



## **NTT MAHOGANY PROJECT AND NTT MAHOGANY PROJECT 2006-2008**

### **Responsible Manager Inspection Report**

#### **M'Oganwo Plantation- 28 August 2011**

##### **Abstract**

The Queensland and the Northern Territory Departments of Agriculture and Environment conducted an African Mahogany Industry Forum in Darwin from 29 August to 1 September 2011. Huntley Management Limited, on behalf of NTT growers, was a joint sponsor of the forum. As part of the pre conference arrangements delegates were invited to visit the M'Oganwo property and take part in an inspection of both the 2006 planting and provenance trials on the property. Mr Cleland presented a paper on the state of the industry in the NT. The Forum was very successful and the progress and development at M'Oganwo impressed all who took the opportunity to visit the property.

As a consequence of the Forum a routine project inspection was carried out on the day preceding the conference tour. The following were present on this inspection:

Mr Malcolm Cleland	Responsible Manager
Mr Ian Knobel	Project Forester
Mr Stephen Brosnan	M'Oganwo Plantation Manager

##### **Summary**

Overall the property, including those areas planted for both the NTT Mahogany project and the NTT Mahogany project 2006-2008, is now quite impressive to drive through and indicates a caring and competent management.

The 166 ha 2006 planting which is widely spaced is consolidating well with a significant area with canopy closure. A thinning trial was implemented in late 2010 and the effects are now apparent.

The 285 ha 2007 planting is well managed with generally very good weed control. An extensive pruning program has been implemented and it is anticipated that no further pruning will be required.

The 243 ha 2008 planting, which was replanted in the 2009 wet season and further infill planted in 2010, is now progressing well. Plantation management are now confident that an acceptable level of uniformity will be achieved. An extensive thinning and pruning program has begun.

Overall maintenance, fire breaks, erosion control and general project maintenance is good. The management team of Ian Knobel and Stephen Brosnan should be complimented on their efforts.

## Budget and Refinement of the Plantation Management plan

An aerial photograph in multiple light spectrums has been commissioned for the M'Oganwo plantation and should be a significant asset for management. The imagery produced will be used to trace such things as growth rates and nutrition levels and to produce overlay maps to assist with plantation management and further development.

It is recommended that the project forester, Mr Ian Knobel, further updates the 2011/12 budget to include matters discussed during the inspection, these include a changed timing for pruning and thinning of the 2009 planting and some further erosion works.

## Comparative photographs March 2010 with September 2011



Fig 1: 2007 Growers March 2010  
(Replanted Summer 2009)



Fig 2: 2007 Growers March 2010  
(Replanted Summer 2009)



Fig 1a: 2007 Growers September 2011



Fig.2a: 2007 Growers September 2011



Fig 3: 2006 Growers March 2010  
(Planted Summer 2007)



Fig 4: 2006 Growers March 2010



Fig 3a: 2006 Growers September 2011



Fig 4a: 2006 Growers September 2011



Fig 5: Wind Affected Trees 2006 Growers 2010  
(Planted summer 2007)



Fig 6: Wind Affected Trees 2006 Growers 2010



Fig 5a: 2006 Growers Sept 2011  
(Planted summer 2007)



Fig 6a: 2005 Growers Sept 2011  
(Planted winter 2005)



Fig 8: Trial Plots March 2010



Fig 9: Trial Plots Sept 2011

Malcolm Cleland  
Responsible Manager  
14 September 2011