

REVIEW

P.C.M. JANSEN & D. CARDON (eds.): **Plant Resources of Tropical Africa. 3. Dyes and tannins.** PROTA Foundation, Wageningen, The Netherlands/Backhuys Publishers, Leiden, The Netherlands/CTA, Wageningen, The Netherlands, 2005. 214 pp., illus. ISBN 90-5782-159-1 (book only), 90-5782-160-5 (book + CD-ROM); **Ressourches végétales de l'Afrique tropicale. 3. Colorants et tanins.** ISBN 90-5782-163-X (livre seul), 90-5782-164-8 (livre + CD-ROM). Price: Book: EUR 25 (industrialized countries/pays industrialisés), EUR 12.50 (developing countries/pays en développement); Book + CD-ROM: EUR 32 (industrialized countries/pays industrialisés), EUR 16 (developing countries/pays en développement).

This new volume in the PROTA series treats 72 plant species used as dye or tannin. A long list of dye and tannin plants with other primary uses is included. These species will be treated in other volumes.

For those who are familiar with the PROSEA series the format is well known. The introduction, that gives generalities about the sections in the descriptions and information on the choice of taxa, is followed by an alphabetical treatment of species with dye or tannin as primary use. As in PROSEA the descriptions include: names and synonyms, family, chromosome number, vernacular names, origin and distribution, uses, production and international trade, properties, description, other botanical information, growth and development, ecology, propagation and planting, management, diseases and pests, yield, handling after harvest, genetic resources, breeding, and references, at least in the more comprehensive treated species. Other species have to do with much shorter descriptions. The information about the species is very detailed in many cases, informative and up-to-date. A list of references (literature) and an index conclude the book.

The CD-ROM contains the species information from the book together with a search programme, that allows you to search for species names, vernacular names, other uses, and geographical distribution. To use the CD-ROM you need an update version of Windows.

Book and CD-ROM are a welcome addition to our knowledge of economic botany. They should be present in the libraries of all botanical institutes. Anyone with an interest in Ethnobotany or Economic botany will find a lot of useful information in this book (or CD-ROM).

FRITS ADEMA