

Annotated Bibliography on Rattans of the World

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Abstract

Rattans are climbing palms belonging to the family *Arecaceae* (Palmae). They are important source of rattan which is major non wood forest products, especially in Asia. This paper reviews database used, source of information, the methods adopted for preparation, searching and indexing of annotated bibliography. Annotated bibliography of rattans of world made available in the Kerala Forest Research Institute library portal.

Keywords: Bibliography, Annotated Bibliography - Rattan

1 Introduction

Rattans are spiny, climbing palms belonging to the subfamily *Calamoideae* of the family *Arecaceae* or palame. Rattan is utilized for the manufacture of a wide variety of aesthetic furniture and articles of decoration (Chand Basha & Bhat, 1992) they provide gainful employment to many people in rural and remote areas, particularly among the tribal people. With the rampant destruction of forests and habitats and unsustainable extraction, rattans stock at present is highly depleted. The exploitation of wild rattan is increasing with the increase in demand for rattan furniture. Consequently, this resource is over exploited and has become short in supply. Rattans are one of the important non-wood forest produce of many tropical countries. There are 13 genera of rattans comprising about 568 species (Dransfield and Uhl, 1987). The largest number of genera and species of rattans are found in South East Asia. Among the 13 genera, *Calamus* is the largest genus with about 370 species (Tewari, 1992). In India, there are about 61 species of rattans under four genera, *Calamus*, *Daemonorops*, *Korthalisa* and *Plectocomia* (Rao & Vongkalung 1987).

Many of the International organizations like IDRC, INBAR and UNDP have supported cane research programmes for resource enhancement, product design and

development and marketing. All such research activities generated considerable amount of information on cane. It has become necessary to bring together bibliographic details of widely distributed literature for documentation and for providing information on various aspects of rattan to researchers, foresters, entrepreneurs, artisans. In this situation annotated bibliography of rattans of world is very necessary for providing information on various aspects of rattan. It also helps for bibliometric study to understand growth of literature on rattan in time.

2 Objectives

To prepare an annotated bibliography on rattans of world

To make it available in KFRI (Kerala Forest Research Institute) library portal

3 Materials & Methods

CDS/ISIS is the database used for preparation of annotated bibliography. CDS/ISIS is an acronym which stands for Computerised Documentation Service/ Integrated Set of Information Systems.

4. Source of information

TREE CD, CAB CD, AGRIS databases, Biological Abstract, books, research reports, scientific papers etc have been used to prepare annotated bibliography on rattan. Database contains different fields such as author, title, source, year, keywords, abstract etc. References, reading list and cited literature of cane publications are also used as source of information.

5. Arrangements of literature and indexes

In this bibliography documents are arranged under broad subject headings alphabetically by author's name. In most of the cases references have abstracts. One can find general topic of interest in the content page where subject headings are given with corresponding page numbers. To locate literature of a particular author, an author index is provided at the end. Also, to locate specific information, a subject index is given with the serial number of the document. References are arranged alphabetically by authors name under major subject headings. These subject headings have been derived in consultation with subject experts, as well as on the basis of earlier bibliographies. Database can be searched by author, title, year, keywords etc. An annotated bibliography of documents on rattan articles make available in KFRI library portal.

A web based mechanism used for searching and retrieving documents (George, 2012). This has the added advantage that the documents can be published in internet at a later time. A local server mechanism provided by free software Server2go is used for the CD implementation. This acted as a virtual server. The search engine is Php

program, which reads list of documents, checks for existence of keywords and lists matching records.

6. Purpose of Annotated Bibliography

An annotated bibliography provides an account of the research that has been done on a given topic. In addition to bibliographic data, an annotated bibliography provides a concise summary of each source and some assessment of its value and reference. Bibliographies are highly useful to researchers and those who look for information on particular topics and to know the development of this subject. It also helps for bibliometric study to understand growth of literature in time and on specific topics. The quality and usefulness of bibliography depend on selection of sources. Define the scope of research is very important in order to get good judgments about what to include and exclude. Extensive and scholarly annotated bibliographies provide a comprehensive overview of everything important that has been said about that topic.

7. Results and Discussion

An annotated bibliography on rattans of world prepared in soft copy and hard copy with 2317 records. Bibliography can be searched by author, title, keywords etc. Annotated bibliography is launched in website of KFRI (Kerala Forest Research Institute). Annotated bibliography of rattans of world will be very useful to researchers, forest officials, teachers and students of forestry and all those who are associated with forests and forestry. CD is also prepared. Bibliography supports resource sharing among libraries. It also increases portability of rattan documents.

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