REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS


This book comprises the main results of the Kew Tree Root Survey (1971–79) and provides data on incidence of tree root damage and of distances between the trees and sites of damage for 16 commonly planted broad-leaved taxa, and a number of less common broad-leaves, conifers and shrubs in England. The main results are based on tree root identification by their anatomical structure, often verified by comparisons with inventories of species growing near the site of damage. For all major taxa useful notes are added, for instance on whether they can or cannot be distinguished from close relatives by root wood anatomy alone.

In an introductory chapter all factors involved in tree root damage are lucidly explained. Shrinkage of clay soils, subsequently affecting foundations appears to be one of the main phenomena involved. A comparison of the incidence of the planted species and the frequency with which they are represented in tree root damage cases shows that the oaks are particularly ferocious, closely followed by poplars. Fruit trees are relatively friendly to buildings.

This study will have an immense, directly applicable value for N.W. European countries, and could serve as a model for similar surveys in countries with a different species composition of planted trees in urban environments. The authors are to be congratulated with this book, which clearly proves the value of root wood anatomy far beyond the realm of academic interest.

Pieter Baas


This pocket dictionary of forestry was distributed to all participants of the XVIIth IUFRO World Congress in Kyoto, and in fact especially compiled on the occasion of this congress. Fortunately it is also commercially available, albeit at a rather high price. The Dictionary lists about 2500 forestry terms in Japanese (alphabetically arranged as though written in roman letters) and their French, English and German equivalents. Alphabetical lists of the French, English and German terms give cross references to the Japanese terms which are printed both phonetically and in Japanese characters.

The readers of this Bulletin may be interested to know that the terms of the Multilingual Glossary of the IAWA are incorporated in the Dictionary, so that it facilitates access to the prolific Japanese wood anatomical literature.


These 14 instalments describe the woods of Elaeoloma, Sandwithiodoxa, Paralabatia, Gambeya, Gomphilluma, Chromolucuma, Manilkara, Barylucuma, Pradosta, Gayella, Ecclinusa, Ragala, Myrtilluma, and Sarcaulus, respectively. Lay-out and contents of the earlier instalments were reviewed in IAWA Bulletin 1979/4: 78.


This book comprises the timber sections of Concrete, Timber and Metals: the nature and behaviour of structural materials by I'llston, Dinwoodie and Smith (1979) with minor revisions. For a review, see R.K. Bamber in IAWA Bulletin n.s. 1: 188 (1980).