

**MEASURING AND MONITORING BIODIVERSITY IN TROPICAL AND TEMPERATE FORESTS**

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This book contains 24 papers selected from among those presented at an IUFRO Symposium on the subject of "Measuring and Monitoring Biodiversity in Tropical and temperate Forests" hosted by the Royal Department of Thailand. The papers were selected to give as broad coverage as possible of key topics, including Principles of Measuring and Monitoring Biodiversity (8 papers), Genetic Diversity (6 papers), Species and Ecosystem Diversity (5 papers), and Methodology (5 papers).

Forest trees are the subjects of many papers, but there are also included the papers dealing with the diversity of arthropods, fungi, birds, butterflies, gibbons, and other dealing with entire range of biodiversity.

The book is very important for scientists, managers, politicians and students, because many estimates suggest that the world's forests are home to more than 50% of terrestrial biodiversity, yet temperate and tropical forest face numerous threats, including agricultural and industrial expansion, clima-

te change, non-sustainable management, and pollution.

Nowadays the impacts of human activities against the forest's biodiversity are very strong and if forests and their diversity of living organisms are to be conserved, there is a real need to measure and monitor biodiversity in order to know its magnitude and to increase the efficiency of conservation measures. As the concept of biodiversity covers the range of life itself, from genes to ecosystem or even to landscape, measurement and monitoring are extremely complicated but necessarily to be solved in short time.

Also biodiversity is an immense subject, it is obviously very difficult to cover the topic comprehensively in a single volume of proceedings. Nevertheless, mainly by personalities who participated in this meeting and who presented very pertinent papers and due to the selection of that assured a very high position of this book in the field of biodiversity.

*Valeriu Enescu, Bucharest, Romania*