Summer 1999 Winter 2000 Summer 2001

Figure 3. The same K deficient tree at ages 2.4, 3.0 and 3.6 years (left to right). This radiata pine tree received no weed control or fertilizer. Yellowing due to K deficiency increased with drought (3.0 yrs.) but decreased when the drought broke (3.6 yrs.), summer 2001.

2 m wide strips along tree rows. Expert advice should be sought to identify sites at risk of K deficiency and to develop site-specific recommendations.

While K deficiency in forest plantations has not been observed in Tasmania previously, it was documented in Gippsland, Victoria, during the 1960s and 1970s where it was also most noticeable on ex-pasture sites. Recently, K deficiency has been suspected in *Eucalyptus globulus* plantations on ex-pasture land in Western Australia. Future work to determine critical leaf K concentrations and growth responses in this species is warranted. **BCI**

Research undertaken by the Cooperative Research Center (CRC) for Sustainable Production Forestry and Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Forestry and Forest Products in collaboration with Private Forests Tasmania. Web site: http://www.forestry.crc.org.au E-mail: Philip.Smethurst@ffp.csiro.au

Soil Fertility Kit – A Toolkit for Acid Upland Soil Fertility Management in Southeast Asia

This new 159-page handbook is a compendium of information and methods for managing upland soil fertility in Southeast Asia. Titled *Soil Fertility Kit,* the publication is in an easy to read format useful for extension workers, farmers and researchers. It is authored by Thomas S. Dierolf, Thomas H. Fairhurst, and Ernst W. Mutert. Dr. Fairhurst is Deputy Director and Dr. Mutert is Director, PPI/PPIC East and Southeast Asia Program (ESEAP), Singapore.

Part 1 of the book presents practical tools and participatory approaches for investigation and diagnosis of soil fertility problems in acid, upland soils. Part 2 provides information on the chemical, physical, and biological properties of such soils and the major causes of problems. Nutrient cycles, integrated nutrient management, and biological soil fertility management are discussed. Part 3 is a compilation of essential information on soil classification, soil/plant sampling and testing, critical soil/plant nutrient levels, nutrient uptake and removal in crops and fertilizer recommendations.

The book can be purchased for US$25 per copy, including shipping/handling. Discounts are available on bulk quantities. For more details, check the website at www.eseap.org, or contact Doris Tan, PPI/PPIC (ESEAP), 126 Watten Estate Road, Singapore 287599. E-mail: dtan@ppi-ppic.org, phone +65 468 1143, or fax +65 467 0416.