

**FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Joint Regional Meeting of IUFRO RG3.03.00 and RG3.06.00 in Asia**

**Productivity and Safety of Final Cutting on Mountain Forests**

**Matsuyama and Kochi, Japan: 24th-28th July 2017**

**http://www.kochi-u.ac.jp/iufrojrm/**

Forest operations in mountain forests need to apply production systems which are adapted to specific local conditions and existing infrastructure, while minimizing negative externalities to the environment and society, such as soil, water, greenhouse gas emissions, visual impacts, wildlife, and other ecosystem services. In the meantime such production systems must concern the productivity of the operations and the impacts on safety and health of the operators. In the mountainous areas, productivity and safety are important issues because motor manual felling is still required in many conditions and especially in difficult terrain accidents occur frequently. Also the most advanced systems based on the cable-harvester cannot be considered safe enough because of the uncertainty of the anchors based on stumps or standing trees.

For what it concerns the yarding operations, mountain forests represent a demanding sector in which the slope of the terrain and the mass of the material to be transported can influence both the productivity and the work safety. Cable transportation systems on one hand offer different solutions to be implemented under different conditions, but on the other hand they can enhance the risk of accident because of the tensions applied to the cables and the use of biological elements (stumps and trees) as supports and anchoring devices.

The Joint Regional Meeting between IUFRO RG3.03.00 and RG3.06.00 will be held aiming to exchange mutual recent research achievements and information, and discuss mountain logging operations in the future considering operation techniques and ergonomic and the possibility to improve both working productivity and safety of final cutting on mountainous forests. During the meeting the participants will visit a felling site in Ehime prefecture in which winching operations are based on high-density forest road network, and other felling sites in Kochi prefecture in which material is transported through the H type cable system and an Austrian tower yarder.

The Joint Regional Meeting has a close relation to the third theme (Forests and Forest-based Products for a Greener Future) of the IUFRO strategy; it also shows some relationship with the first theme (Forests for People).

**Hosting：IUFRO RG3.03.00 and RG3.06.00**

**Co-Hosting：Japanese Forest Engineering Society, Division 3 of IUFRO**

**Sponsors：Kochi University, Ehime University, Kochi Prefecture, Ehime Prefecture**

**Period：from 24th to 28th July, 2016**

**Venue: Nanka Memorial Hall of Ehime University**

**Honorable Scientific Committee:**

Prof. Woodam Chung (Oregon State University - USA, Coordinator of IUFRO Div.3)

Prof. Hans Rudolf Heinimann（ETH Zurich – Switzerland, Former Coordinator of Div.3）

Prof. Junichi Goto (Kochi University - Japan, President of JFES)

Prof. Hideo Sakai (Tokyo University - Japan, Former President of JFES)

Prof. Raffaele Cavalli (Padova University - Italy, Coordinator of IUFRO RG3.06.00)

Dr. Bruce Talbot (NIBIO -Norway, Deputy Coordinator of IUFRO RG3.06.00)

Emeritus Prof. John J. Garland (USA, Former Coordinator of IUFRO RG3.03.00) (Proposed)

Prof. Hulusi Acar (Karadeniz Technical University - Turkey) (Proposed)

Prof. Yozo Yamada (Ehime University - Japan, Coordinator of IUFRO RG3.03.00)

**Organizing Committee:**

Chairman: Prof. Yozo Yamada (Ehime University - Japan, Coordinator of IUFRO RG3.03.00)

Chief Secretary: Assoc. Prof. Yasushi Suzuki (Kochi University - Japan, Deputy Coordinator of IUFRO RG3.06.00)

Member: Dean of Agriculture, Ehime University

Member: Dean of Agriculture and Marine Science, Kochi University

Member: Director of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishery Division, Ehime Prefecture (Proposed)

Member: Director of Forestry and the Environment Department, Kochi Prefecture (Proposed)

Member: Director General of Shikoku Regional Forest Office, Forestry Agency (Proposed)

Member: Director General of Shikoku Research Center, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute (Proposed)

**Schedule:**

7/23 (Sun) PM: Registration, Ice Break

7/24 (Mon) AM: Registration, Opening, Keynote Speech

PM: Plenary Session, Welcome Party

7/25 (Tue) AM: Poster Presentations, Booth of Company

PM: Plenary Session, Sightseeing in Matsuyama and Dogo

7/26 (Wed) Moving to Kochi via Kuma Kogen Town

 Visit to a logging site on high-density strip road network

7/27 (Thu) AM: One Day Tour

 PM: One Day Tour, Farewell Party

7/28 (Fri) AM: Half Day Tour

 PM: Closing, Sightseeing in Kochi

**Deadlines:**

Application of Presentation and Summary 31st January, 2017

Registration and Meeting Fee Transfer 31st March, 2017

Paper Submission 30th April, 2017

Cancellation without Charge 31st May, 2017

**Preliminary Costs:**

　　**Workshop Fee: about 30,000 Japanese Yen,**

 **(Student: about 15,000 Japanese Yen)**

The above fee includes a welcome party, one and half day tours, moving to Kochi, and a farewell party.

Moreover we are considering a partial grant for students from developing countries.

**Conference Language:** English and Japanese

**Online Registration:** 1st December, 2016 – 31st March, 2017 (Under Construction)

Meeting Website: **http://www.kochi-u.ac.jp/iufrojrm/**

**The Second Announcement will be out on 1st October, 2016.**

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