be incorporated in the PROTA (= Plant Resources of Tropical Africa) Handbook on African Timbers, of which electronic versions in French and English will be posted on the web.

Senior and junior wood anatomists will be joining forces to study the rich microscopic slide collections from Montpellier (the former CTFT collections from Nogent-sur-Marne), Tervuren, Kew, Leiden and other sources, and will be backed up by the carefully coded descriptions available in the InsideWood web-accessible database maintained by Elisabeth Wheeler at the North Carolina State University in Raleigh. In a way the Montpellier exercise will be a repeat of the highly successful PROSEA workshop organised in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 1996, which resulted in coded descriptions of hundreds of minor commercial timber species of South-East Asia (published in 1997).

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