

Dr. Les Pearson

Les joined ArborGen in 2003 as Director of Regulatory Affairs and has almost 20 years of experience in forest tree biotechnology. He is responsible for regulatory oversight of ArborGen's field trials in both the US and Brazil. ArborGen has over 300 issued permits for field tests or movement/importation of transgenic trees, covering a variety of species including pines, Eucalyptus, and poplars. Prior to ArborGen Les led the Forest Biotechnology group at Westvaco Corporation that he joined in 1989 as a Senior Scientist. Les received his PhD. from the John Innes Institute/University of East Anglia in England working on Agrobacterium and gene expression in transgenic plant tissues, and also did Post-doctoral research on plant gene expression at the University of Georgia in the U.S.