

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL FORESTERS, INC.  
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Forestry Library to be Microfilmed: A program recently announced by the Commonwealth Forestry Institute, at Oxford, England, promises to be of unique importance to tropical forestry and tropical foresters.

Supported by a grant from the Ford Foundation of the USA, the Institute has begun microfilming the contents of its library and will make these microfilm available on a non-profit basis to all forestry libraries and other agencies requesting them.

The Library of the Commonwealth Institute houses the world's most complete collection of forestry literature. It is unique for its wide coverage, both geographical and in point of time. There is much material from behind the Iron Curtain unobtainable elsewhere, and its holdings of literature on tropical forestry are particularly extensive.

Microfilm copies will be sold at the bare cost of production. At the beginning, they will be available only in standard (35 mm. unperforated) microfilm form, for which microfilm-reading equipment will be necessary. At current levels of wages and cost of materials, microfilm will probably cost less than 2.8 pence per "frame" covering two book pages or ten index cards.

Present plans are to put all important literature in the Library onto microfilm within three years. The first task will be to microfilm the bibliographical card indexes which would form the basis for requests for microfilm copies of specific items. This will be followed, to the extent that copyright clearances can be obtained, by all the most important and less accessible periodicals and serial publications. Books, unless specifically asked for, will be processed later.

Microfilming at the Institute has already begun, and orders for the card index and the Commonwealth Forestry Institute Papers and Memoirs can now be accepted.

It would be difficult to overestimate the importance of this microfilm program. The Library has been an essential working tool in the training and postgraduate research activities of generations of foresters. At the present time, many developing countries are now creating their own forestry organizations and establishing courses of technical training. They face the need to build up forestry libraries. Microfilmed material will immediately make available the technical information useful in helping establish

professional standards for newly created forest services and provide the best existing educational material for the schools.

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Sixth World Forestry Congress: No definite date has yet been announced for the Sixth World Forestry Congress, to be held in Madrid, Spain. Probabilities are it will be scheduled for early autumn, 1966. It is understood that the Congress program is being formulated and that plans are made to include tours throughout the Mediterranean areas. This will enable Congress participants to see the impressive forestry progress that has been made there in recent years.

These World Forestry Congresses are scheduled approximately every five years and provide the only opportunity for tropical foresters of both hemispheres and of all nations to join in discussions of activities, problems, and progress in tropical forestry. With delegations expected from many of the emerging countries, most of which are tropical, it is particularly important that this coming Congress provides adequate program coverage of forestry in the tropics.

This Society is already in correspondence with the Spanish authorities and has expressed the hope that one or more sections on tropical forestry will be included. It will be very helpful if members of the ISTF avail themselves of all opportunities to impress upon those responsible for formulating the program that tropical forestry, by virtue of its importance to a great segment of the world's peoples, merits major consideration in the allotment of time in the Congress program.

A number of other sections will be competing for space on the program, and the tropical foresters of the world can best justify their attendance on the basis of a comprehensive tropical agenda.

The Secretary General in charge of the Sixth World Forestry Congress is Don Manuel Prats Zapirain, Direccion General de Montes, Caza y Pesca Fluvial, Paseo Infanta Isabel 1, Madrid.

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History of Forestry: ISTF member, Robert Winters, represented the United States at the first session of the History of Forestry Section of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations. The session was held in Germany, and attended by approximately 40 foresters from 14 countries.

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Seeds, Anybody? ISTF member, Bob Mowbray, now with the Peace Corps in Ecuador, writes, "I have been sending letters all over the world to obtain seeds to try here in Ecuador in hopes of finding one or more

species which will grow well. Forestation here is based on Eucalyptus globulus and Pinus radiata, and there are no real growth data available for these species in Ecuador. ... The type of forestry cooperative here exists nowhere else in the world. It works like this: a land-owner donates his land for 20% of the eventual profits. The Government furnishes seedlings and technical help for 10%, and the members of the cooperative plant and protect the trees with the remaining 70%. Probably the most important work the Peace Corps can do in the Ecuadorian Andes is in this field of forestry cooperatives." Mowbray's address is Instituto Campesino, Ibarra, Imbabura, Ecuador.

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Conference on Shifting Agriculture: On March 13 and 14, 1964, the College of Forestry at the University of the Philippines held a National Kaingin Conference for the purpose of focusing national attention on the seriousness of the shifting agriculture problem. More than 280 delegates and observers attended. ISTF member, William L. Webb, contributed a paper, "Development of Incentive Control on Shifting Cultivation".

Professor Webb has now returned to the College of Forestry at Syracuse, New York, and has been replaced in the Philippines by Professor James E. Davis, serving as Visiting Professor of Forestry Extension.

Increasing interest in coming to grips with the problem of shifting agriculture is also manifest in Latin America, where a study has been begun at the Latin American Forestry Institute at Merida, Venezuela. This is a fourteen-month project to analyze shifting cultivation problems in Venezuela, Costa Rica, Mexico and Peru, under the direction of Dr. R. F. Watters of Wellington University. A number of institutions are cooperating to make this study possible. They include FAO, IFLA, the Government of Venezuela, the Webber-Gren Foundation of the USA, and Wellington University of New Zealand.

Cooperation of this type in an attack upon a major problem of tropical forests and forest soils is particularly encouraging. May it set a pattern to make future progress in studies possible, as a result of international cooperation.

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Important Tropical Forestry Publications: A previous news note listed several publications of particular interest to tropical foresters. To this list should be added:

THE MALAYAN FORESTER; a quarterly non-governmental journal, published by officers of the Malayan Forest Service. This is one of the

foremost tropical forestry publications. It covers a wide variety of technical and popular articles on all aspects of silviculture; tropical evergreen rain-forest; tropical timber utilization; research and current developments in the Malaysian territories.

THE INDIAN FORESTER; a well-edited and useful monthly publication of the Forestry Research Institute at Dehra Dun, India.

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On Further Defining Mahogany: This is the title of a scholarly article by ISTF member, F. Bruce Lamb, originally in the July-September 1963 issue of ECONOMIC BOTANY, and was later reprinted. Including an impressive bibliography of 126 references, it is a comprehensive summation and historical background of one of the great woods of the world, by a man highly qualified to write on it.

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Coming Meetings: The Seventh Session of the FAO Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission will be held at Rotorua, New Zealand, September 22 - October 2, 1964. Participation will be invited from interested member countries of South and North America and East and Central Africa. Arrangements have been planned to visit Kangaroo forests and other points of interest. Opportunities will be provided to undertake wide, extensive tours of New Zealand's forests.

The Tenth International Congress of Photogrammetry will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, September 7-19, 1964. The agenda includes: Photography and Navigation; Plotting, Theory and Instruments; Aerial Triangulation; and related subjects.

A Symposium of Internationally Dangerous Forest Diseases and Insects is being organized by FAO, to be held from July 20-30, 1964, probably at FAO headquarters in Rome.

Forest pathologists and entomologists are invited. Those interested in attending should get in touch with the appropriate governmental authorities (Directors of Forest Services), with a view to being included in their country's delegation.

Seventh FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East will be held in Manila, November 7-23, 1964. Agenda items include "Forest Industries and Their Contribution to Economic Development".

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Mexico's Forest Inventory: Mexico, with the aid of UN Special Fund and FAO, has been engaged since 1961 in a national forest inventory. An unexpected dividend is the indication that the commercial forest volume of two of her major wood-producing states is twice as large as previously believed.