

VII. RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS
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Community forestry. Building success through people's participation by Y.S. RAO, *Unasyuva* 37 (1985) 29—35.

The author provides a succinct and clear definition of community forestry, outlines what is needed to make it succeed and discusses the constraints under which it operates at present. Implementing community forestry, he argues, will require nothing less than a radical restructuring of forestry's traditional policies, practices and institutions. Highly recommended for conservationists dealing with buffer zones and villagers participation. — H.P. Nooteboom.

Does Ecology Count? An IUCN Bulletin special feature, IUCN Bulletin 16 (1985) 53—65. With chapters on:

- Ecology and Conservation, just good friends? by K. MILLER, Director General, IUCN. Discussion of the role of ecology in conservation, and the role IUCN plays in the matter.

- A chequered history, by R.F. DASSMANN, 'Conservation and ecology have seemed so closely related in recent times than many people regard them as the same thing. A conservationist is assumed to be an ecologist, and vice versa, and

both are considered environmentalists. Unfortunately this is not true ...' Discussion of ecology as a science which influences conservation but does not need to have anything to do with it, and the historic development of the relations between ecology and conservation.

- A case for more clarity, by G.M. DUNNETT, "'Ecology' and 'Ecologist' mean different things to different people, and the words can hardly be used meaningfully nowadays unless carefully qualified or defined". Discussion of the current meaning of ecology. Gives also a plea for translation of ecological data in order that these may be understood and put to really effective use by conservationists.

- What ecology has given to conservation, by F. RAMADE. The author tries to describe the range of breakthroughs in ecological theory and its application in recent decades to conservation. Gives a discussion of ecological processes and their effects as well as some examples where things go wrong. Especially the role of energy is largely discussed. Also the implication of the hitherto exponential multiplication of the human race. If our species continues with multiplication at the same rate, the numbers will double in the next 40 years. If this happens world food production will have to increase in that short period as much as it has done during the last 10,000 years. As no population, vegetal or animal, can continue to increase exponentially for long without very rapidly exceeding the capacities of the environment something has to be done. If we are unwilling to realize that it is high time to adopt a demographic strategy on these lines, we will most surely destroy the biosphere and perish with it.

- Biological Diversity - an Ecologists Viewpoint, by R.E. RICKLEFS. Extinction is for ever. Because discoveries of biologically original and beneficial products cannot be predicted, it is impossible to place a monetary value on the maintenance of diversity as against the short-term, tangible value of wood for timber or fuel and of cleared land for agriculture. Time is running out to make crucial decisions concerning development and conservation.

- The Concept of Human Ecology, by P.R. EHRLICH. There are four main areas: The dynamics; the use of resources; the impact on environment; the complex interactions among all these. In a last paragraph the prospects for survivors is discussed as civilization collapses.

- Forest modeling without maths, by R.A.A. OLDEMAN. Oldeman describes a possible approach to 'breaking the deadlock' of ecologists recommendations that are too often couched in terms which mean little to would be users of their expertise in the specific case of tropical forest conservation. He describes a method for assessing the biological value of a forest and its flora and fauna, looking at the forest from different levels, i.e. from satellite image to the individual tree. He also discusses the minimum area for sustainable conservation. He states: "This question is usually tackled by population analysis ... It may be answered in a simpler and cheaper way by determining the minimum area for survival of the rarest eco-unit." In my opinion this is an oversimplification of the problem. A physiognomic eco-unit can have a different species composition and in case an eco-unit consists of one tree, two resembling eco-units may represent two different species. A transect study as Oldeman recommends, combined with aerial photography and satellite imagery, never can reveal the survival capability of the individual species. It is the interaction with pollinators and seed dispersing animals as well as the autecology of the species that we have to now if we deal with plants only. In a word, it is ecology that counts. Furthermore, reser-

vations are not only for plants. Possibly the minimum area for some kinds of birds and, especially the larger, ungulates is much larger than that of any kind of trees. — H.P. Nooteboom

Ecology of Sulawesi. Dr A.J. WHITTEN (Jl. Sangga Buana 2, Bogor) reported that this study is expected to appear in March 1987. After that the Environment Minister of Indonesia wants to have two more studies in progress, probably on Kalimantan and Irian Jaya. Whitten is currently seeking money from UNDP to complete the series with an additional volume on the ecology of the Indonesian seas.

The evolution of the East Asian Environment, proceedings of the conference on the palaeoenvironment of East Asia from the Mid-Tertiary, held in Hongkong from 7—12 January, 1983. Two volumes containing 60 papers, 992 pp., published November 1984. Publications Secretary, Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hongkong, Pokfulam Road, Hong. Kong. HK\$ 240.00, or the equivalent in US\$ or UK£ at the rate of the day. (Cheques to be made out to the University of Hongkong).

