

What's in a neem in the tropics

■ Proceedings of a conference dedicated to neem production and derived products in eastern and western Africa, held in Accra, Ghana, October 1999 in Accra, Ghana. The papers address neem from different angles, such as the prospects for its production and how neem can be used as a pesticide, skin cream and shampoo. Or combine and make a shampoo against lice.

Efficacy and Commercialization of Neem Products

Edited by A.K. Bhatnagar, WOFU
Publishing services with Goethe Institute, Accra, Ghana, 2000.

78 pp. ISBN 9964978715
GBP 10.95 • € 8.30

African Books Collective

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For the real coffee guzzler

■ A specialised book on recent developments in the world of coffee. It not only addresses evident topics like cultivation, production and processing, it starts off with discussing the compounds that determine the flavour and taste of coffee. It also contains a chapter on the physiological effects of coffee.

Coffee: Recent Developments

Edited by F. A. Clarke & G. A. Vitzthum, World Agriculture Series, Blackwell Science, 2001.

272 pp. ISBN 0 632 05653 7

GBP 85 • € 42.50

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Website: www.blackwell-science.com

Deforestation in Africa

■ A collection of chapters grouped according to continent on deforestation in its broadest sense. The part on Africa has a general chapter on the ambiguous effects of policy reforms on sustainable agricultural intensification in Africa. Specific chapters address cases in the miombo woodlands of northern Zambia, Deforestation in southwest Ethiopia and a comparative study on cocoa in Côte d'Ivoire and Sulawesi.

Agricultural Technologies and Tropical Deforestation

Edited by A. Angelsen & D. Kaimowitz, CAB Publishing, 2001.

ISBN 0851994512

GBP 35 • € 41.55

CAB Publishing
Wallingford, Oxfordshire

OX10 8DE, UK
Fax: +44 1491 833508
Email: cab@cab.org

Cocoa growing in the tropics



■ This illustrated almanac in poster format provides month by month information on how to grow, produce, process and take care of your cocoa crop. It is of relevance to cocoa growers in Ghana, Nigeria and Cameroon. Distributed in Nigeria by:

Farming World Service

PO Box 294, Ikrom, Cross River State, Nigeria

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And, finally, take your decision



■ It was all so simple when all we knew stopped at the horizon. We knew when the rains would come, where the winds would blow from, when to plant and when to harvest. Now, now that we know that we are affected by – and that we affect – factors and communities beyond our vision we have to share our decisions with so many other 'stakeholders'. We may feel that we should grow more maize for resale, but if invisible market forces are deciding that even more maize should be grown in another region but not in ours, we should know about it so that we can take the right decision and perhaps produce another more profitable crop. Maybe the government, or an international body, wants to reforest the

region we live in, to create more forests to absorb carbon dioxide gases from the atmosphere, as part of a worldwide plan of action. If so, we should know, and those who want to decide should know where we stand.

All in all, decision-making has become more complex, involving more people, more topics and perhaps more contradictions which need to be resolved. This book, financed by the British development agency DFID, is a rich and dense collection of descriptions of decision-making tools such as risk management, environmental information systems and participatory research. It also describes their applications, their impact and their level of use. Intended primarily for research managers, government policy-makers and NGO staff, it should help them take sounder and more sensitive decisions about natural resource management.

Decision Tools for Sustainable Development

By I.F. Grant and C. Sears. Natural Resources Institute. 1999.

281 pp. ISBN 0 85954 500 8

Order number ECN12

GBP 18 • € 30.05

NRI Catalogue Services
CAB International, Wallingford,
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Participation in practice

■ How can rural communities, instead of donor driven agencies, be encouraged to become the prime movers in improving their economic and social well-being? PEA (Participatory Extension Approach) could be a useful tool. PEA has emerged from a community development process in Zimbabwe and moves away from top-down extension models. Rather than being mere agents for technologies imposed from outside, the methodology helps extension workers to become catalysts that will help communities to achieve the goals that they have defined for themselves. The PEA learning cycle is flexible and offers a wide variety of methodologies and tools such as farmer to farmer extension, farmer field schools, community meetings, and farm trials. A schematic operational framework is included in the booklet that could serve as a checklist during the process. Finally the booklet is complemented by a training video intended to be used as a training tool for extension workers.



Learning Together Through Participatory Extension

A guide to an approach developed in Zimbabwe

J. Hagmann, E. Chuma, K. Murwira & M. Connolly, Agritex-GTZ-IT

Zimbabwe, 2000. 59 pp.

Free of charge, order No: A-021-E

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Germany

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Complementary to this guidebook, a video and a trainers' manual on 'learning together through

participatory extension' can be ordered against payment from:

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