

Future meetings

International Symposium on Wood Science and Technology 2025 (ISWST2025) with the Session of 2025 World Wood Day Symposium and the Seventh IUFRO Forest Products Culture Colloquium, Japan on March 17th-19th, 2025

The Japan Wood Research Society invites all scientists interested and involved in various aspects of wood to the International Symposium on Wood Science and Technology 2025 (ISWST2025) at Sendai International Center, Sendai. The aim of the conference is to bring together scientists working on this sustainable and most promising biomaterial for the 21st century. The 2025 World Wood Day Symposium and the Seventh IUFRO Forest Products Culture Colloquium will also be held during the same period. A session of wood anatomy will be organized by IAWA within the symposium.

The conference will cover the following subjects and sessions: 1) Wood Physics; 2) Timber Engineering; 3) Wood Chemistry; 4) Composite Materials and Adhesion; 5) Cell Formation and Wood Structures (including IAWA Special Session); 6) Biodegradation and Preservation of Wood (including Memorial Session of Prof. Dan Cullen); 7) Biorefinery and Bioeconomy; 8) 2025 WWD Symposium & IUFRO Forest Products Culture Colloquium Session; 9) Wood in Health and Wellness.

The scientific program will consist of keynote lectures, invited lectures, and oral and poster presentations, totally about 400 papers. The official language is English. For detailed information, please visit <https://pub.confit.atlas.jp/en/event/iswst2025>.

Kiyohiko Igarashi and Hisashi Abe, Japan

The 26th International Wood Machining Seminar (IWMS), Italy on April 14th-15th, 2025

The 26th International Wood Machining Seminar (IWMS 26) will be held in Florence, Italy on the 14th and 15th of April 2025, hosted by the University of Florence, Department of Agriculture, Food, Environment and Forestry (DAGRI). You are warmly invited to attend and contribute to IWMS-26, and to join the post-seminar industrial tour.

IWMS-26 is the 26th in a series of world-class seminars started in 1963. It provides a distinguished forum for leading international researchers and practicing engineers to present and discuss challenges, recent advances and future opportunities in wood cutting tools, wood products and wood production processes. Practical information exchange and technical interaction among wood processing researchers are the primary objectives.

IWMS-26 is being held in Florence, Italy, a leading centre of wood and wood products research in Italy. An optional post-seminar tour will enable participants to visit nearby wood processing plants and other places of interest. Florence is an internationally famous cultural centre, and is a top destination for visitors. The surrounding areas additionally provide many memorable recreational opportunities.

For detailed information, please visit <https://www.dagri.unifi.it/vp-1018-26th-international-wood-machining-seminar-14-15-april-2025.html?newlang=eng#>.

Giacomo Goli, Italy

The 5th World Teak Conference 2025, India on September 17th-20th, 2025

In 2025, Kerala will host the 5th World Teak Conference organized by the Kerala Forest Research Institute, the International Teak Information Network (TEAKNET) and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). This global event will take place in Grand Hyatt Koichi Bolgatty, Kochi, Kerala. The past four World Teak Conferences were held in Asian and Latin American countries; the first one in Costa Rica (2011), followed by Bangkok (2013) Ecuador (2015) and Ghana (2022),

Kerala holds special significance in the history of teak plantation, with Nilambur being home to the world's oldest teak plantation. With its extensive background in teak research, the Kerala Forest Research Institute seized the opportunity to host this international event from September 17th to 20th, 2025.

The deadline of abstract submission is February 28, 2025, and Early-bird registration deadline is April 30, 2025.

For detailed information, please visit <https://worldteakconference2025.com/>.

P. K. Thulasidas, India

Meeting Reports

Symposium on Plant Water Relations in Zhejiang, China on November 22nd-25th, 2024

Symposium on plant water relations 2024, organized by the Zhejiang Normal University, China, was held on November 22nd -25th, 2024 in Jinhua, Zhejiang Province, China. More than 100 participants from 45 universities and institutes attended the symposium. Professor Melvin Thomas Tyree from Zhejiang Normal University gave a lecture titled "Water flow in plants: a brief history of the science with a few historical anecdotes". Professor Qing Ye from South China Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences gave a lecture titled "Linking hydraulic traits to plant adaptation, growth, and survival". Following that, experts including Prof. Timothy John Brodribb, Kunfang Cao and Chunyang Li delivered presentations on research directions of xylem hydraulic safety, plant growth adaptation, drought response and tolerance mechanism, plant hydraulic methods, plant water use strategy, plant water/carbon economy, xylem pit membrane ultrastructure and water-related research implications. This was the first symposium on plant water relations held in China.



Group Photo of the Symposium on Plant Water Relations 2024

Dongmei Yang, Guoquan Peng and Shan Li, China

Miscellaneous News

IAWA released Index Xylariorum 4.2 in February, 2025: Highlighting Global Updates in Wood Collections

The International Association of Wood Anatomists (IAWA) is pleased to announce a new release of the Index Xylariorum 4.2, the latest edition of the global directory of institutional wood collections. In total, there are 184 wood collections with more than 1.67 million wood specimens included in the Index. This publication builds on the legacy of the Guide to Institutional Wood Collections, first published in 1957, and its subsequent editions in 1967, 1978, 2010, and the updated v4.1 in 2016. The primary goal of Index Xylariorum remains to compile comprehensive information on the existence, staff, and contents of public wood collections worldwide, while documenting changes and developments within these collections over time.

