

Apps, M.J., Price, D.T., Wisniewski, J. (ed.): **Boreal Forests and Global Change.** - Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht - Boston - London 1995. 536 pp. NLG 275.00. ISBN 0-7923-3665-8.

Boreal forests form Earth's largest terrestrial ecosystems. These ecosystems are rich in landscape diversity, however, they are characterized by relatively few plant species. Both vitality and sustainability of boreal forests are influenced by many factors. The development of boreal ecosystems is a slow process. Thus a relatively rapid changes in the global environmental conditions may invoke complex, but not yet fully known, responses. Due to the importance of boreal forests from the point of view of industry and environmental protection all changes are of considerable international interest. This book contains almost 50 peer reviewed papers presented at the International Boreal Forest Research Association Conference held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, 25 - 30 September, 1994. The content of the book covers six different branches of studies: forest management, biodiversity, socioeconomics, carbon cycling, climate change and advanced technologies. In my opinion, the most important contribution of the book is that it contains a lot of original information obtained from Siberian forests in Russia. The presented articles mostly deals with several problems more accessible to foresters but it is possible to find some stimulation for plant physiological research.

M.V. MAREK (*Brno*)