

R&Dworks

October 2017

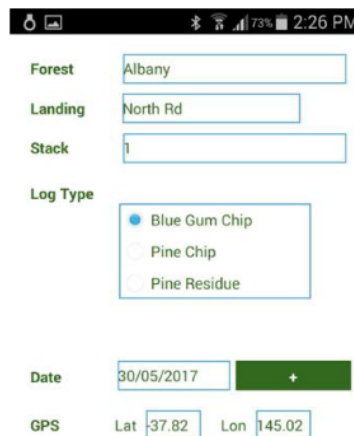


It has been an exciting few months for the team here at FWPA, with a number of significant projects and collaborations coming to fruition. These include a new smartphone app with the ability to predict the moisture content of log piles undergoing infield drying, and a thorough analysis of Australia's national forest industry biosecurity programs. And a reminder that voluntary matched funding is once again being made available for collaborative research projects, thanks to our agreement with the Federal Government. We are calling for proposals to be received by close of business on Tuesday 31 October.

New smartphone app to model log drying and reduce transport costs

A new smartphone app has been developed to predict the moisture content of log piles undergoing infield drying. Inputs in the preliminary version of the app include log type, tree species, location and season. Future development will include more specific weather information. The app was developed as part of a project funded by Forest and Wood Products Australia (FWPA) to maximise cost-savings.

[Read more](#)



Forest Albany
Landing North Rd
Stack 1
Log Type
☒ Blue Gum Chip
☐ Pine Chip
☐ Pine Residue
Date 30/05/2017
GPS Lat -37.82 Lon 145.02

Exotic pest risk real and rising in Australia

A recently completed analysis of Australia's national forest industry biosecurity programs has revealed exotic pests are a real and rising risk to Australian plantations and native forests – and that the right investments in



prevention and mitigation pay off.

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Push to boost use of prefabricated timber in Australia

An industry-led movement is underway to increase the acceptance and use of prefabricated timber building (PTB) systems for large scale projects in Australia.

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Leader in Australian forestry R&D recognised with prestigious Jolly Medal

A widely recognised expert in the areas of forest health and the application of remote sensing technologies, Dr Christine Stone, has been awarded the N.W. Jolly Medal, in recognition of her long-term commitment and ongoing contribution to industry R&D.

[Read more](#)

Image credit: Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA)

Creating fish feed from sawdust

Finnish researchers are testing a process that could result in high quality single-cell protein being made out of sawdust, which can later be developed into fish feed.

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Probiotics – a key to help trees clean polluted sites

A research project has tested the ability of probiotics to boost the speed and effectiveness with which trees capture, remove and degrade pollutants from the soil.

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Teen scientist wins big thanks to wooden aircraft ... with a difference

A teenage scientist from Germany has been given a top award thanks to an innovative drone design that uses a different wing lift pattern to

traditional planes. It's based on an historic German design that was never built, and crucially uses a single lightweight wooden wing. The result is improved aerodynamics, contributing to better stability in flight.

[Read more](#)

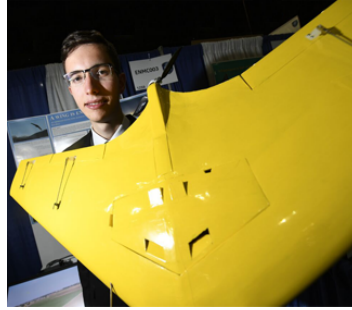


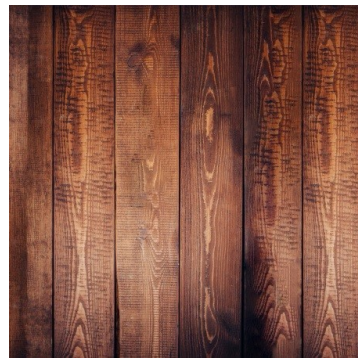
Image credit: Chris Ayers/SSP



Wood and wool unite to oust harmful Styrofoam cooler boxes

A start-up company is fusing wood with wool to create an environmentally-friendly container for transporting fresh food (or temperature controlled logistics).

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Researchers potentially solve e-waste problems by turning wood into graphene

While wood is not generally renowned for its electrical superconductor qualities, that could all be about to change if Rice University has anything to do with it. Research being carried out by scientists at the Texan university has resulted in the successful conversion of pine into an electrical conductor, by transforming its surface into graphene.

[Read more](#)

Project looking at Virtual Reality (VR) for forestry yield estimates draws international attention

What if forestry yield estimates could be calculated sitting in front of a computer using Virtual Reality (VR) technology, rather than going out into the field? A FWPA funded project looking into exactly that has recently been profiled in the Brazilian forestry publication *Referência Florestal* Magazine.

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