



Telstra Country Wide Landcare Research Award

Northern United Forestry Group

The Northern United Forestry Group (NUFG) is an incorporated community group of landowners working to develop a farm forestry industry in Northern Victoria. The group formed in 1998 with the aim of establishing low-rainfall farm forestry as a commercially viable agricultural enterprise that provides forest products, environmental services and community benefits.

The Group's members own and manage a large area of cleared agricultural land and have the silvicultural expertise needed to propagate, establish, market and harvest the trees. Group members also have skills in milling on-farm logs, adding value to products and sourcing markets for end products. The practical knowledge and experience of the group has made it a key source of technical information on farm forestry in low-rainfall systems.

The group works in partnership with the CSIRO, Victoria's Forest Science Centre, universities and government agencies to undertake research evaluating the species best suited to Victoria's northern plains. The group hosted an expo on farm forestry in the Northern Plains earlier this year to communicate the results of their research to the local community.

The strong farmer base of the group ensures that plantations are managed as part of existing farming systems. NUGF members have expertise at managing farm forestry alongside cropping, fodder production, prime lambs, wool, dairying and beef cattle enterprises.

The NUGF undertakes research for farmers, by farmers and promotes permanent systems that bring about sustainable land use change.



Pictured L-R: Andrew Sheridan, Area General Manager Telstra Country Wide, Ian Rankin representing the Northern United Forestry Group, winners of the Telstra Country Wide Landcare Research Award, John Thwaites, Minister for Environment and John Landy, Governor of Victoria.