IAWA Wood Identification Symposium of IUFRO Division 5 Conference in Cairns, Australia on June 4th - 8th, 2023

The next All - Division Conference of IUFRO Division 5 - Forest Products will be held in tropical Cairns, Australia on June 4th - 8th, 2023. The call for abstracts has opened and details of the twenty-four themed sessions including IAWA-IUFRO Symposium titled “Promoting Data-driven Methods for Species and Origin Identification of Forest Products” can be found at www.iufro-div5-2023.com/copy-of-call-for-session-proposals.

This IAWA-IUFRO Symposium is to have an exchange of experiences and ideas on how scientific research can support a sustainable supply chain of forest products and legal timber trade, through the development of data-driven wood identification tools or technologies. The program will encourage open dialogue around the following topics: a) Can a xylarium network and an integrated wood identification system guarantee a legal timber trade? b) Can the development of integrated wood identification technology enhance the regional and/or international timber and wood products export and import activities among countries? c) Do different regulations in each country complicate the development of a xylarium network? The symposium will be held for two hours and each speaker will have fifteen minutes to deliver key messages with an interactive Q&A.

During this conference, IAWA will also co-sponsor a session “From Wood Anatomy to DNA: Species and Provenance Tracking for Modern and Archaeological Woods”. The deadline for abstract submission is postponed to October 3rd, 2022.

Yafang Yin, China
Hans Beeckman, Belgium
Ratih Damayanti, Indonesia

2022 International Youth Forum for Wood Anatomy and the 9th IAWA-China Group Annual Meeting, December 9th - 12th, 2022

The 2022 International Youth Forum for Wood Anatomy and the 9th IAWA-China Group Annual Meeting will be held on December 9th - 12th, 2022 in Guangzhou, China. The theme of the conference is “Wood Anatomy and Wood Utilization - Future for Ecozoic Era and Community”. The conference will be organized by South China Agricultural University (Guangzhou), co-sponsored by IUFRO D5 and IAWS. From 2022, the newly established Sherwin Carlquist Award by IAWA will be given to excellent speakers of the Youth Forum for Wood Anatomy with a certificate and grant. The deadline for abstract submission is October 20th, 2022.

Please visit for details: http://iawa-website.org/en/Meeting/Future_Meetings/article_204.shtml and contact Dr. Kate Chen chenkate93@hotmail.com or Dr. Shan Li lishan.ecology@hotmail.com.

Lichao Jiao, China

Deadline for Symposium Proposal Submission for IBC 2024 is December 30th, 2022

The XX International Botanical Congress (IBC) will be held in Madrid, Spain, July 21st - 27th, 2024. The call for symposia of IBC 2024 is now open at https://ibcmadrid2024.com/ and will remain until December 30th, 2022, at 1 pm (GMT+1). Prospective attendees of IBC 2024 are invited to submit symposium proposals that fit at least one of the 31 topics listed at the end of its webpage.

Each symposium will last for 2 hours and will consist of six 20-minute oral communications (15 min presentations + 5 min Q&A). To maximize the interchangeability of participants among concurrent symposia, changes to this schedule will not be allowed.
IAWA Fossil Wood Symposium in Prague, Czech Republic, on May 25th-31st, 2024

The IAWA Fossil Wood Symposium, dedicated to the memories of Prof. Dr. Herbert Süß (1920-2017) and Prof. Dr. Alfred Selmeier (1923-2018), will be held on May 25th-31st, 2024, organized during the XIth IOPC (International Organization of Palaeobotany Conference) held conjunctly with the XVth International Palynological Congress, due to reviewing the various levels of Coronavirus infections and processes implemented by various European countries. The IAWA Symposium will be organizing an IAWA Social Hour and supper in the famous Carthusian Monastery (1628) in Melnik, just outside Prague, where IAWA has been previously hosted at a European Palaeo-botanical Conference. Detailed information is available by clicking https://www.prague2020.cz/news.php

Jakub Sakala, Czech Republic

Meeting reports

Training course on Tropical Timber Identification Methodologies, May 9th - 13th, 2022, Brasilia, Brazil

The Bioamazon Project, in partnership with the Brazilian Forest Service (SFB), the Forest Products Laboratory (LPF), and the NIRS ID Project (CITES CTSP Programm), conducted the course “Tropical Timber Identification Methodologies”, on May 9th -13th, 2022, at the facilities of the Amazon Regional Observatory. It is intended to sponsor professionals who require technical information for the identification of wood-producing species, by providing useful knowledge in different areas such as environmental, as well as in the wood sector related to inspection, export, forest management, authorization of forest resources, and others.

