

STIMBR AGM – Chair’s Annual Report.

A year of formalisation and consolidation.

- Management of fumigant levies by independent Levy Group
- Incorporation of STIMBR 8th July 2008
- Development of business plan and successful application for levy funding

Specific areas of progress.

Protecting methyl bromide use.

- Production of a significant paper detailing the forest industry’s use, economic relevance, strategy to reduce, and contribution to research, of methyl bromide, as a contribution to ERMA’s reassessment of the fumigant.
- Development of national monitoring protocols for application at major fumigation sites, to reassure communities of the fumigant’s safe use.
- Review of recapture, reuse, and destruction technologies relative to New Zealand operational conditions, to identify priority areas for further research and potential to scale up for large fumigations.

Strengthening phosphine as an alternative fumigant.

- Support for two further trials to provide data to Indian quarantine authorities in seeking approval for in-transit fumigation of logs.
- Consolidation of all trials and efficacy data relating to phosphine in support of its continued use for in-transit fumigation of logs to China and approval from India.
- Provision of additional laboratory efficacy data on the key quarantine insects *Sirex* and *Arhopalus*.
- Further trials of directly generated phosphine for disinfestation of sawn timber for export to Australia.

Development of non-fumigant strategies.

- Insect contaminant management, with particular reference to *Arhopalus*, using risk management/reduction focused on lighting, light traps, and on-site monitoring.
- Design of a major operational site trial of integrated risk management strategy.

Education/media initiatives.

- Production of brochure and information campaign to protect the use of methyl bromide at Shakespeare Bay, Marlborough.
- Support for International Forest Biosecurity Conference in Rotorua through sponsorship of international speaker, provision of facilitator, and organisation of segment of field trip.

- Support for researcher attendance at Methyl Bromide Alternatives Conference in USA.
- Development of new website with both public and members only sections giving access to STIMBR documents, newsletters, and information on STIMBR.

Funding of STIMBR.

- Development of financial systems has been slow but are now in place.
- Successful application for levy funding of \$174,000
- Membership subscriptions of \$18,000
- Leveraged government funding of approximately \$280,000 (SFF, SMF and FIDA)
- Management costs for time, travel, accommodation, and office costs of \$21,000

The future.

- Retention of existing members support, and recruitment of additional members.
- Agreed business plan for 2009 – 2010 progressing priority research projects, ensuring effective management and accountability, and ensuring STIMBR credibility in the methyl bromide debate.
- Ensuring funding support from levy group by maintaining a strong focus on industry concerns and maintaining and extending leveraged funding.
- Development of a successful case for long term government funding for non-fumigant risk management strategy for export forest produce.

Gordon Hosking

Chair STIMBR

16th September, 2009.