

VII. THE PROSEA PROGRAMME (PLANT RESOURCES OF SOUTH-EAST ASIA)

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MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

The Third PROSEA International Workshop was held in Bogor, Indonesia, 15–17 November 1999 and was attended by about 80 participants from 12 countries. A keynote address was presented by Prof. Dr. Y. Koswara on behalf of His Excellency, the Minister of National Education of the Republic of Indonesia. The main subject of the Workshop was 'PROSEA beyond 2000' and numerous recommendations were presented after preceding discussions by 4 working groups. The overall PROSEA Vision and Mission Statement was presented as follows: "In view of the importance of plant information for mankind and biodiversity conservation, and the unique position of PROSEA in this respect, PROSEA strives to be a leading information provider and disseminator on the plant resources of South-East Asia for their efficient and sustainable use. Emphasis will be on lesser-known useful plants, and information services will be demand-driven."

Some of the recommendations are:

- The PROSEA volumes on Fungi (15(3)) and on Ornamental plants (20) will be published but the PROSEA Head Office in Bogor is responsible for sourcing the funding for those volumes;
- Instead of a full-fledged second edition of the Handbook, an update or supplement is an option;
- PROSEA should continue to be a non-profit foundation beyond 2000 and membership of other SE Asian countries such as Brunei, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos and Singapore should be encouraged;
- The Network Office in Bogor becomes Head Office;
- The Country Offices should become much more visible as national focal points for information exchanges on the plant resources of SE Asia; they are responsible for designing and producing 'demand-driven' derived materials;
- PROSEA should strive to be 50% self-financing by the year 2010;
- The Head Office should provide internet access to users of the PROSEA Information Base;
- For more information: see the forthcoming Proceedings of the Workshop.

During the workshop there was also a ceremony at the graveyard in the Bogor Botanical Garden to inaugurate the tombstone at the grave of Prof. Dr. A.J.G.H. Kostermans, who was formerly scientific advisor of PROSEA.

At the 9th PROSEA Board of Trustees meeting in Bogor, 18 November 1999, particularly the recommendations of the workshop were discussed and translated into an Action Plan which should lead to a Project Formulation Framework that can be used in fund raising.

Per June 2000, Dr. J. Kartasubrata (BO) resigned as Head of the Network Office. He has been succeeded by Dr. B.P. del Rosario (formerly PROSEA board member on behalf of PCARRD and Programme Leader Philippines).

As new PROSEA Programme Leader of the Philippines Dr. C.R. Escaño (Division Head Crop Research of PCARRD) had been appointed, but very regretfully, Dr. Escaño suddenly passed away in August 2000. His successor has not yet been appointed.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

PROSEA 16: Stimulants. Editors: H.A.M. van der Vossen (WAG) & M. Wessel (WAG). Hardbound edition: Backhuys Publishers, Leiden, The Netherlands, 2000. 201 pp. ISBN 90-5782-053-6. Price NLG 130, USD c. 65. Low-price paperback edition: PROSEA, Bogor, Indonesia, 2000. ISBN 979-8316-35-5. Price USD c. 6.

The book has been published in February 2000: 201 stimulating pages, compiled and edited by 36 contributors and 3 general editors, 2 volume editors, 6 associate editors including the coordinator, 3 illustrators and 1 language corrector. The book contains amongst others an introduction of 34 pages; an alphabetical treatment of 17 genera or species papers on 73 pages; an alphabetical treatment of 34 minor stimulants on 16 pages; a literature list of 10 pages and 2 plant name indexes on 13 pages. The Foreword has been written by Dr. A. Charrier, Head of Genetics and Plant Breeding Unit of ENSA and INRA in Montpellier, France. In Wageningen, the volume was officially launched on March 16 by the PROSEA Vice-Chairman Dr. C.M. Karssen during an informal meeting attended by amongst others the 2 editors, 2 visitors from Agropolis, Montpellier, France, and the PROSEA staff.

COMMODITY GROUPS PROGRESSES (situation September 2000)

PROSEA 12(2): Medicinal and poisonous plants 2. Editors: J.L.C.H. van Valkenburg (WAG) & N. Bunyaphatsara (Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand). Coordinator: J.L.C.H. van Valkenburg (WAG).

