



Eco Ranchos, Inc. partners with Green Tree Nursery to open a Central Valley nursery for commercial production of *Paulownia* trees.

La Grange, California - July 30, 2010 - Eco Ranchos, Inc., a California company growing *Paulownia* trees for commercial production of raw timber, wood products, biomass for energy and fuels, and bio-remediation, has partnered with well-established Green Tree Nursery (www.greentreenursery.com) of La Grange, near Modesto in California's Central Valley. Eco Ranchos can now supply root cuttings, seedlings, field-ready potted trees or bare-root trees. Eco Ranchos has chosen the *P. fortunei* species as its primary timber tree, and primarily *P. kawakamii* for biomass production, species not state or federally listed as invasive. In addition to tree production and sales, Eco Ranchos provides plantation planning and management, technical assistance to commercial growers in grow-out, field planting, and proper cultural practices. Eco Ranchos offers these services throughout the US, Mexico and in many other foreign countries.

Christopher Danch, Eco Rancho's co-founder and Director of Development, commented, "Eco Ranchos' timber production model for the Central Valley includes an array of large, medium and small independent growers operating as contract growers, together with company-operated plantations. Eco Ranchos' highly developed agroforestry system diversifies production and improves long-term sustainability. *Paulownia* is a highly suitable Short-Rotation Woody Crop for the production of biomass as a clean feedstock for bioenergy generation."

Chris continued, pointing out a number of advantages in selecting *Paulownia*: "This is a fast-growing, multi-purpose tree, and one of the oldest cultivated plantation trees in the world. *Paulownia* has fast growth, attractive appearance, low shrinkage coefficients, high strength-to-weight ratios, low thermal and electrical conductivity, extremely stable, capable of being air dried in 30 to 60 days, outstanding resonance qualities, is easy to work with, and bonds well with glue and stains. *Paulownia* can provide a significant long-term supply of woody biomass for renewable energy production, and is suitable for bio-remediation purposes. *Paulownia* is a superior tree species for intercropping, making it an ideal component of agro-forestry systems."

About Eco Ranchos:

Eco Ranchos' management team has over 100 years of combined experience in agriculture, including timber crops, annual crops, perennial crops, subtropical fruits and livestock. This experience, along with the in-depth expertise of its advisors and affiliated companies, allows Eco Ranchos to effectively design and implement sustainable and profitable agro-forestry and tree-farming systems. Eco Ranchos brings its hard-won expertise in commercial production of *Paulownia*, high quality genetics, trade networks, and its affiliated companies to the venture. Green Tree Nursery brings the nursery infrastructure, high quality agricultural land, a skilled workforce, trade contacts, grower network, and its sterling reputation and credibility within the Central Valley agricultural community.

For more information visit www.ecoranchos.com, call (805) 640-8534 or email info@ecoranchos.com.