

International conference  
**Quality Timber Products of Teak**  
**from Sustainable Forest Management**  
Peechi, Kerala, India, 2-5 December 2003

Plantation Investment  
Productivity  
Economic returns  
Genetics  
Silviculture  
Clonal teak  
Wood farming  
Wood quality  
Further processing  
Life cycle analysis (LCA)  
Residue utilisation  
Value added products  
Recycling  
Certification  
"Green" products  
Trade  
Policy  
Technology transfer  
Joint venture  
Networking



Criteria & Indicators  
Tree health  
Carbon balancing  
Soil degradation  
Site management  
Biodiversity  
Poverty alleviation  
Employment  
Community participation

organised by  
**Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI)**  
in collaboration with the  
**International Union of Forest Research Organizations**  
(IUFRO 5.06.02: Timber Quality of Teak from Plantations)  
under the auspices of  
**International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)**  
and  
**Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India**

<http://kfri.org/html/k0500frm.htm>  
<http://iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/iufro.net/d5/hp50602.htm>



## CONTEXT AND RATIONALE

Teak (*Tectona grandis* L.f.) is an undisputed leader of high quality tropical timbers. It is taken as a standard for comparative evaluation of the utilisation of other tropical hardwoods. Of late, teak has attracted the investors' attention on sustainable production of quality timber from both public and private sectors in the massive tropical plantation programmes. While the global teak plantations are estimated to exceed



3 million ha, 94% is located in tropical Asia with a major share in India (44%) and Indonesia (31%). Involvement of farmers and small land holders in the model of industrial wood supply from shorter rotation teak of 20-30 years is being tested in many countries, viz. Brazil, Costa Rica, Ghana, India, Myanmar, Thailand and Malaysia.

Majority of hill farmers in Northern Laos prefer teak to fruit trees and other crops because of better market potential, cash income and wood for construction. Teak wood production is stated as an attractive proposition for the Venezuelan flood-plains. With an annual national target of 50,000 ha, teak is planted extensively in India and about half of the forest plantation area in Kerala State is under teak. Although three regional workshops were held on teak in the Asia Pacific Region during 1995-2000, the most crucial pending issues of global and local concern include:

- ◆ Does teak maintain superiority in timber quality in high input short rotation plantations with silviculturally and genetically modified trees?
- ◆ What is the potential of teak for sustainable forest management (SFM) to meet the environmental and economic criteria in the tropics?

- ◆ What is the role of teak plantations in the livelihood of rural communities and poverty alleviation in promoting the tropical timber trade with value-added products?
- ◆ Is teak amenable, under socially acceptable conditions, to advanced technology of production and further processing for better marketability and to certification / "green" labelling?

It is in this context that the international conference is planned with a theme - **Quality Timber Products of Teak from Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)** - to address the various issues involved in the Tree-to-Product wood chain. The Conference is targeted to both public and private sectors concerned with timber production including the small land holders/farmers, processing enterprises, traders, State Forest Departments, Forest Development Corporations, Policy Makers and scientists.

## OBJECTIVES

To provide an international forum for critical appraisal of the role of teak plantations in tropical timber development programmes and market situation, including the recent research findings, in environmentally acceptable and socially desirable conditions.

To identify the constraints and strategic solutions for sustainable utilization of plantation grown teak





## ORGANISERS

Under the auspices of International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, the Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI) will hold the Conference, in collaboration with International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO 5.06.02 Working Group - Timber Quality from Teak Plantations).

## VENUE AND DATE

The Conference venue is Peechi - located in central Kerala in the midst of tropical forests with a scenic beauty, which attracts a large number of tourists throughout the year. The nearest city is Thrissur (18 km), the cultural capital of Kerala which is well connected by road and train. The new Cochin (Kochi) International Airport at Nedumbassery is only 60 km away while another accessible domestic airport is at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu (100 km). More information about Kerala can be accessed through the websites :

[www.keralatourism.com](http://www.keralatourism.com)  
[www.keralagreener.org](http://www.keralagreener.org)  
[www.kerelam.com](http://www.kerelam.com)

Kerala is a major tourist destination in India. The Post-Conference tour and accompanying persons' visits to places of tourist interest will be arranged if sufficiently large number of participants indicate their interest.

