



Irish Timber Growers Association

Minister Sargent launches Forestry and Timber Yearbook

The *ITGA Forestry and Timber Yearbook 2009* was launched in Ardgillan Castle, Skerries by Trevor Sargent TD, Minister for Food and Horticulture. The Yearbook, which is published by the Irish Timber Growers Association, is the definitive directory and annual forestry reference source serving tree growers and the wider forest industry in Ireland. Ardgillan Castle was an ideal venue for the launch as the name Ardgillan is derived from the Irish "Árd Choill" meaning "High Wood".

The *Forestry and Timber Yearbook* has a wide readership, ranging from tree nurseries to timber growers and processors and from forestry companies to state agencies, which interact with the forest industry. It features articles and advice on subjects such as state support measures for forestry, woodland taxation and various forestry issues.

The mainstay of the Yearbook publication is the directory containing close to 200 organisations and companies in the forestry and tree growing industry. As a result it has become an essential reference for forestry practitioners and growers. At the launch, Minister Sargent highlighted the important role that forestry plays in reducing Ireland's carbon emissions and praised the yearbook's role in supporting forestry in Ireland saying: "The yearbook has become an essential resource for all involved with the forestry and timber industry."

The yearbook also contains a list of events to take place in 2009 organised by ITGA and other groups and organisations. "The Association circulates newsletters and organises forest fielddays, as part of its range of services to forest owners and the industry and also those interested in forestry in general," said ITGA Chairman Brendan Lacey at the launch. Brendan Lacey also thanked Coillte, the main sponsor of the Yearbook and the various companies, organisations and individuals who continue to support the Yearbook.

This year there was an unprecedented demand for directory entries and the Yearbook team have upgraded the Yearbook's customised directory website www.forestryyearbook.ie Copies of the Yearbook can be ordered online (price €22 including postage) or by contacting ITGA at 17 Castle street, Dalkey, Co. Dublin, telephone 01 2350520; email itga@eircom.net.

For further information contact Donal Whelan or Rory Greene 01 2350520; email itga@eircom.net