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Montagnini, F. (ed.): **Environmental Services of Agroforestry Systems**. - Food Products Press. An Imprint of the Haworth Press, New York - London - Victoria 2005. Pp. 126. USD 18.39. ISBN 978-1-56022-131-9. Co-published simultaneously as *Journal of Sustainable Forestry* 21, No. 1, 2005.

The reviewed book consists of 6 contributions, Preface and Index. The individual chapters have been written by 16 authors. In the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter, R. Lal reviews soil carbon sequestration in forest ecosystems. M.C. Amézquita, M. Ibrahim, T. Llanderal, P. Buurman and E. Amézquita deal with carbon sequestration in Latin American Tropics. The editor with D. Cusack, B. Petit and M. Kanninen describe environmental services of both native tree plantation and agroforestry systems in Latin America. J.B. Aune, A.T. Alemu and K.P. Gautam analyse the usefulness of carbon sequestration in rural communities. S. Davidson offers a survey on shade-coffee agro-ecosystems in Mexico. The last chapter written by A.R. Brenes is devoted to agroforestry systems in Costa Rica.

The title of the book promises a monograph on agroforestry and its environmental services. No doubt, agroforestry represents a useful technological system combining an effective crop production with an improved soil management. It also offers possibilities to better manage the whole landscape. Similarly, an analysis of environmental services is highly desired because of the lack of appreciation of both natural systems and crop canopies for human welfare and sustainability. However, this book practically presents only papers dealing with

specialized problems of agroforestry in some locations. There was no attempt to include more general information on the topic represented by the volume title and to adequately cover the most important problems of ecosystem services in agroforestry.

Of course, individual experimental studies are needed in order to subsequently provide general conclusions. However, the editor did not sum up a representative amount of either experimental results or general evaluation of agroforestry ecosystem services. Similarly, the reader will not find comprehensive information on either environmental services or theory and practice of agroforestry.

In no way do I want to say that the individual chapters are of no value. However, I do not understand why their publication was not limited to the *Journal of Sustainable Forestry*. In other words: A monograph on agroforestry ecosystem services is highly desirable to be published. The reviewed book treats some of the title's topic only. Neither students nor researchers could gain their first understanding or concise knowledge by reading this volume. Nevertheless, if to some readers the *Journal of Sustainable Forestry* is not available, this book presents some of its papers.

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