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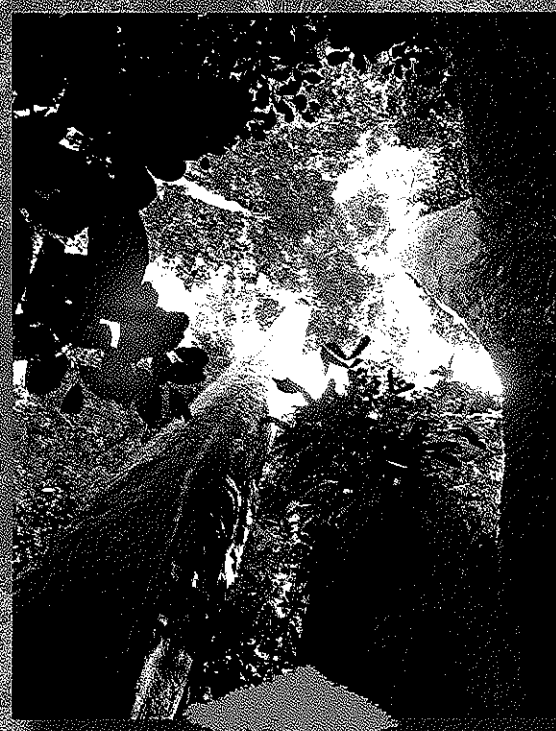
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Abstracts



Research Priorities
in Tropical Silviculture:

Towards New Paradigms?



44. Wood or resin?

Opportunities and threats in Okoume resin sector development in Gabon

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Okoume (*Aucoumea klaineana*, Burseraceae) is the most exploited timber tree species in Gabon (Central Africa), because of its great qualities for the production of veneer plywood. This tree is also known from a long time by Gabonese for making torches and as a substitute for incense. With the opening of international trade, the exploitation of okoume resin provides new and sustainable opportunities for the valuation of this species. This resin is sold in the markets of the Gabonese capital, Libreville, but also in Senegal and Europe. However, the European circuit, potentially the most profitable, is diverted to private interests and does not participate in the socio-economic development of the country, especially of that of rural people who often live in poverty. If this constraint can be lifted, the development of the sector will imply new management strategies and silvicultural recommendations according to resin vs timber production. The tappers' current silvicultural practices should be adapted to ensure higher production of better quality resin. Training and organization will be key for the development of this economic sector.

Keywords :

okoume, resin, wood, NTFP market, local development, Gabon

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**45. Development and management of emerging NTFP:
the case of Carapa in Congo**

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In Congo, the seeds of Carapa (*Carapa* spp., Meliaceae) are traditionally used for medicinal purposes and as a stimulant. Until 2009, their use remained very localized and confidential. However, in 2010, Brazzaville markets have seen an explosion in the consumption of seeds, dressed as suddenly the qualities of a panacea. The results are not always conclusive and a local doctor claimed that they could cause side effects if swallowed uncontrolled. Consumption collapsed despite the absence of research proving the toxicity. As a consequence, seed collection has decreased in parallel with an increase in the harvest of bark, supposedly less harmful. Changes in collection practices sometimes caused a total debarking and death of trees. Currently, the issue of sustainability of the resource is mitigated by the prohibition of logging, but it is insufficient. The silvicultural practices will depend on market orientation and the sharing of profits in the sector, encouraging or not the producers to sustainably manage this resource. The management of Carapa resources, which could participate in future development programs in the Lac Télé Community Reserve, should be designed with producers, taking into account the local cultural context.

Keywords :

NTFP management, medicinal uses, seeds, bark, Carapa, Africa

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