foresters;
- Organisation and Supervision of on-ground plantation management services (fire break maintenance, insect spraying, etc) at a reduced rate.
- Aggregated approach to marketing and harvesting your resource to access the best market for your resource.
Pentarch Forestry Services (Tas) Pty Ltd is subsidiary of the Pentarch Group of companies and is known throughout the forest industry as a well-established forest management provider. The Pentarch Group employs over 150 permanent and casual staff throughout Australia and overseas. Pentarch Forestry Services has offices in Melbourne, Burnie, Bell Bay and Eden in Australia and Wellington in New Zealand. Pentarch Forestry Services (Tas) has access to both domestic and export markets for products from both P. radiata and Eucalyptus plantations. Each market segment takes a specific grade of log based on length and quality characteristics and processes that log into a particular product for a specific end use. Market forces regulate the supply of volume and the price for each option that we are able to offer. Pentarch Forestry Services (Tas) will alter cutting schedules and direct logs to the market that offers, the grower, the best possible return. The services that Pentarch Forestry Services (Tas) is able to provide are forest management advice and planning by qualified Forest Practices Officers, sales and marketing and harvesting and log transportation.

Mark Oliver - Resource Procurement Coordinator
Ph: 0408 347 811 email: m.oliver@pentarch.com.au

Geoff Wilkinson - Forester
Ph: 0428 520 104 email: g.wilkinson@pentarch.com.au
Private Forests Tasmania (PFT) was established in 1994 as a statutory authority under the *Private Forests Act 1994*, with governance responsibilities that recognise the economic, environmental and social importance of Tasmania's private forests.

PFT works to facilitate and expand the development of the private forest resource in Tasmania in a manner which is consistent with sound forest and land management practices. This includes advising and assisting private landowners in the management of native forests and the establishment and management of plantations on private land. We work closely with private landowners and major stakeholders to develop and deliver a wide range of services to ensure sustainable forest use.

Arthur Lyons – Manager Services  
Ph: 0419 000 630  
Email: arthur.lyons@pft.tas.gov.au

David Bower – Private Forest Advisor  
Ph: 0417 014 241  
Email: david.bower@pft.tas.gov.au

Rob Smith – Private Forest Advisor  
Ph: 0418 550 209  
Email: rob.smith@pft.tas.gov.au

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hobart</td>
<td>30 Patrick Street, Hobart Tas 7000</td>
<td>6165 4073</td>
<td><a href="mailto:admin@pft.tas.gov.au">admin@pft.tas.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launceston</td>
<td>State Government Offices, 171 Westbury Road, Prospect TAS 7250</td>
<td>6777 2720</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camdale</td>
<td>2-4 East Cam Road, Camdale TAS 7322</td>
<td>6477 7052</td>
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</table>
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SFM forest products