

## Books Received

**Rio+8: Policy, Practice and Progress Towards Sustainable Development.** Mia Soderlund and Alan Pottinger (editors). Published by the Commonwealth Forestry Association c/- The Oxford Forestry Institute South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3RB UK. Price £8 + £5 postage for CFA members; £12 + £5 postage for non-members.

This book consolidates international forest policy developments between 1997 and 2000 under the umbrella of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF) process and other initiatives. The book aims to:

- (i) facilitate easy access to texts of agreed international forest policy;
- (ii) serve as a background document that includes bibliography of a large number of otherwise scattered, but very rich, forest policy documents; and
- (iii) attract part of the forest community that, so far, has had limited knowledge of the intergovernmental forest deliberations under the auspices of the United Nations.

The book is in four parts. Part 1 focuses on the outcomes of the intergovernmental dialogue on forest under the auspices of the United Nations during 1997 to 2000. Part 2 highlights government and other organisation-led initiatives in support of the IFF process. Part 3 highlights some high-level initiatives outside the framework of the United Nations; the focus is on initiatives with strong political commitment at the highest political level including an overview of the evolution of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management. Part 4 is an assessment of progress since the Rio de Janeiro Conference.

The book is an essential basis for the next United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in Johannesburg later this year.

**Forests and Landscapes: Linking Ecology, Sustainability and Aesthetics.** S.R.J. Sheppard and H.W. Harshaw (editors). IUFRO Research Series 6, CABI Publishing, CAB International, Wallington, Oxon OX10 8DE, UK. Price £49.95.

The visual landscape of forests is an important source of information for the public in judging the sustainability of forest

resource management. There is increasing recognition of the importance of the linkage between ecology and aesthetics among foresters and environmental scientists. Forest resource managers pursuing the goals of ecosystem management must consider the aesthetic consequences of timber harvesting operations and find ways to explain the ecological benefits of their activities. This book is the first to specifically address the relationships between people's perceptions and sustainability, and deals, among other things, with theories relating aesthetics and forest ecology, visualisation of forested landscapes, and reconciling forest sustainability and aesthetics. Contributors are leading research workers in their subjects, from Canada, the USA and the UK.

**Sustainable Farm Forestry in the Subtropics: Social and Economic Analysis and Policy.** S.R. Harrison and J.L. Herbohn (editors). Edward Elgar Publishing, Glensanda House, Montpellier Parade, Cheltenham Glos GL50 1UA, UK. Price AUD 185.

This book examines constraints limiting the development of small-scale forestry in tropical environments, and how they can be overcome.

The authors first explain the background to their research and demonstrate how, in contrast to industrial plantations, small-scale forestry can have many objectives, including production of fuelwood and a wide variety of non-wood products, and the protection of degraded watersheds and wildlife habitats. A range of socio-economic topics is examined under the broad themes of policy development, market considerations, the evolution of small-scale forestry systems, and timber and non-wood benefits. The work also considers measures such as tax provisions and targeting of subsidy and extension programs that can help promote the growth of non-industrial forest industries.