The Conference will be held during 2-5 December 2003. Weather in Kerala during December is very pleasant with an average temperature of 25-27 °C.

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Language of the Conference deliberations will be English. In addition to Key Note Address, the scientific programme includes several plenary and sub-plenary sessions to address the following core issues:

- ◆ Review of current situation of key producer countries (country reports)
- ◆ Teak timber quality from high input plantations including trees outside forests (ToF)
- ◆ Production and processing technology vs environmental and social acceptability
- ◆ Economics and policy issues of teak plantation ventures
- ◆ Teak wood industry, tropical timber trade and policy

Researchers are encouraged to submit voluntary papers which will be presented in the form of posters in order to provide opportunity for effective scientific interactions without time limitation. If the voluntary paper is of high standard addressing the theme of the Conference, it will be permitted as an oral presentation. However, both oral papers and posters will have equal status in the proceedings to be published.

During the Conference, many satellite meetings are expected to take place to cater to the needs of different stakeholders and teak networking organizations.

In-conference field excursion to Nilambur is planned to get acquainted with the prevailing plantation management practices, industrial processing and trade including the world's oldest teak plantation raised in 1842. The other major attraction is a visit to teak museum - first of its kind established by KFRI depicting history of teak cultivation, management and utilisation.



## IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

Receipt of pre-registration form

**31 December 2002**

Receipt of Abstract of voluntary paper/poster:

**31 January 2003**

Receipt of full paper:

**30 April 2003**

Second Announcement/registration pack:

**10 June 2003**



## Conference Advisory Committee (CAC)

**Manoel Sobral Filho**

Executive Director, International Tropical Timber Organization, Yokohama, Japan

**M. K. Sharma, IFS**

Director General, Ministry of Environment and Forests (Govt. of India), New Delhi, India

**P. K. Surendranathan Asari, IFS**

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Kerala Forest Department, Trivandrum, India

**K. K. Srivasthava, IFS**

Managing Director, Kerala Wood Industries Ltd. Nilambur, Kerala, India

**J. K. Sharma**

Director, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, Kerala, India

## Conference Organising Committee (COC)

**Ma Hwan Ok**

Projects Manager, Forestry Industry, ITTO, Japan

**Takashi Okuyama**

Coordinator IUFRO 5.06.02, Nagoya, Japan

**K. M. Bhat**

Convener, KFRI, India, Deputy Coordinator IUFRO Division 5

## CONTACT ADDRESS:

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**Dr. K. M. Bhat**

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## Conference Websites:

<http://kfri.org/html/k0500frm.htm>

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# Pre-Registration Form

## International Conference



### QUALITY TIMBER PRODUCTS OF TEAK FROM SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Peechi, India, 2-5 December 2003

Title.....Surname .....

First Name.....

Organization.....

Postal Address.....

City.....

Country.....

Tel.....

Fax.....

Email.....

Tick the appropriate boxes:

- I am interested to attend the Conference: Single / With spouse/ companion.
- I wish to receive the Second Announcement/Registration pack in June 2003 (for detailed information on Scientific Programme, Accommodation, Accompanying persons and Post Conference Tour, etc.)
- I wish to submit a Poster/Paper Abstract.
- I wish to receive a copy of Guidelines for preparing papers/posters by email.
- I wish to participate in Post-Conference Tour : number of person(s).....
- I am interested in accompanying persons programme.
- I wish to seek financial support for my participation (Limited funds will be available for the participants from developing countries who will make significant contributions towards the success of the Conference).
- Special / dietary requirements: .....

Submit duly completed Pre-RegistrationForm by  
**31 December 2002** either online or by email/snail mail/fax

Mail to:

**Dr. K. M. Bhat**

**Convener, International Teak Conference 2003**

**Kerala Forest Research Institute**

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