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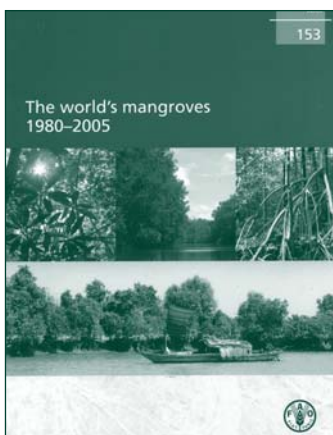
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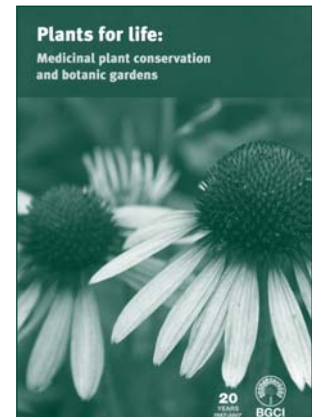
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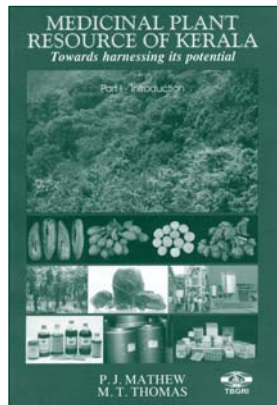
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NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM FAO'S NON-WOOD FOREST PRODUCTS PROGRAMME

NWFP Working Documents

The role of CITES in controlling the international trade in forest products: implications for sustainable forest management, by Teresa Mulliken. Working Document No. 7, TRAFFIC International.

Forests and forest products are fundamental to the health and well-being of the vast majority of the world's human population. They play a critical role in the livelihoods of local communities in and around forests and are a source of food, medicines, construction materials, fuel, ornamentation and even companionship, for example, in the case of pets. Technological innovation, and specifically improvements in the global transport infrastructure, combined with human migration have served to increase the use and availability of forest products around the world. However, this use is not without a cost – the populations of many wild species have declined as a result of harvest for international trade, some to the point that entire species are threatened with extinction.

In order to address international trade threats to wild species, governments have established the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). CITES entered into force in 1975, and has over 160 member governments (Parties). This report explores the role and impact of CITES on the trade in forest products and sustainable forest management throughout its 30-year history, with an emphasis on plant, and specifically timber, species.

An electronic version of this document is available from our NWFP home page (www.fao.org/forestry/40716/en/). A hard copy will shortly be available free of charge from FAO's NWFP Programme at the address on the first page or by sending an e-mail to: non-wood-news@fao.org

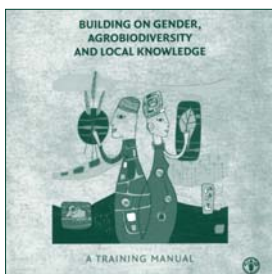
Pipeline publications

- A new title – *Bees and their role in forest livelihoods. A guide to the services provided by bees and the sustainable harvesting, processing and marketing of their products* – will shortly be added to our NWFP series. Extracts from this publication, which has been authored by Nicola Bradbear, are included in the Special Features of this issue (please see pages 5, 6 and 7).
- Another new title planned for our NWFP series is *Fruit trees and useful plants in the lives of Amazonians*. It is scheduled to be published later this year and will be a beautifully illustrated joint publication by FAO and the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR).

OTHER RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Building on gender, agrobiodiversity and local knowledge. A training manual

This training manual is a publication by the Gender, biodiversity and local knowledge systems for food security (LinkS) project (see also Non-Wood News, 8). It is based on experiences collected in numerous training workshops carried out under the FAO-LinkS project in eastern and southern Africa. The manual constitutes a conceptual guide for trainers that can be



used to lead them through the issues of gender and local knowledge, which are important elements for agrobiodiversity management and food security.

Agrobiodiversity and food security are complex issues that need careful consideration. The myth that technologies taught to farmers will ease their poverty and hunger because the expertise or seeds provided are modern or new, persists in many contexts. This leads to positive results not materializing and rural farmers being faced with failed crops, or it is found that the technology applied is not appropriate to the particular situation.

There have been successes, this is true; however, a careful reading of the case studies contained in the manual will prompt readers to pause and reflect. In some cases, the fine balance between wild foods and cultivated local varieties offers better solutions for local contexts and the introduction of new technologies may disturb the equilibrium.

The manual is available online at: www.fao.org/sd/dim_pe1/pe1_060302_en.htm

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
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E-mail: Regina.Laub@fao.org

Microfinance and forest-based small-scale enterprises

Microfinance and forest-based small-scale enterprises (FAO Forestry Paper 146) is now available online in English, French, Spanish and Arabic from the FAO Forestry Department Web site at the following addresses:
www.fao.org/docrep/008/a0226e/a0226e00.htm
www.fao.org/docrep/010/a0226f/a0226f00.htm
www.fao.org/docrep/010/a0226s/a0226s00.htm
www.fao.org/docrep/010/a0226a/a0226a00.htm

Natural Inquirer

The *Natural Inquirer* is an integrated science education journal for students aged from 11 to 14. A recent issue (Vol. XI/No. 1) focused on the world's forests and was prepared in collaboration with the FAO Forestry Department. It presents the results of FAO's worldwide effort to understand the world's forests – the *Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005*, which contains information from 229 countries and territories around the world.

The journal can be downloaded from: www.fao.org/forestry/site/fra/en

Alternatively, a hard copy is available from: Laura Russo, Forestry Officer, Forest Assessment and Reporting Service, Forestry Department, FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome.
 E-mail: laura.russo@fao.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
<http://www.naturalinquirer.usda.gov/>
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www.fao.org/forestry/site/fra

Le Koko ou Mfumbu (Gnétacées) Une plante alimentaire d'Afrique centrale

Chevalier (1951) fait remarquer qu'en 1950, son attention fut attirée par un produit végétal vendu toute l'année sur les marchés de Bangui et connu des peuplades de la sous-région d'Afrique centrale sous le nom de «Koko» ou «Mfumbu». Au Nigéria, il est appelé «Okasi» et a été décrit par les botanistes qui l'ont classé dans le genre *Gnetum* dans la famille des Gnétacées qui comprend une trentaine d'espèces localisées dans les forêts tropicales d'Afrique, d'Amérique et d'Asie.

Les deux espèces africaines (*Gnetum africanum* et *Gnetum buchholzianum*) sont de petites lianes de sous-bois à feuilles comestibles. Elles constituent une source très appréciable de protéines et de sels minéraux et sont commercialisées par les femmes durant toute l'année sur les marchés d'Afrique centrale. Elles font également l'objet d'échanges transfrontaliers en Afrique et sont exportées dans les pays européens. Les spécialités à base des feuilles de «Koko» jouent un rôle qui va au-delà de leur utilisation alimentaire. Les populations d'Afrique centrale expriment leur identité culturelle à travers la consommation de ces plats.

Cet ouvrage donne des renseignements précieux sur la biologie de la plante, les possibilités de sa domestication, son intérêt alimentaire, et la commercialisation de ses feuilles en Afrique et en Europe.

Mialoundama, Fidèle. 2007. *Le Koko ou Mfumbu (Gnétacées). Une plante alimentaire d'Afrique centrale*. Paris, L'Harmattan. ♣

There are perhaps no days of our childhood we lived so fully as those we spent with a favourite book.

Marcel Proust