

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO NON-WOOD NEWS**

A strong characteristic of Non-Wood News is that it is open to contributions from readers. Should you have any interesting material on any aspect of NWFPs that could be of benefit to all our readers, please do not hesitate to submit it. Articles are welcomed in English, French and Spanish and should be between 200–500 words.

The deadline for contributions for Non-Wood News 19 is 15 May 2009.

For more information, please contact: Tina Etherington at the address on the front page or by e-mail to [non-wood-news@fao.org](mailto:non-wood-news@fao.org)

**Readers of Non-Wood News – a survey**

Findings from a survey completed in mid-2008 by three young volunteers in our NWFP Programme revealed that out of a total of nearly 4 000 subscribers to the *Non-Wood News* database (which does not represent our total readership), Asia is the region with the highest number of subscribers. India came out on top, with 477, or just over 12 percent of the global subscriber total.

See the table below for more details on our regional breakdown.

| Region                          | No. of readers | % of total |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Africa                          | 922            | 24         |
| Asia                            | 1125           | 29         |
| Europe                          | 827            | 21         |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | 368            | 10         |
| Near East                       | 66             | 2          |
| North America                   | 425            | 11         |
| South West Pacific              | 107            | 3          |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>3 840</b>   | <b>100</b> |

**Reader from Canada**

Got a look at *Non-Wood News* last week and I was delighted that there is someone, FAO actually, that is documenting our resources. I started my business 11 years ago because I was finding that few people have any knowledge of the natural environment any more. Most people are totally unaware of all the great foods that exist outside of farms and cities. (Jonathan Forbes, Forbes Wild Foods, Canada)

**Reader from Afghanistan**

I am working and trying my best to explore other potential areas of NWFPs in Afghanistan and wish to contribute that only for *Non-Wood News* in future. (Mohammad Muktedir Hossain, Sector Specialist [Forestry], Afghanistan)

**Requests received**

**Request for information: curana fibre**  
I'm looking for information on curana fibre. Do you have any contact information? I know it grows in Brazil but I haven't been able to contact any processing mill.

**IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE CONTACT:**  
Aj Balthes, [Ajbalthes@Conceptind.com](mailto:Ajbalthes@Conceptind.com)



**Recherche de financement pour le développement des PFNL au Canada**

Des fonds seraient-ils disponibles pour des projets locaux? Je travaille auprès d'un centre de recherche et de développement en Outaouais (Canada) et ce centre se consacre énormément à la valorisation des PFNL sur notre territoire. Nous sommes aussi sur le point de développer un projet de régénération des bleuets sauvages en forêt et donc à la recherche de financement. Nous sommes un organisme sans but lucratif (OSBL). Pouvez-vous nous aider? Merci!

**DANS LE CAS D'UNE RÉPONSE POSITIVE, VEUILLEZ CONTACTER:**

Ann Lévesque, Adjointe scientifique, Centre de recherche et de développement technologique agricole de l'Outaouais, 188, rue Jeanne d'Arc, suite 200, Papineauville (Québec) J0V 1R0, Canada. Télécopie: (819) 427-9115  
Courriel: [al.credetao@videotron.ca](mailto:al.credetao@videotron.ca)  
Site web: [www.agro-outaouais.com](http://www.agro-outaouais.com)

**Request for information: essential oils**  
Our country (Turkey) has plenty of endemic plants. Essential oils obtained from these plants are used in cosmetics, food and many other sectors. We want to get essential oils from these plants and export them to other countries.

We want to make an investment in essential oil manufacturing and are, therefore, interested in learning more about the essential oil markets. For example, we need more information on: which essential oils have the highest demand; commodity prices; market structures; production process of essential oils; commercialization of essential oils, etc.

In addition, could any reader recommend reports, statistics, publications, Web sites on the market analysis of essential oils?

**IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE CONTACT:**  
Engin CAGLAR, Çavuşpafla Caddesi, Sezer Sok, Pekmezci Apt. No:2/13, Bahçelievler, Istanbul, Turkey. GSM: +90 532 3522911; e-mail: [caglarmeister@gmail.com](mailto:caglarmeister@gmail.com)

**Request for collaboration: edible insects**  
I would like to develop a project on edible insects of francophone West and Central Africa. The project would cover ten countries, namely: Benin, Togo, the Niger, Burkina-Faso, Mali, Guinea Conakry, Cameroon, Centrafrique Republic, Congo Démocratique and Congo.

Would any readers be in a position to suggest a suitable contact person who would like to collaborate in setting up this initiative?

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**  
M. Sévérin Tchiboza, Centre de Recherche pour la Gestion de la Biodiversité et du Terroir (CERGET), 04 BP 0385 Cotonou, Benin. Fax (+229) 21303084; e-mail: [tchisev@yahoo.fr](mailto:tchisev@yahoo.fr); <http://www.cerget.org/>



## Boreal forests and their NWFPs



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Local people are taking advantage of the rich diversity of boreal forest NWFPs, both as opportunities to provide value-added products and as sources of food, adornment and medicine. **Left to right:** birch bark is woven to make attractive boxes in which natural cosmetics (soap and fir oil) and jams and herbal teas can be sold; women in Kamchatka, Russian Federation, are eating *Heracleum lanatum* Michx. (local name: "bears' pipes"); a young boy uses animal skins to keep warm; mushrooms are collected from the forest floor and sold, either dried or bottled.