

Teaknet Bulletin

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Editorial

In this issue, we bring you a brief report of the new research study by TEAKNET, IUFRO and FAO on teak resources and markets. The last study was undertaken in 2010 under the aegis of FAO and had not been updated ever since. A series of events since then has had large impacts on the global teak resources and markets. The present study intends to capture the current status of the teak resources and international teak trade thereby providing policy- and decision-makers, investors, and managers with a better understanding of the important role that these resources play in the national economies of the countries.

A report on the newly initiated ITTO-BMEL project, entitled "Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics" is also included in this issue. The project represents a significant step towards enhancing quality timber production from smallholders and community plantations in the tropical regions spanning Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Thailand, Vietnam and Togo.

A brief report on a new publication on teak 'Teca' by Embrapa, Brazil is also included for the benefit of the readers. The book presents a comprehensive coverage of a broad range of topics on productivity, genetics, forest integration, precision management, economics, wood quality and forest certification of teak in Brazil.

In addition, market price of plantation teak imported to India and our regular column on teak prices are included for the benefit of our readers.

We invite your continued support and feedback on issues related to teak and enrich us with articles/news items of interest/research papers etc of non-technical nature for inclusion in the bulletin.

S.Sandeep
TEAKNET Coordinator



TEAKNET Undertakes New Research Study on Teak Resources and Markets

TEAKNET, the international teak information network, has undertaken a new research study to assess the teak resources in about 80 countries in the tropics and analyze the multilateral trade relations between the exporting and importing countries.



A clonal seed orchard near Toungoo, the home of teak in central Myanmar.

The study is being supported by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) through its Special Programme for the Development of Capacities (IUFRO_SPDC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). It is a follow-up to the previous study "Teak Resources and Market Assessment 2010" that was conducted by FAO as a special study as part of the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010 (FRA 2010).

The results of the 2010 study estimated the area of natural teak forests at 29 million hectares in India, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Thailand, almost half of which was in Myanmar. Planted teak forests were found to be the only valuable tropical hardwood to constitute a globally emerging forest resource at an estimated 4.346 million hectares, of which 83% were located in Asia, 11% in Africa, and 6% in tropical America. Taking into account the lack of data from 22 teak-growing countries, these figures certainly underestimated the actual area of planted teak forests.

Since the last study a decade back, there have been a number of events that had a profound impact on the international teak sector. The area of planted teak forests has increased in many African, Asian and Latin-American countries. The international trade in teak roundwood and sawn timber has expanded tremendously, though Myanmar, the most important producer of high-quality teak from natural forests, has introduced a log export ban from April 2014. These events prompted the 4th World Teak Conference held in Ghana in September 2022 to recommend that an update of the 2010 report on global teak resources and markets was urgently needed.

The networking and data collection is supported by five regional coordinators, who collates the information through a standardized questionnaire prepared in Chinese, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish language. The data is being aggregated at national level. Information on the international trade of teak roundwood and sawn timber is being captured from official customs records. The information on teak resources and markets will be published on national and global level in 2024 by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO). It is expected that these results and findings will facilitate an improved assessment of the significance of teak resources and the international teak trade providing policy- and decision-makers, investors, and managers with a better understanding of the important role that these resources play today in the provision of wood products for the national economies of many countries.

Walter Kollert and S. Sandeep, TEAKNET

ITTO-BMEL project "Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics"

The ITTO-BMEL phase II teak project "Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics", represents a significant step towards enhancing quality timber production from smallholders and community plantations in the tropical regions. The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) is executing this project in six countries in the tropical region namely: Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Thailand and Vietnam in Asia and Togo in Africa. This project is financed by the Government of Germany through the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL).

The Project Launching Workshop held at Rama Garden Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand during 11-14 October 2023 served as a platform to gather key stakeholders, experts, and partners who shared the commitment to fostering quality timber production practices. During this event, in addition to the key-note presentation on wood-based bio-economy, it introduced the project's objectives, strategies, and expected outcomes. After the launching event, consultation meetings took place with key stakeholders including smallholders in Thongphaphum District, Kanchanaburi province. TEAKNET is a technical partner in this project.



A view of inaugural session



Participants of the launching workshop

Teca (*Tectona grandis* L. f.) - book published by Embrapa

With the technical partnership involving several public and private institutions, Embrapa has published the book **Teca (*Tectona grandis* L. f.)**. The publication brings together important aspects involving this very noble and valued species in the international market. This publication intends to act as an information guide for forestry entrepreneurs, investors, consumers, researchers, teachers, undergraduates and other members of the Brazilian forestry production chain.

The work summarizes a collection of technical-scientific knowledge about the teak production chain in Brazil and addresses topics such as botanical issues, natural distribution and environmental requirements; context of the world wood market; genetical enhancement; edaphoclimatic zoning in Brazil; seedling production; forestry and management under monoculture production systems and crop-livestock-forest integration; geotechnologies applied to crops; growth and production; software for precision forest management; planning, economic analysis and operational research; wood quality and forest certification.



To Download the Publication
[Click here](#)

Prices of Plantation Teak Imported to India

Prices for recent shipments of plantation teak logs and sawnwood imported to India. Teak log prices are in C&F US\$/Hoppus cu.m and Sawnwood prices are in C&F US\$/cu.m

Teak Logs	Hoppus cu.m	US\$ C&F
Brazil	124	288
Colombia	99	320
Costa Rica	124	225
Ecuador	158	232
Ghana	124	280
Ivory Coast	101	500
Nigeria	124	270
South Sudan	73	305
Tanzania	104	300

Sawnwood	cu.m	US\$ C&F
Benin	91	610
Brazil	146	360
Colombia	124	344
Costa Rica	90	289
Ecuador	127	550
Ghana	120	365
Nigeria	145	350
South Sudan	108	360
Tanzania	123	345
Togo	117	330
Venezuela	116	411

Price range depends mainly on length and cross-sections

Courtesy: ITTO TTM Report 27:19 1 – 15 October 2023

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Teaknet Bulletin is a quarterly electronic newsletter of TEAKNET brought out through its website. It is intended for circulation among the members of TEAKNET and other stakeholders of global teak sector. The views expressed in the newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the organization. The readers are welcome to express their opinions or pass on information of value to teak growers, traders, researchers or others concerned with teak. However, TEAKNET reserves the right to choose the contributions for publishing and also to make necessary editorial modifications in the articles in consultation with the authors.

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