

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL FORESTERS, INC.
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NEWS NOTES NO. 24

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First Meeting of FAO Tropical Committee:

Seventeen member nations of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations attended the first meeting of the Committee on Forest Development in the Tropics, held in Rome, October 18-20, 1967. More than 40 participants and a number of international organizations took part in the two-day discussion of major tropical forestry problems. USA delegate was Dr. Robert K. Winters, Director, International Forestry Staff of the Forest Service; Alternate was Dr. Frank Wadsworth, Director of the Institute of Tropical Forestry, U.S. Forest Service, in Puerto Rico. Tom Gill (USA) was elected Chairman; Vice Chairmen were Hari Singh (India), Jacques Toro (Ivory Coast), Lopez Camino (Cuba); and Rapporteur was Alfred Chollet (France).

The purposes for which the Committee was created are "To study technical, economic and social problems relating to the development of tropical forests, particularly in developing countries, having regard to production, utilization and conversion aspects, as well as to the marketing of forest products, and to report thereon to the Director General of FAO." The Committee constitutes a mechanism for providing continuing attention to tropical forestry problems, programs and progress. It can facilitate the exchange of technical information which should result in better growing, harvesting, utilization and marketing of tropical forest products. It should also provide for better coordination among FAO and other groups interested in tropical forestry.

In welcoming the Committee members, Dr. Nils Osara, Director of FAO's Division of Forestry and Forest Products, said, "Your Committee may well have three main objectives: (1) to identify research needs and indicate priorities for the benefit of research centers in both tropical and temperate countries; (2) to review the activities of international bodies attempting to further trade in tropical wood products and put forward proposals for new action; and (3) to analyze and diffuse information on sound investment opportunities for forestry development and future industries in tropical countries."

The major items considered at the two-day meeting included shifting agriculture, techniques to increase economic returns in natural tropical forests, proposals for wider use and marketing of tropical woods, tropical forestry research and education.

Recommendations made by the Committee will be incorporated in a report now in preparation by FAO. A summary of these will appear in the next issue of the News Notes. -- T. G. --oOo--

Tropical Forestry Association of Japan: Through the efforts of a nucleus of Japanese professors, government officers and businessmen interested in tropical forestry, this organization was founded almost two years ago and now includes over 400 members. The headquarters is in Tokyo. Its main activities are the publication of a quarterly bulletin in Japanese, a program of meetings, for study, seminar and tours, and consultant services for tropical forestry projects.

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Meetings

The FAO Latin American Forestry Commission met December 4-9 in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad-Tobago. Thirteen countries were represented together with seven international organizations. Two days were given to the meetings of the Committee on National Parks and Wildlife and a report of that Committee was presented to the Commission. A summary report of a survey of forestry research institutions and facilities in Latin America was presented to the Commission, which re-established the Regional Committee on Forestry Research and charged it with work on wood technology studies; timber marketing, including lumber grading; silvicultural research, especially on genetics; watershed management and erosion control; and volume and yield tables. The Committee on Forestry Research will pursue the integral utilization of the tropical broadleaf forest and cooperate actively with the International Union of Forest Research Organizations and FAO's Committee on Forest Development in the Tropics. Exchanges of information and views were held on regional research and education, plantation forestry versus management of indigenous tropical hardwood forests and social problems related to forestry. Management of forests for multiple purposes was stressed throughout the Session. M. A. Hernandez Agosto, Secretary of Agriculture for Puerto Rico, was elected First Vice Chairman of the Commission.

Purdue University will hold a two-day discussion seminar on international forestry programs in U.S. universities. Participants from forestry schools, government, private and international agencies are invited to these meetings on April 18 and 19, 1968, at the Purdue Memorial Center, West Lafayette, Indiana. The meetings are designed to bring together professors and foresters in international work, to discuss programs, techniques, and problems. Those interested may contact Douglas M. Knudson, Department of Forestry and Conservation, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, 47907, U.S.A.

