

timber, wood chips for exports, and for the production of paper, fibreboards and poles. Little new development is expected, however, and in fact, by 1990 hardwood production is expected to decrease.

It is the development of softwoods that has given great impetus to the forest industry in Australia. Softwoods (not native to Australia) were first planted 70 years ago and the plantations of radiata pine now exceed 700,000 hectares and are increasing by 25,000 hectares each year. In addition to projects currently underway, it is estimated that some \$1.9 billion will be invested in exploration of pine resources in the next decade.

The three major pulp and paper manufacturers are APPM (Association of Pulp and Paper Makers), ANM (Australian Newsprint Mills), and APM (Australian Paper Manufacturers). APM is Australia's largest producer of packaging paper and paperboard.

ITC sponsored participation in FIME 80, a forestry equipment exhibition in Australia in April 1980 and co-hosted, with the B.C. government, an incoming forestry mission in September 1980.

PROJECTS

Mt. Gambier Woodchip Plant (S.A.)

- Punular Paper Mills of India for export to buy. To be completed in 1984. First stage with pulpmill to follow.

Eden Woodchip Mill (N.S.W.)

- Harris-Daishowa Ltd. \$10 million. Duplication of current operation. H.A. Simons carrying out front-end engineering studies.

Myrtleford Plywood Mill (Vic)

- Bowater Scott Corp. \$7 million. To be added to the current sawmill-pulpmill complex. Will use local softwood resources.

Wagga Wagga Fibreboard Plant (N.S.W.)

- A.V. Wehl Industries-Canterbury Timber Products of N.Z. \$46 million. Medium-density fibreboard plant with output of 60,000 TPY.

Tarpeena (Mt. Gambier) Stud Mill (S.A.)

- SAPFOR. \$3 million. To double current capacity by 25,000 cubic metres (882,861 cubic feet) per year. Feasibility study not yet prepared. Current mill has mostly Swedish SCANDEX equipment.