The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) is a global network of working parties whose mission is to promote global cooperation in various forest-related research areas. We also disseminate scientific knowledge to stakeholders and decision-makers and thus contribute to forest policy and on-the-ground forest management.

The IUFRO Working Party coming to Qingdao has met three times since 2006, to contribute constructively to global forestry issues related to the unwanted international movement of alien invasive species, including fungi, insects, nematodes, and plants. Our main emphasis is on assessing and interrupting pathways for movement of alien invasive species. These interests provide an opportunity to integrate information across a range of invasive organisms to promote advances in dealing with invasive insects, pathogens and plants.

**Specific Objectives for our IUFRO Working Party:**

* Share information and research results
* Develop data-sharing agreements and contribute to global pest information systems
* Coordinate joint research and monitoring efforts
* Encourage improvement and extension of Pest Risk Analysis techniques
* Provide research support toward the development of mitigation strategies

IUFRO Working Party organizers:

Dr. Kerry Britton, USA; Dr. Hugh Evans, UK; Dr. Kenji Fukuda, Japan; Dr. Sankaran, India

We are excited to come to Qingdao Agricultural University, because we would like to meet Chinese researchers with similar interests, and learn about progress in China in the global effort to predict, prevent, and contain the spread of invasive pests.

**International Forestry Quarantine Research Group (IFQRG)**

The International Forestry Quarantine Research Group is an independent organization established to provide a mechanism where critical forestry quarantine issues can be addressed through discussion and collaborative research. It serves to bring together scientists, technical specialists and phytosanitary officials to foster multi-disciplinary approaches to forest quarantine-related problems of global significance.

The Group serves several main functions:

* Advisory body to the International Plant Protection Convention providing scientific analysis and review of global phytosanitary issues and new information
* Forum for the discussion and clarification of key issues related to the phytosanitary implications of global trade.
* Identify and undertake collaborative scientific research aimed at high priority forestry quarantine questions.

Membership is open to all interested parties with the goal of global representation from scientific, industrial and phytosanitary organizations from both developed and developing nations. IFQRG is chaired by Dr. Eric Allen (Canada), supported by a science steering committee:

Dr Thomas Schoeder – Germany

Dr. Cheryl Grurgrinovic – Australia

Dr. Ron Mack – USA

Dr. Andrei Orlinski – European Plant Protection Organization

Dr. Adnan Uzunovic – Canada