An editors meeting took place in Wageningen 10–12 May 2000. The work for the about 25 papers for which no authors were available or for which contributions were long overdue was divided over the editors and the associate editors S. Horsten and G. Schmelzer. Further were discussed the contents of an introductory chapter and a time schedule for the whole volume. The introduction will be kept brief and focus on those aspects of 12(1) that deserve more attention such as quality-control in the whole process from medicinal plant to medicine (integrated chain, including seed selection, growth conditions, raw material and production techniques to finished products). In December 2000 a first draft of the introduction will be ready. Early September 2000 about 100 of the in total 180 papers were ready or already had passed one to several editorial rounds, including the preparation of an illustration for each. In January 2001 another editors meeting is planned and all people involved are convinced that in 2001 volume 12(2) will be born.

PROSEA 12(3): Medicinal and poisonous plants 3. Editors: R.H.M.J. Lemmens (WAG) & N. Bunyaphatsara (Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand). Coordinator: R.H.M.J. Lemmens (WAG).

The editors meetings for 12(2) and 12(3) in May 2000 were held combined. The introductory chapter of 12(3) will focus on subjects such as cultivation of medicinal plants versus collection from the wild, plant based medicines versus phytomedicines, and expectations for the future; a first draft should be ready by December 2000. Early September 2000, for 16 of the about 320 papers no authors had been found, about 100 papers passed one to several editorial rounds and about 50 concepts for illustrations had been prepared; still a lot of work has to be done but progress is steady and, perhaps more important, the editor-coordinator keeps smiling ...

PROSEA 14: Vegetable oils and fats. Editors: H.A.M. van der Vossen (WAG) & B.E. Umali (UPLB, Los Baños, the Philippines). Coordinators: B.E. Umali (UPLB) & L.P.A. Oyen (WAG).

For most of the 21 major papers (genus or species treatments) editorial work is far advanced and the texts reach their final form. Illustrations still have to be made and also work for the 25 minor species should start. Dr. van der Vossen progresses well with writing the Introduction. In October 1999, Umali came to WAG and will stay there to work as editor-coordinator until the book is ready.

PROSEA 15(1): Cryptogams: Algae. Editors: W.F. Prud'homme van Reine (L) & G.C. Trono (UPLB, Los Baños, the Philippines). Coordinator: E. Westphal (WAG).

Editorial work on the 70 papers is progressing very well and all 70 manuscripts entered a third editorial round and soon can go to the English correction. For all papers a concept for an illustration has been prepared and about 20 drawings are ready. The first concept of the Introduction still needs quite some work before it will be final. Nevertheless, the end comes in sight and we hope that by the end of this year the manuscript can go to the printer.

PROSEA 15(2): Cryptogams: Ferns and fern allies. Editors: V.B. Amoroso (Central Mindanao University, Bukidnon, the Philippines) & W. de Winter (WAG). Coordinator: Ms. E. Wulijarni-Soetjipto (PROSEA, BO).

We are happy to announce that two editor candidates for the 'Ferns and fern allies' are being proposed to the Board of Trustees: Dr. V.B. Amoroso of the Philippines (Central Mindanao University, Bukidnon) and W. de Winter of the Netherlands (Wageningen University). Of the about 60 planned papers, for 43 have been found authors and 41 manuscripts are available. About 25 manuscripts have had a first editing but still need more attention. For those 25 also a drawing or a concept drawing has been prepared. Still a lot of work has to be done which can impossibly be finished this year.

PROSEA 15(3): Cryptogams: Fungi.

At the PROSEA Workshop in November 1999 in Bogor it has been decided that work on the fungi will not get priority and most probably only will continue after the year 2002.

PROSEA 17: Fibre plants. Editor and Coordinator: M. Brink (WAG); 2nd editor: not yet identified.

