REVIEW

Trees of the Balikpapan-Samarinda Area, East Kalimantan, Indonesia – a manual to 280 selected species. Paul J.A. Keßler & Kade Sidiyasa, 446 pp., 197 line drawings, 1994. Tropenbos Series 7, The Tropenbos Foundation, Wageningen, The Netherlands. Distributed by Backhuys Publishers, Universal Book Services, P.O Box 321, 2300 AH Leiden, The Netherlands. ISBN 90-5113-019-8. Price: Dfl. 95 (paperback).

Following Polak's acclaimed book on the 83 most common timber tree species of Guyana (reviewed in IAWA J. 14: 62), the Tropenbos Foundation has now published a Tree Manual on not less than 280 species of the Balikpapan-Samarinda Area of East Kalimantan, Indonesia. The Balikpapan-Samarinda area surrounds the Tropenbos research site Wanariset, where a number of breakthroughs have been achieved in the mass propagation of Dipterocarpaceae from seeds and cuttings. A high proportion of its lowland rain forests have suffered from logging operations and other forms of human disturbance. Neverthe-

less this manual focusses on a selection of virgin forest species. A volume on the most common tree species in secondary forests is envisaged as a future complement.

This book comprises an introductory chapter with a comprehensive synoptical identification key on bark and leaf characters, and a dichotomous key, also largely based on vegetative features to 210 genera. Keys to species precede descriptive treatments of individual genera. The keys in fact treat a much higher proportion of the taxa than the 280 species of which detailed morphological descriptions are included in the book. Of 197 species fine line drawings emphasising leaf features and fruits by Mr. Priyono, a talented botanical artist, are included. Most descriptions are followed by notes on habitat and ecology, uses, and distribution. Wood scientists will welcome information on wood uses and vernacular names.

A tree manual of this type is basic for further studies on forest ecology and sustainable forestry. The authors and the Tropenbos Foundation should be congratulated on its appearance. [P. B.]

ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS

At your service: the central pillars running the daily affairs of the International Association of Wood Anatomists: Emma van Nieuwkoop (centre left) and Doortje Oosterwijk (centre right) flanked by Pieter Baas (r) and Ben ter Welle (l) during their annual outing last winter. Missing from this picture: Elisabeth Wheeler, active editor of the IAWA Journal, and Regis Miller, Deputy Executive Secretary and Treasurer for our dollar account in the USA. Alas, the IAWA funds did not allow to fly them over to the Netherlands for this occasion.