

## HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

(i) *US-AID Supports Study of Honduras Pine in the Caribbean*

Large reforestation efforts are being undertaken with exotic forest plantation tree species in the Caribbean region. Often, specific sites requirements for best growth are not known for the individual species planted. Excessive foxtailing, crooked stems, poor form, and dieback are general indicators of "off site" plantings. Such observations are now quite extensive for the widely planted species, *Pinus caribaea* var. *hondurensis*, known locally as Honduras of Caribbean pine. However, there has traditionally been little technical information exchange for over 30 years between Caribbean countries where this pine has been planted.

In early 1983 a major step towards resolving this problem was the awarding of \$150,000 research grant from US-AID to study growth and site relationships of Caribbean pine in Jamaica, Surinam, Trinidad, and Venezuela. Methodologies were developed in Puerto Rico by Leon H. Liegel. He and counterparts in all four cooperator countries will undertake four major grant objectives over a 3-year period ending December 1985: 1) collect, analyze, and synthesize existing but nonpublished data on Caribbean pine, 2) identify and complete various forestry training activities for local technical or scientific staff of cooperator institutions, 3) conduct new field research to refine soil/site interpretations for Caribbean pine, and 4) publish and disseminate results from synthesis and new field research activities.

The grant fosters integrated forest development in all cooperator countries. It will comprehensive site interpretations for Caribbean pine that have regional as well as world-wide significance. Data synthesis, training, and cooperative research efforts will provide quantitative data that can be used by managers, foresters, ecologists, and economists for rational decision making.

To make interpretations and analyses as complete as possible, Liegel is soliciting information from others in the Caribbean region and elsewhere. Of particular interest are unpublished data on Caribbean pine growth and yield as related to local soils or other environmental variables and seed production, foxtailing, and wind damage in plantations of known age and seed source.

Write: L.H. Liegel, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box AQ, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico 00928

(ii) *Brazilian Forestry Team Win 1984 Marcus Wallenberg Prize for Commercial Development of Cloned Eucalyptus Forests*

Leopoldo G. Brandao, Edgard Campinhos Jr., Ney M. dos Santos and Miss Yara K. Ikemori of Acracruz, Brazil, have been designated winners of the 1984 Marcus Wallenberg Prize by the Board of Directors of the *Marcus Wallenberg Foundation for Promoting Scientific Research in the Forest Industry*. The award, made to the Brazillian team following the unanimous decision of the Selection Committee, is for "pioneering work leading to significant scientific and technological break-throughs in developing commercial forests based on cloned Eucalyptus. Their methods have stimulated world-wide emulation. The high productivities achieved will reduce pressures on natural forests"



The prize-winning team produced outstanding results in cultivating eucalyptus plantation forests in Brazil, using a diverse gene pool of several species and hybrids from many geographical sources. They used advanced mechanized silvicultural techniques to produce plantation forests, from rooted cuttings, which will provide a source of both forest products and energy.

Annual growth rates already achieved are 10–20 times higher than those of natural temperate forests. Productivity has been increased several fold compared with that of Eucalyptus plantations grown from seed. Resistance to disease and insect attack has been increased. The quality and uniformity of the wood has also been improved; and adaptability of the eucalyptus to differing environments and to varying soils has been enhanced.

The team has created plantations near Aracruz on the Atlantic coast of Brazil, north of Rio de Janeiro. Started in 1968 on previously abandoned land, they now provide sufficient raw material for a large pulp mill.

- (A) *Leopoldo G. Brandao* (57), Forestry Director at Aracruz Celulose S/A, Espirito Santo, Brazil, led the team and was responsible for both administrative and economic aspects of the project;
- (B) Silviculture and genetics were the responsibility of *Edgard Compinhos Jr.* (46), Manager of Silviculture and Research at Aracruz Florestal S/A;
- (C) *Ney M. dos Santos* (52), Director of Operations at Aracruz Florestal S/A, who handled statistics and administration;
- (D) Pest control and pathology were handled by *Miss Yara K. Ikemori* (35), Head of the Tree Improvement Program at Aracruz Florestal S/A.

#### Fourth Award in September

The 500 000 Swedish Crown prize is awarded in recognition of and to stimulate scientific and/or technological achievement in the broad fields of interest to the forest industry.

The prize was established in 1980 in honour of the late Dr. Marcus Wallenberg, on his retirement as Chairman of the Board of *Stora Kopparberg*, a leading Swedish forest products company. 1984 is the occasion of the fourth award, which will be presented in Falun, Sweden, on *September 14, 1984*.

Further information from:

**STORA KOPPAREBERG**

S-791 80 Falun,  
Sweden.