The first volume deals with subjects in geology, tectonics, orogeny, geomorphology, palaeoclimate and the evolution of the modern climate; the second volume contains papers on palaeobotany, palynology and the evolution of the vegetation, palaeontology and the evolution of faunas, physical and biological environments in which man evolved.

The Flora of Christmas Island. Mr. D.J. DUPUY (K) began work on the flora of Christmas Isl. (Indian Ocean) for the Flora of Australia volumes on the external territories. Ms. R.M. BARKER (AD) has completed several families during her visit to K in 1985. It is hoped that the manuscript for the flora will be finished in early 1987.

The Flora of Taiwan, ed. 2. An executive committee for the publication was organized under the direction of the Biological department of the National Science Council. From August 1985 on for a period of five years it will supervise the field work for a further survey of the flora, work mainly to be done by local botanists. There will be US\$ 110,000 p.a. available. If anyone has particular problems with the Taiwan Flora, expertise to offer, or worthwhile suggestions for collections to be made, this is the time to announce them. Send a letter to Dr. T.-C. HUANG, Chairman Executive Committee, Dept. of Botany, National Taiwan University, 107 Taipei, Taiwan.

An editorial board to replace the executive committee will be established in 1989. Again foreign advice will be welcomed.

Guide to the Philippines Flora and Fauna. 13 volumes. Goodwill Bookstore, POB 2942, Manila, the Philippines. About to be published. Price unknown.

A selective review with an emphasis on rare and endangered status and economic importance. 3250 taxa described with details of habitat, distribution, general biology. Illustrated with line drawings, photographs, some of which in colour. Volumes 1—4 contain the plants (fungi & algae; ferns & gymnosperms; angiosperms; bamboos, grasses & ferns (?), the other volumes deal with the animals with volume 13 as a general index to names, local and scientific. (From Wallaceana 43, 1986, 14).

Orchid Monographs. Published for the Rijksherbarium by E.J. Brill, POB 9000, 2300 PA Leiden, The Netherlands. ISSN 0920-1998, ISBN 90-04-08090-2. Standard subscription (for an issue of 100 pages with 4 colour plates) Hfl. 55.00 (excl. postage and packing), Dfl. 6.00 for each extra 16 pages, Hfl. 5.00 for each extra colour plate.

Under an international editorial board this new journal has been launched at the Rijksherbarium (L) aimed at the amateur and professional orchidologist. It is intended to appear at least once a year and will contain monographs and revisions of a professional standard. Each article will deal with all the taxa of a section, a genus, or a higher entity. The subjects will be lavishly illustrated as professional draughtsmen and photographers will provide drawings of habit and essential details and colour plates when available. At least four of the latter will be included in each issue. Such illustrations will not only facilitate an easy identification for amateur and professional alike, but in addition figures will become available of taxa never illustrated before, as well as supplementary drawings of species formerly inadequately depicted. It will also become an outlet for illustrations that otherwise would moulder away in drawers.

The editor in charge will be Dr. E.F. DE VOGEL (L), the board members are Mr. E.A. CHRISTENSEN (SEL), Dr. P. CRIBB (K), Mr. D. GANDAWIJAYA (Bot. Gard. Bogor), Mr. J.J. VERMEULEN (L), and Dr. G.J.C.M. VAN VLIET (Bot. Gard. Leiden). Orchid specialists from all over the world are invited to submit their taxonomic treatments. Already several specialists have agreed to contribute.

The first issue contained revisions of Acriopsis (Ms. M.E. MINDERHOUD & E.F. DE VOGEL) and of five genera of the Coelogyninae: Bracisepalum, Chelonistele, Entomophobia, Geesinkorchis and Nabaluia (E.F. DE VOGEL). — E.F. de Vogel

The Ornamental and roadside plants of Sarawak by P.K. CHAI (SAR) is due to appear this year.

PLES, an environmental education magazine for the countries and territories of the South Pacific Commission region.

A new journal issued by the University of Papua New Guinea with a grant from the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme of the South Pacific Commission, Nouméa, New Caledonia. Contributions are intended to lead to a furthering of knowledge and understanding of the physical, biological and human environments of the Southwest Pacific Islands. Articles will range from short notes to longer papers as well as letters and cuttings from regional newspapers or magazines in a style suited to an educated but non-technical audience. Contributions are invited. More information may be obtained from Dr. P.J. Hughes, Environmental Science, POB 320, University P.O., Papua New Guinea.

The title is derived from the Melanesian pidgin word 'ples', meaning 'home', 'environment', 'village', but also an acronym for 'Pacific Life and Environmental Studies'.

