


FAO. 2011. Reforming forest tenure: issues, principles and process. Rome. (Please see page 17 for more information.)


NON-WOOD NEWS No. 23 November 2011


This book focuses on the main global drivers of change affecting the world’s forests and forest-dependent people and the challenges and opportunities they create. It also proposes ways to reduce the adverse effects of these drivers and to take advantage of the new opportunities they may bring. The book is a result of a collaborative writing process of over 160 authors from all over the world.


PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST


Roberts, P. & Evans, S. 2011. The book of fungi. United States of America, University of Chicago Press. More than 600 fungi are described and illustrated in this scholarly book. It gives examples of cultivated mushrooms such as shiitake, explains why porcini cannot be cultivated (no spores), has an interesting section on truffles and describes dozens of edible wild mushrooms. It also covers hundreds of mushrooms that are inedible or deadly poisonous.


Shackleton, S., Shackleton, C. & Shanley, P. [eds]. 2011. Non-Timber Forest Products in the Global Context: Tropical Forestry Series 7. 1st ed. Germany, Springer. This book provides a comprehensive, global synthesis of current knowledge on the potential and challenges associated with the multiple roles, use, management and marketing of NTFPs. There has been considerable research and policy effort surrounding NTFPs over the last two and a half decades. The book explores the evolution of sentiments regarding the potential of NTFPs in promoting options for sustainable multipurpose forest management, income generation and poverty alleviation. Based on a critical analysis of the debates and discourses, it employs a systematic approach to present a balanced and realistic perspective on the benefits and challenges associated with NTFP use and management within local livelihoods and landscapes, supported with case examples from both the southern and northern hemispheres. The book covers the social, economic and ecological dimensions of NTFPs and closes with an examination of future prospects and research directions.


Third World Network. 2011. The road to an anti-biopiracy agreement. The negotiations under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. Second ed. Malaysia. (Please see page 5 for more information.)


Bamboos at TBGRI

Published by the Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI), *Bamboos at TBGRI* is a record, with historical facts, of the initiation and development of a Bambusetum at TBGRI. It includes collection details and other features of 68 species and one variety under 15 genera and 12 hybrids produced in TBGRI. The book provides a picture of the genetic resources of bamboos available at TBGRI and is divided into three chapters covering: (1) the history of the TBGRI Bambusetum and major bambuseta of Asia; (2) details on live collections, the most important part of the book; and (3) future options and breeding in bamboos. The information is useful to policymakers, taxonomists, breeders, horticulturists, landscape architects in general and for future bamboo development activities of the state and country in particular.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Dr K C Koshy, Scientist, Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute, Palode 695562, Trivandrum, Kerala, India.

Specialty Crops for Pacific Islands

From bamboo to black pepper, cacao to coconut, tea to taro, *Specialty Crops for Pacific Islands* provides detailed cultivation, value-added and marketing information for over two dozen of the most important specialty crops for Pacific Islands and other tropical locations. These crops provide a rapidly growing economic opportunity for innovative farmers and gardeners who are interested in diversifying their products.

This new resource book – by 40 contributing experts and illustrated with over 940 colour images – covers value-added processing, enterprise development, accessing unique markets, sustainable local food production, economic and ecological viability, multicrop agroforestry systems and local systems with export potential. It provides insights into sustainable cultivation and processing techniques for local and export markets with an emphasis on innovating production methods, post-harvest processing and marketing.

This new book promotes high-quality food, fibre and health-care crops grown in diverse agroforestry systems with an emphasis on providing small farms with opportunities for local consumption and commercial sale.


FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Craig Elevitch, Permanent Agriculture Resources, PO Box 428, Holualoa, Hawaii 96725, United States of America.
Fax: +1 877-883-5837; e-mail: cre@agroforestry.net; http://www.agroforestry.net; www.specialtycrops.info/

Tropical palms, originally published in 1998 as the tenth volume in FAO’s NWFP series, was updated in 2010 to include the most recent information and developments regarding the conservation status and use of various tropical palm species.

The publication in its revised version is now available in French (*Les palmiers tropicaux révision 2010*) and in both hard copy and electronic format (www.fao.org/docrep/012/i1590e/i1590e00.htm). Copies can be purchased from FAO’s Sales and Marketing Group at publications-sales@fao.org/
State of Europe’s Forests 2011 launched

The UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), FAO and FOREST EUROPE have collaborated to produce State of Europe’s Forests 2011: Status & Trends in Sustainable Forest Management in Europe, launched during the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (FOREST EUROPE) held in Oslo, Norway from 14 to 16 June 2011.

The report is based on detailed information provided by countries. The main findings of the report are that forests cover 1 billion ha in Europe, 80 percent of which are in the Russian Federation; European forests are expanding and remove the equivalent of about 10 percent of European greenhouse gas emissions; most Europeans think that their forests are shrinking; the sector provides 4 million jobs and accounts for 1 percent of the region’s gross domestic product (GDP); low carbon-nitrogen ratios in forest soils will be problematic in several locations; and most countries have explicit objectives on forest-related carbon.

The authors of the report developed a draft method to assess the sustainability of European forests which, while not yet peer-reviewed, identifies a number of threats and challenges, including landscape fragmentation; a shrinking and ageing workforce; negative net revenues of several forest enterprises; and mobilizing enough wood for energy while reconciling biodiversity values and the needs of the traditional wood sectors. (Source: IISD News, 14 June 2011.)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe FOREST EUROPE, PO Box 115, N0-1431 Aas, Norway. Fax: +4764948939; e-mail: Liaison.unit.oslo@foresteurope.org; www.foresteurope.org/
Download: www.foresteurope.org/pBl7xY4UEJFW9S_TdLVYDCFspY39Ec720-U9or6XP.Tps/
(Please see pages 14–16 for extracts from this report.)

FAO finalizes second Asia-Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study

The new publications include:

- Asia-Pacific forests and forestry to 2020, which covers all the major aspects of forestry development across the whole of the Asia-Pacific region;
- subregional reports for Southeast Asia, East Asia, the Pacific and the Greater Mekong subregion, which contain a wealth of information on developing trends, future scenarios and priorities to reach sector goals;
- Forest policies, legislation and institutions in Asia and the Pacific. Trends and emerging needs for 2020, written in collaboration with the TNC RAFT Program, the Centre for People and Forests and with support from USAID.

In addition, the following reports, which formed the foundation for the outlook study, are available:

- twenty-one country papers, submitted by Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission member countries;
- eleven thematic papers on aspects of forests and forestry including poverty, environmental services, NWFPs, cultures and forests, forest products industry competitiveness, gender and biomass energy.

The reports are available at: www.fao.org/asiapacific/forestry-outlook/

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Patrick Durst, Senior Forestry Officer, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, 39 Phra Atit Road, Bangkok 10200, Thailand. Fax: (+66-2) 697 4445; e-mail: patrick.durst@fao.org/

For more information, please contact:

FAO finalizes second Asia-Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study

This book contains a wealth of information on the local medicinal uses, including the different plant parts used and the way of preparation of the medicine, of more than 350 medicinal plants of the Equator province in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. (Source: K.K. Mbuta et al. 2011. Plantes medicinales de traditions: province de l’Equateur, R.D. Congo. Democratic Republic of the Congo, Institut de recherche en sciences de la santé. (Please see page 41 for more information.)

Plantes medicinales de traditions: province de l’Equateur, R.D. Congo

A novel must be exceptionally good to live as long as the average cat.

Hugh Maclennan