International Union of Societies of Foresters: At a meeting held in Munich, the officers and Governing Council of the Union adopted a constitution and by-laws incorporating the Union's objectives and structure. The following announcement has been made:

Purpose - The International Union of Societies of Foresters is comprised of national societies of professional foresters. Its purpose is to advance the progress, status and effectiveness of foresters by means of their societies throughout the world. Its activities include seeking higher educational standards for professional foresters, emphasizing the responsibility of the profession to the public, determining ways by which member societies can increase their usefulness in securing personal professional advancement for their members, and functioning on an international basis in the interests of the forestry profession.

Program - The basic units to carry out the program of the Union are the program committees, whose memberships are drawn from national societies. The work of these committees, together with their recommendations, provide the basis for periodic Union congresses, including meetings of the International Council.

Membership - National societies may obtain information on membership requirements and related matters of the Union by writing to Tom Gill, Apt. 841, 1500 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D. C. 20005.

A World Symposium on Man-Made Forests was held in Canberra, Australia, April 1967. Growing activities in forest plantations has brought this subject to the forefront. The meeting is discussed in detail in UNASYLVA #85.

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Publications

To mark the Ninth Commonwealth Forestry Conference, held in New Delhi January 3-27, 1968, the September issue of the COMMONWEALTH FORESTRY REVIEW contains a series of informative articles on the Commonwealth Forestry organizations: The Commonwealth Forestry Conference, the Commonwealth Forestry Association, the Commonwealth Forestry Institute, and the Commonwealth Forestry Bureau.

TIMBERS OF SABAH, by P.F. Burgess, "Sabah Forest Records No. 6", Forest Department, Saba, Malaysia. Price - Straits \$25.00. This is the standard work of reference on this subject, in the writing of which the author has drawn on a wide range of published material. A systematic description of the timbers is arranged alphabetically by families, and a key to the most important is included.

THE PHILIPPINE LUMBERMAN, in its leading editorial, reviews the activities of the Philippine Association for Permanent Forests, Inc., of which Mr. Sanvictores is President. The Directors include some of the foremost forest conservationists in the Philippines.

COMBINED AGRICULTURAL & FORESTRY RE-CULTIVATION, I - TROPICAL AFRICA, by Professor Dr. H. Hesmer. Published by Ernst Klett, Stuttgart, Germany. Written in German, this work incorporates results of latest investigations made in 16 countries of tropical Africa. The book is illustrated and contains an extensive bibliography.

FORMACIONES FORESTALES Y MADERAS DEL PARAGUAY, by Lucas A. Tortorelli, is the leading article in Boletín No. 24 (August 1967) of the Latin American Forestry Institute of Merida, Venezuela. The article contains a summary in both English and French.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE VI WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS are expected to be available for distribution late in 1968. The price has not yet been announced.

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Names of tree species suitable for planting in difficult sites have been requested by a number of ISTF members. This information was given in the December 1966 issue of the FAO Forestry Bulletin for Latin America. The species are as follows:

- a) The Callitris genus. These species can grow under very arid conditions and in very poor soil. Since their natural habitat is Australia, it is probable that C. endlicheri, C. hugelii and C. intratropica will adapt most easily to rigorous conditions.
- b) Eucalyptus camaldulensis / E tereticornis. These withstand more arid conditions than most other eucalyptuses.
- c) Eucalyptus citriodora and E. paniculata. Both species tolerate lower rainfall and less fertile soil than E grandis/saligna.
- d) Acrocarpus fraxinifolius. This species apparently tolerates different types of soil in Uganda. However, the promising start of this kind of tree may well be followed by failure, and results should not be judged while the trees are still young.
- e) Antocephalus cadamba. According to information received from Puerto Rico, this species withstands greater soil variations than any other Angiosperm of those tested so far. However, in India, it requires the best kind of damp, well-drained, aluvial soil to achieve maximum development.

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A new Forestry Training and Demonstration Center in Bangui, Central African Republic, has been inaugurated by the Minister of Development. Part of the training will be instruction in logging under difficult tropical conditions. -- UNASYLVA

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