

## Media Release

3 March 2022

### **Hancock Victorian Plantation (HVP) expands state-of-the-art nursery**

*Minister for Agriculture Mary-Anne Thomas visits nursery in Gippsland*

The Victorian Forest Products Association (VFPA) congratulates our member Hancock Victorian Plantations (HVP) on its state-of-the-art Gelliondale nursery in Gippsland, capable of producing up to 14 million seedlings a year, Deb Kerr, CEO of VFPA, said today. The Victorian Forestry Plan supported the nursery expansion with an \$875,000 investment.

“Our members are investing heavily in new technology, facilities and plantations – creating jobs and helping to meet our future timber needs. We look forward to working with the Victorian Government to support and invest in the high-quality, environmentally friendly resource that is available at our doorstep – Victorian wood”, Ms Kerr said.

HVP and its predecessors have operated a 280-ha nursery at Gelliondale since 1989. The facility includes seed orchards, glasshouse infrastructure, growing and despatch areas. The recent expansion, including an additional purpose-built seedling growing bay and installation of new state-of-the-art equipment, means more than 50,000 seedlings can now be sorted each day.

**ENDS**

#### **About**

The Victorian Forest Products Association (VFPA) represents all elements of the value chain from sustainable harvesting of plantations and multiple-use natural forest resources. VFPA is a policy development and advocacy group that represents the interests of Victoria’s sustainable forestry. We collaborate strongly with other industry bodies to ensure the best outcomes for forestry in general and our members more specifically. Our charter provides autonomy to manage state issues. We collaborate with the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) on any issues that transcend state borders and have national implications.

#### **Media Contact:**

**Ulrike Andresen-Nikolai - VFPA Public & Media Relations Manager**  
(m) 0437 559 360 (e) [ulrike.andresen-nikolai@vfpa.com.au](mailto:ulrike.andresen-nikolai@vfpa.com.au)