Nowadays, one of the main challenges for the preservation of forests in South America is the capacity to control the exploitation, transport, and trade of tropical timber species. The growing demand for wood has intensified the pressure on key species, significantly impacting forest structure, especially in the Amazon region. It is extremely important to develop new techniques and tools to carry out this control to achieve the necessary sustainability. In this course, thirty participants attended the face-to-face course in Brasilia, Brazil, including sixteen representatives of ACTO (Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization) Member Countries and others from the Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama), LPF, the Federal Police and the University of Brasilia, Brazil.

This training course was taught to strengthen the tools developed by LPF/SFB for the control and identification of timber species. It also offered an opportunity to share experiences and strengthen partnerships among governments and investigation and control agencies in the Member Countries of ACTO. The course was given by technicians from LPF, along with the contributions of guest speakers. In addition to acquiring knowledge about the anatomical identification of wood, the electronic key for the identification of timber species, and the application technique of NIRS technology and equipment, the attendees visited the facilities of LPF during the course.

Tereza Cristina Monteiro Pastore, Brazil
Lecture on wood anatomical identification given at the headquarters of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)

Participants of the wood identification course getting to know the Harry Van der Sloten Xylarium from the Forest Products Laboratory in Brasilia, Brazil

Group photo of course participants from eight South and Central American countries

Miscellaneous News

The 2021 Impact Factor of IAWA Journal is 2.987

Anatomical Database and Atlas of Chinese Woods was Published on June 30th, 2022

The Anatomical Database and Atlas of Chinese Woods by Takao Itoh, Biao Pan, Yuzou Sano, and Pieter Baas et al. was officially published on June 30, 2022. This publication is an important landmark in the wood anatomical literature. For more details, please visit:
https://www.kaiseisha-press.ne.jp/preview/web/Lib/leaflet_AnatomicalDB.pdf

The Database of macroHOLZdata is Free and Available in German, English, and Spanish

The knowledge about recognition and utilization of the most important internationally traded timbers is of prime importance to forestry and the wood industry as well as timber trade and even control authorities. As an important tool for this purpose, the database of macroHOLZdata developed at the Thuenen-Institute for Wood Research has been programmed as an app for smartphones and tablets. The “macroHOLZdata” is an innovative digital tool for macroscopic wood identification and information retrieval for educational facilities and professionals in the wood industry and trade. The app offers:

- interactive identification of 150 common trade timbers (hardwoods and softwoods) based on macroscopic features to be observed with the unaided eye or with a hand lens,
- high-quality colour illustrations of wood characters and timbers featuring transverse (10x) and longitudinal surfaces (natural size),
- complete timber descriptions accompanied by high-quality colour illustrations depicting characteristic wood features,
- database offering pertinent information on wood properties, processing, and utilization,
- a textbook (glossary) with definitions, explanations, procedures, etc. for most features used in the description of the timbers in terms of wood structure, properties, and utilization (specific information retrieval),
- innovative tool for teaching at vocational schools and higher educational facilities with a wood technology and forestry-related curriculum (also suitable for Do-It-Yourself education).

The app is also suited for further education and training in forestry and timber industry as well as self-study for all those interested in wood.

Please download the app from the App Store (iOS) and Google Play (Android) using the search term macroholzdata.
Wood Anatomy of the Sapindaceae (1999) is Available on the Web


Call for Cooperation by the Xylarium of National Agrarian University La Molina, Peru

Manuel Chavesta (mchavesta@lamolina.edu.pe), the head of the Wood Anatomy Laboratory at the National Agrarian University La Molina, Lima Perú and his colleague Mr. Rolando Montenegro (rmontenegro@lamolina.edu.pe) are newly accepted as IAWA members. They run a xylarium with around 5000 specimens from approximately one thousand species and they are interested in sharing information of Peruvian woody species’ anatomy. They expect to collaborate with other specialists in Amazonian wood species and dry forests and to achieve better knowledge from the forests.

Call for Newsletter Items

The IAWA Newsletter will keep the IAWA community actively informed and stimulate members to visit the IAWA website for the latest and detailed news. Please send any news items you wish to share with the whole IAWA community to the newsletter editors Dr. Shan Li (lishan.ecology@hotmail.com) or Dr. Lichao Jiao (jiaolc@caf.ac.cn) of the IAWA Office, Beijing.

Call for Manuscripts of IAWA Journal 2023

The editors of the IAWA Journal would like to encourage new manuscript submissions for volume 44, 2023. A reminder that subscribers/IAWA members can register for ‘table of contents alerts on the IAWA Journal homepage.

Lloyd Donaldson & Marcelo R Pace
Editors in Chief – IAWA Journal