

International WOOD Markets Group Announces a Special China Industry Tour

Discover the real story on China's growing Forest Resources.

International WOOD Markets Group, of Vancouver BC, Canada, is offering a 6-day tour from September 24-30, 2007 directly following the China International Wood Products Summit conference. The tour will highlight Chinese plantation forests and the wood products industries that depend on this raw material source and will provide participants with a first-hand look and in-depth understanding of the current developments in the Chinese forest industry. Find out why industrial roundwood harvests are rising and why wood products manufacturers in China are increasingly relying on Chinese plantation forests.

According to the targets recently announced by the Chinese government, forest plantations are the future supply source of the wood products industry in China:

“By 2015: Develop 13.3 million hectares of fast-growing plantation, to provide 133.4 million of timber per year, which can support 13.9 million ton of pulp production, 21.5 million m3 of wood-based panel production, as well as to provide 15.8 million m3 of large size logs”.

The development of these plantation forests, and other government measures, are expected to go a long way to closing the timber supply gap in China. But are these goals realistic and attainable?

Get a handle on current Chinese government incentives and the dramatic new land reform initiatives that are creating spectacular developments in the forest plantation resources in China. Four key fast-growing plantation species in China: poplar, paulownia, eucalyptus and Chinese fir, are the focus for this tour. .

Starting right after the 4th China International Wood Products Summit 2007 (Sept 22-24), in Qingdao, China, the tour will depart on the evening of September 24. The tour will first visit hybrid poplar plantations, highlighting the management practices and yields from these forests. Two of the top plywood mills utilizing this resource will be visited to demonstrate where this industry is headed in the future. From there, the tour heads west, where the paulownia forest resource will be investigated with visits to paulownia plantations and discussions with the leading Chinese government paulownia research forester who will provide delegates with a timely presentation on the latest developments in paulownia cloning research. Tour participants will also visit top Chinese factories producing doors, panels, mouldings and other products utilizing the paulownia resource.

The tour will then turn south to visit key staff at the government-operated eucalyptus research centre in Guangxi province, involved in development and testing of many of the new clones that now supply the fast growing eucalyptus plantation industry in the south. Participants will see how yields have doubled in the last 10 years and where they are headed in the future. A number of eucalyptus plantations will be visited, including Stora Enso's operations (plantations, nursery plots) in the Beihai area, under the guidance

of Stora Enso staff from Scandinavia. Industries utilizing eucalyptus, such as door and furniture plants, will also be visited in the region.

From here, the tour will return east to visit the significant Chinese fir plantations of Fujian province and key moulding, paneling, door jam manufacturing plants that utilize this growing plantation resource.

WOOD Markets tours are all-inclusive, meaning the price includes accommodations (best available), meals, airfare, land transportation, receptions, translators and all transfers/logistics costs. Our tours receive very high ratings from industry participants - please see www.woodmarkets.com for past participant feedback. For additional information about the plantation tour and the China International Wood Products Summit conference, including brochures, contact us at info@woodmarkets.com or visit our website.