Early 2000, work has started for this volume. There was a good response on the call for authors in the PROSEA April Newsletter; a bit problematic is the fact that often too

many authors subscribed for the same paper. Now for 34 papers (out of the total of 50 majors) authors have been invited, and for 10 papers authors are still being sought but we are confident that they will be found soon. A start has been made with collecting information, also for the 150–200 minor species and for the introductory chapter. Work is progressing well.

PROSEA 18: Plants producing exudates. Editors: E. Boer (WAG) & A.B. Ella (UPLB, Los Baños, the Philippines). Coordinator: E. Boer (WAG).

On 18 & 19 May 2000, there was an editors meeting in Wageningen to discuss and solve the last problems. The texts and illustrations for the 15 major species and the 40 minor species are ready. The introduction is almost ready and what rests are glossary, preliminary and final pages. The book will have appeared by the end of the year 2000.

PROSEA 20: Ornamental plants.

At the PROSEA Workshop in November 1999 in Bogor it has been decided that work on the ornamentals will not get priority and most probably only will start after the year 2002.

COMMODITY GROUP CD-ROMs: (Editors: ETI/PROSEA/PUDOC)

PROSEA 2: Edible fruits and nuts, a hybrid CD (for both Macintosh and Windows). Price EUR 89.95. ISBN 3-540-14845-0.

The multimedia databases on the CD-ROM hold detailed information on some 120 (economically) important foodcrops, brief characteristics of another 270 species of lesser importance, and references to other PROSEA titles are given for nearly 400 species which are not primarily used for their fruits or nuts. Many of the species are illustrated by drawings and photographs. The hyper-linked programme offers a matrix based identification system which holds information on secondary uses and geographical distribution. Also included are a list of South-East Asian literature references, a list of literature references used for the species described, and an illustrated glossary that explains the terms used.

PROSEA 5: Timber trees. Price EUR 229.95. ISBN 3-540-14773-X (Macintosh) and 3-540-14771-3 (Windows).

The CD-ROM presents a complete and fully updated treatment of the timber species of South-East Asia. It holds detailed information on 400 genera and 2900 timber-yielding species, including full descriptions of trees and timber properties, an enhanced search facility for wood properties, an interactive wood-anatomical identification system, photographs of tree habits, high-resolution wood anatomical photographs and botanical illustrations. Fast and easy access to the databases is warranted by powerful search engines and an expert system for interactive wood identification. A hyper-linked illustrated glossary of technical terms, a reference database and distribution maps per species are part of the system.

PROSEA 6: Rattans and PROSEA 7: Bamboos.

The next CD-ROM to be published will be one covering the rattans and the bamboos. A test version has been made, but many more illustrations of the described species need

to be selected and added. Video tracks will also be included which give insight in the way rattans and bamboos develop and are being harvested and processed. The thorough treatment of these taxonomically difficult groups, their fascinating wide array of applications and the fine photographs are important qualifications for this electronical publication. This CD-ROM is a must for all with interest in South-East Asian rattans and bamboos and their utilization. The CD-ROM should be available by the end of 2000.

PROSEA 8: Vegetables, a hybrid CD (for both Macintosh and Windows). Price EUR 89.95. ISBN 3-540-14626-1.

This CD-ROM covers the information given in the book (225 vegetable species), the corresponding bibliography (3100 references), about 350 colour photographs and geographic distribution maps.

Those CD-ROMs can be ordered at your local bookshop or ordered directly by the distributor: Springer-Verlag, Heidelberger Platz 3, D14197 Berlin, Germany for the normal prices (e-mail: orders@springer.de). Users in developing countries can order against reduced prices at UNESCO, 7, Place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France (e-mail: publishing.promotion@unesco.org). For more information on PROSEA Commodity Group CD-ROMs and ordering details, please visit www.eti.uva.nl/products.

Bibliography CD-ROMs (Editor: PROSEA):

PROSEA 9: Plants yielding non-seed carbohydrates (4702 records). Price Rp. 35000.

PROSEA 10: Cereals (3625 records). Price Rp. 35000.

PROSEA 11: Auxiliary plants. Price Rp. 57000.

Those bibliography CD-ROMs are only for sale at the PROSEA offices in SE Asia, particularly at the Network Office in Bogor, Indonesia.