The first issue (1985) 111 p., mimeographed, contains a mixture of serious and light reading. Of the first category the 'South Pacific Declaration on natural resources and the environment' and the 'Action plan for managing the natural resources and environment of the South Pacific region' adopted at the Human environment in the South Pacific Congress (March 1982). Of the second the various

cuttings and articles, e.g. on the replacement of imported soft drinks by locally grown, chilled coconuts in Yap.

TROPENBOS. In the Netherlands this research program (Dutch for Tropical forest) was officially launched on November, 22, 1985 by the Director General of Science Policy of the Dutch Ministry of Education at the occasion of the Tropical Forests Action Plan meeting in The Hague, the Netherlands. The TROPENBOS program is a four year stimulation program aimed at collecting vital information on the tropical forests of South America, Africa and Southeast Asia to be used for counteracting its indiscriminate destruction through the development of ecologically sound and socio-economically acceptable forest land policies. In Asia the research sites are in Indonesia: Kerinci National Park in Sumatra and East Kalimantan in Borneo.

Technologies to sustain tropical forest resources. A report of the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) of the congress of the United States. For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Many authors, 344 pp. paper bound.

Fourteen chapters, each beginning with a content on grey paper, followed by the highlights. At the end of each chapter references to the chapter are given of relevant recent literature. In appendices a status of tropical forests in the separate countries is given according to the FAO figures, a glossary, and a list of commissioned papers. The book is finished by an index. The chapters are on subjects like: Importance of Tropical Forests; Status of Tropical Forests; Causes of Deforestation; Organizations Dealing With Tropical Forest Resources; Technologies for Undisturbed Forest; Technologies to Reduce Overcutting; Forestry Technologies for Disturbed Forests; Forestry Technologies to Support Tropical Agriculture; Resource Development Planning; Education, Research, and Technology Transfer; and some more. All chapters are thoroughly dealing with the subject and illustrated with photos and tables. This book is a must for all who are involved with tropical forests, especially development, and with tropical forestry and relating subjects. — H.P. Nooteboom.

The PROSEA-project (Plant Resources of South East Asia) has been revived in WAG. This will be a cyclopaedia in which ca. 5,000 useful plants are to be discussed. Each entry will include botanical, ecological, agri- and/or silvicultural, genetical, chemical, geographical, etc. data. The serial is intended for use in education, information, and research in agriculture, silviculture, and botany, as well as for commercial purposes. Contemporary information will be presented, which is indispensable for the development of the rural areas of Southeast Asia. It is intended to finish this project in 6—7 years. There will be cooperation with Institutes in the Netherlands, e.g. the Rijksherbarium and the Royal Institute for the Tropics, Amsterdam, and abroad. The Dutch Department of Education and Sciences has already provided a grant of ca. 10% of the expenses, but money will have to be found elsewhere as well.

A precursor with 3 genera and 14 species of various importance will appear in 1986. The Rijksherbarium is responsible for 4 of these: Carica pubescens (Dr. M.M.J. VAN BALGOOY), Paraderris elliptica (Dr. R. GEESINK), Paphiopedilum (Dr.

E.F. DE VOGEL) and *Rubus* (Dr. C. KALKMAN). It will be offered officially to the Indonesian government in August, 1986.

It is curious to note that independently another project has been going on for several years in Bogor with the same intention (see next item). Some kind of cooperation will certainly be advantageous for both projects.

In 1983 research subjects were proposed at the meeting of 5 ASEAN countries. One of these was to write a manual with all the data of useful plants, incl. potentially useful and poisonous ones, in S.E. Asia. This project was accepted by acclamation and obtained the highest priority off all proposals. Published records in all available languages in books, journals, reports, etc. would be photocopied and arranged alphabetically by the scientific names in bookcases, thus creating a databank. In each of the ASEAN countries a correspondent would be appointed to search for these records, while specialists in certain groups would be invited to take care of chapters on their speciality. Use would also be made of existing databanks.

After a certain number of records has thus been amassed (with a minimum of 100,000 and a maximum of 500,000) the databank would be computerized and a begin would be made to write an encyclopedia in the style of the 'Wealth of India', illustrated, but with more references. The language would be English, with a possible future translation into the languages of the 5 participating countries.

At first the work proceeded slowly due to financial shortages, but these have now been overcome. Grants have been provided by the Foundation for useful plants of Indonesia, UNESCO, the Ford Foundation, and a Japanese Foundation. After ca. 1.5 years about 40,000 articles are now present. It is hoped that the actual writing will start in another 2 or 3 years. There is a world-wide interest and the number of cooperating specialists is growing.