

*Timber recycles carbon*

## **TIMBER QUEENSLAND MEDIA RELEASE**



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **New Hardwood varieties position industry for rapid growth**

Queensland's timber needs are closer to being met by local suppliers following the release of a range of fast growing, disease and pest resistant hardwood varieties by Queensland Government Agricultural Scientists.

Rod McInnes, CEO Timber Queensland says these elite hardwood varieties are the future of Queensland's plantation industry and the way to close the gap between demand and local wood supply.

"This genetic research undertaken between CSIRO, The University of the Sunshine Coast, plantation growers, and Agri-Science Queensland scientists at the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation is instrumental in securing the future of the State's plantation industry," said Rod McInnes.

"Since Industry agreed to stop logging in State owned native forests as part of the South-East Queensland Forest Agreement and Western Hardwoods Statewide Forests Process, there has been a need to secure a viable, alternative plantation resource," he said.

"The release of these new varieties - which include Western white gum, Red Mahogany, African Mahogany, Corymbia hybrid and Spotted Gum – is good news for plantation growers who want to invest in efficient, fast growing species."

Timber Queensland commends the Queensland Government for this innovative forestry research and looks forward to an ongoing program that will further develop fast growing sawlog species to meet industry's future needs.

**ENDS**

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