



Call for Papers

Environmental Conservation Themed Issue on

Forests and Food Security

With a likely global human population of over 9 billion by 2050, issues of food security and nutrition have been dominating academic and policy debates. Despite impressive productivity increases, conventional agricultural strategies have tended to result in unbalanced diets that lack nutritional diversity, enhance exposure of the most vulnerable groups to volatile food prices, and fail to recognise the long-term ecological consequences of intensified agricultural systems. Yet there is growing evidence that forests and agro-forestry systems complement conventional agricultural production systems, providing better and more nutritionally-balanced diets and greater control over food inputs particularly for marginalised groups during periods of vulnerability, and delivering a broad set of ecosystem services which support crop production.

The aim of this thematic issue is to provide a forum for research that explores the different ways in which forests and agroforestry systems can be managed as food provisioning systems, in addition to their existing contributions to the conservation landscape. Potential audiences for this contribution include scholars and policy makers working in forest and related sectors, as well as those working in the areas of food and nutrition security both locally and internationally. Priority for the special issue will be given to empirical papers, but theoretical work that crosses conventional disciplinary boundaries will also be considered.

Potential topics include:

- What are the roles of forests and agroforestry systems in food security (e.g. directly in nutrition and health, and indirectly in income generation, nutrition, health and ecosystem services)?
- Do forest and tree management approaches contribute to sustainable food production systems?
- How do changes in forest use impact forest roles in food security and nutrition?
- What are the robust examples of forest-based landscape level approaches (e.g. land sparing/sharing, sustained intensification, eco-agriculture) and their delivering equitable, efficient and sustainable food systems?
- How do land tenure security, equity, access and rights for smallholders, and gender equality influence the role of forests in food systems?
- How do macro-level drivers (e.g. demographic change, vulnerability and changing food choices) affect potential roles of forests in food systems?
- What are the relative roles of public policies, markets and incentives in altering the ways in which forests contribute to food systems?
- What types of institutional and governance changes are required to support a transition towards a more integrated approach to forests, food security and nutrition?

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Submission Guidelines

Only original and unpublished high-quality papers are considered and manuscripts must be in English. Submitted papers have to (1) follow the Instructions for Authors (<http://tiny.cc/iv6kg>), (2) be submitted via the journal web submission route (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/envcon>) and (3) in the cover letter indicate that the submission is for the "**Forest Food & Security**" theme. Papers not fulfilling these conditions or submitted late, or insufficient in number for a substantial theme, may be published by the journal as regular submissions. All papers will be submitted to a rigorous peer-review process and the fact that they are submitted to a themed issue (solicited or not) does not guarantee acceptance.

Important Dates

Manuscript submission deadline: 31 January 2015, Publication of themed issue: late 2015 (provisional)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

International Journal of Interdisciplinary Environmental Science

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