

Sassa, K. (ed.): **Environmental Forest Science**. - Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht - Boston - London 1998. 658 pp. NLG 495.00. ISBN 0-7923-5280-7.

This book is Volume 54 of Forestry Sciences Series presenting the proceedings of the IUFRO conference held under the same name as the book title. It was organized by the 8th IUFRO Division "Forest Environment", and took place 19 - 23 October 1998 at Kyoto University, Japan. Its declared objective was to consider research needs in the 21st century for forest environment, and the integration of related fields of research to a new concept of environmental forest science. After two introductory lectures, 67 full text papers (of the 132 presented) are divided into four chapters: 1) Forest and environment, 2) Forest ecosystems and biodiversity, 3) Forest hydrology, and 4) Natural disasters in mountains. Most papers came from non-European forest research institutions which determines the character of the book. The reader will find many stimulating impulses for sustainable forestry management, strategy of landscape planing, contributions on changes and influences resulting in flooding, slope failures, landslides, debris flows and forest fires, reports about various antropogenic activities in forest ecosystems, *etc.* On the other side, he may miss contributions concerning another existing ecological problems (*e.g.*, air pollution and ecotoxicological studies). Nevertheless, the book is a good and useful source of information on the conference topics, and offers the latest literature references.

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