

# IMPACT

integrated management of forest  
pests addressing climate trends

**FINAL CONFERENCE**  
**Guinness Storehouse, Dublin**  
**7<sup>th</sup> May 2013**

## Presenters Pen Pictures:



Professor Hugh Evans

Leads the Forest Research in Wales Unit based in Aberystwyth. His responsibilities include the management and growth of the Unit, including the assessment of research opportunities within Wales and elsewhere. Interactions with a wide range of stakeholders in Wales and particularly with Natural Resources Wales and the Welsh Government are being developed both to scope and deliver research effort as well as appropriate technology transfer. Links with the research community in Wales, both in universities and government organisations are strong, leading to active collaboration on a range of environmental and land use issues, especially in relation to the Woodlands for Wales Strategy.



Professor John Sweeney

Is a Senior Lecturer in Climatology and Director of ICARUS. He has been in the Geography Department NUI Maynooth, since 1978. He received a First Class Honours B.Sc. from the University of Glasgow in 1974 and was awarded a PhD also from Glasgow in 1980 in the meteorology and climatology of air pollution. Over the past 30 years John has published approximately 70 scientific papers and edited / co-authored 4 texts on various aspects of climatology and climate change in Ireland. He has served a number of national academic societies as President, Secretary and Treasurer as well as being the Irish representative on a number of European academic bodies. He has also led a number of nationally funded research projects examining various aspects of climate change in Ireland and was a Contributing Authors and Review Editor of the Fourth Assessment Report of the

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for which the IPCC shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. John is currently President of An Taisce, the National Trust of Ireland.



Dr. Rodney Teck

Is a postdoctoral researcher in the Irish Climatic Analysis Research Units (ICARUS) at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. He is part of the climate modelling group working with the 'Weather Research and Forecasting' (WRF) model. In 1996 he came to NUI Maynooth as a mature student, graduating in 1999 with a BA (Hons) in History and Geography. Thereafter, he went to study for a Master of Science degree in 'Climate Change and Atmospheric Science' at the University of East Anglia in Norwich UK. In 2002–2003, he led an expedition to the Fitzroy mountain range in Patagonia, Argentina. The expedition was sponsored jointly by the Royal Geographic Society and the University of East Anglia. The expedition gathered and collated climatic data on - glacial morphology, tree-core data collection (dendrochronology) and fauna biodiversity. In April 2003, he returned to Ireland to carry out research for his PhD. entitled: Mid-Latitude Explosive Cyclogenesis: The Confounding Factors.



Dr. Eugene Hendrick

Has worked in the public service since 1976 in a variety of roles including forest research. He is currently a senior inspector in the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, dealing with climate change and forestry and other matters, including the COFORD council and the updating of national forest policy.



Dr. Kevin Black

Director of FERS Ltd, a forest and environmental consultancy specialising in forests and climate change, growth modelling, inventory and establishment management. FERS has been involved in the development of management and software solutions for forestry, such as the web-based ecological site classification system for species selection in Ireland (CLIMADAPT). Kevin is also an adjunct lecturer at the Department of Forestry in the School

of Agriculture and Food Science at University College Dublin. Graduated with a BSc (Hons) in plant physiology from the University of Natal, South Africa and completed a PhD in ecology from University College Dublin working on carbon metabolism in plant-fungal symbiosis. Research interests include; carbon sequestration and mitigation, single tree growth modelling, greenhouse gas and timber forecasting, forest carbon cycling, stable isotopes and dendroclimatology.



Simon Baily

Head of Unit, Ireland Wales Programme 2007 – 2013. He joined the Southern and Eastern Regional Assembly in September 2002 as Programme Liaison Officer with the Ireland Wales Programme Interreg 3A. In April 2007 Simon commenced as Head of Unit for the Ireland Wales Territorial Co-operation Programme (Interreg 4A). Simon is responsible for the technical implementation of the Programme, servicing the Monitoring and Steering Committees, human resource management and financial budgeting for the Programme.



Dr. Joan Webber

Principal Pathologist and Head of Tree Health Research Group, Centre for Forestry and Climate Change, Forest Research. Responsible for leading and managing research into the health of trees, with particular emphasis on recently arrived pests and pathogens. Much of this research is undertaken in collaboration with scientists at UK based and international organisations.



Dr. Alistair McCracken

Has been a plant pathologist with the Agri-Food & Biosciences Institute in Belfast for over thirty years. He has worked with a number of pathogens and diseases including apple scab and apple canker. Alistair has been involved in research on the use of Short Rotation Coppice willow as a biomass source for renewable energy. He spent many years studying

willow rust caused by *Melampsora epitea*. More recently he has been working on pathogens recently introduced to Ireland. He currently has seven post-graduate students.



Finlay McAllister

A Research Forester, Centre for Forestry and Climate Change, Forest Research. Studied Forestry and Conservation at Inverness, and joined Forest Research after graduating in 2003. From 2004 to 2010 he worked with the Technical Development Group, evaluating operational methods and systems and developing best practice guidance, and now works with the Centre for Forestry and Climate Change on the monitoring and management of insect pest threats.



Professor Tariq Butt

College of Science, Swansea University: Specialist Subjects: Entomogenous fungi, biological control, pest management, natural products, risk assessment. Is interested in the development of fungi for the control of invertebrate pests of economic and medical importance (e.g. insects, mites, ticks). His main research covers several areas including: fungal infection processes, the production, formulation and application of inoculum, risk assessment (RAFBCA) and the development of integrated pest management strategies. Current projects include the development of *Metarhizium anisopliae* as a biological control agent in horticulture



Dr. Christine Griffin

Head of Behavioural Ecology and Biocontrol Laboratory, Department of Biology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth. Research at this laboratory has two related foci: the behaviour and physiology of nematode parasites, and the use of insect parasitic nematodes as biological pesticides.



Dr. Jan-Robert Baars

Completed a BSc Hons in Entomology at Rhodes University, South Africa in 1994; joined the research staff of the Weeds Division, Plant Protection Research Institute in South Africa, investigating the biocontrol options using natural enemies on several target species including *Lantana camara*. Completed his PhD at Rhodes University with Prof. Pat Hulley and Prof. Martin Hill in 2003 while working at PPRI till 2000. I took my first postdoctoral fellowship in 2002 with Dr Mary Kelly-Quinn at UCD. I joined the staff in June 2008 as a lecturer in Biological Control and integrated pest management.



Pat Neville

Currently working for the Stewardship and Risk Department of Coillte, the State Forest company of Ireland. His primary responsibility now lies with the management of Regulatory Affairs for Coillte, but from 1999 to 2012 he was closely involved with forest health monitoring in Coillte. He has acted as National Focal Centre for Ireland since 1999 for the International Co-operative Programme on forest health monitoring, and remains as Chairman of their International Expert Panel on forest biodiversity assessments. He retains close links with University College Dublin who are now the project managers of the long term forest monitoring programme in Ireland currently known as ForSite. His background is in ecology and he is a graduate of the Zoology department of University College Dublin.