Since 2017, 37 wood collections have had their information updated, reflecting the dynamic nature of this global initiative. Among these updates, 27 collections from countries including Brazil, Canada, Colombia, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the People's Republic of China, the Philippines, Portugal, Spain, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States have revised their curator or collection details. Meanwhile, ten wood collections from Brazil, Norway, the People's Republic of China, Poland, the United Kingdom, and the United States have been added to the directory for the first time. These advancements underscore the continued vitality of global wood collections and provide researchers with more accurate and up-to-date data. This progress not only enhances the field of wood anatomy but also fosters collaboration and knowledge exchange across related disciplines.

IAWA encourages wood collections worldwide to continue submitting their data and updating their records with the IAWA Secretariat. This ongoing effort ensures the accuracy and relevance of the Index Xylariorum, supporting global research initiatives and strengthening the wood anatomy community. The IAWA Secretariat plans to update the directory annually and warmly invites all colleagues to participate in this collaborative endeavor.

To get more detailed information on the Index Xylariorum 4.2, please click on the link http://iawa-website1.org/en/Wood_collection/Overview_of_Wood_Collection.shtml.

For inquiries or to update your collection information, please contact Dr. Yang Lu at the IAWA Secretariat (yang.lu@caf.ac.cn).



Visual map of the Index Xylariorum 4.2 released by IAWA Secretariat in February 2025

Yang Lu, Tuo He, Weihui Zhan and Yafang Yin, China

IAWA Academic Funding for Students and Early-career Scientists

The Academic Funding for Students and Early-career Scientists (AFSES), hereby established by IAWA, is provided for IAWA member graduate students and early-career scientists (up to five years after a Ph.D. is awarded), and recognizes outstanding individual academic and scholarly scientific achievements, to encourage further work within the fields of research related to wood anatomy. The AFSES shall only support the most economical common carrier (e.g. air, rail, etc.) travel, local transportation, lodging, and registration fees to attend an IAWA symposium or conference.

Up to two awards for graduate students and one award for early-career scientists per calendar year may be made, subject to the availability of funding and of candidates of outstanding merit; there may be years in which no awards are made, either for financial reasons, or applications of insufficient merit. For each award, the maximum amount is 2000 Euro or equivalent. The funding is open only to IAWA members in good standing who meet the above-noted graduate student or early-career criteria. Furthermore, potential applicants should apply for funding only in years in which the symposium or conference of interest is taking place in a different country or at least 1500km from their research institution. Awards shall be made for outstanding individual scientific achievements during university graduate study, or within five years of the conferral of a Ph.D. In order to be judged as outstanding, the work should meet the following requirements: research topic relevant to wood anatomy (e.g. within the purview of IAWA Journal); demonstrates innovative thinking/tackles an important open or emerging question; appropriate/advanced/novel methodology; anticipated impact of results. Application should include the following documentation: IAWA AFSES application form; full CV with list of publications, awards, presentations, and other relevant scientific accomplishments; one letter of recommendation. Each of the above items should be merged into a single PDF document for submission to Dr. Alex C. Wiedenhoef (acwieden@wisc.edu).

All relevant application documents must be submitted in English, and the symposium/conference presentation and report must be delivered in English. The IAWA Council shall evaluate the nominations for merit within the deadline, based on the above-noted criteria, and any awardee(s) will be officially informed by the IAWA Secretary Office.

The award winner(s) will make an officially invited presentation at the IAWA symposium or conference, and shall acknowledge the financial support from AFSES in their presentation. Within one month of the conference, each awardee will submit a report to the IAWA Secretary Office for inclusion in the IAWA Newsletter.

IAWA Special Issue 2025 on Quantitative Wood Anatomy (QWA)

IAWA Journal is organizing a Special Issue called "Quantitative Wood Anatomy: research applications, opportunities and challenges" in memory of Professor Pieter Baas. Professor Dr. Baas was one of the most distinguished scientists in plant anatomy and wood anatomy and the greatest advocate for worldwide cooperation of wood anatomists in our times.

Colleagues in the research field, IAWA members, and others are invited to contribute reviews, original research articles, and viewpoint papers relating to Quantitative Wood Anatomy (QWA) with a special emphasis on recent advances in wood anatomy and multidisciplinary approaches. We expect to publish this Special Issue as IAWA Journal Volume 46, Issue 4 (2025), however, manuscripts will be available online once accepted.

This Special issue will be edited by Yafang Yin (yafang@caf.ac.cn), Georg von Arx (georg.vonarx@wsl.ch) and Veronica De Micco (demicco@unina.it). For more details about the QWA special issue, please visit https://iawa-website1.org/en/News/article_255.shtml.

We would appreciate hearing from you by the end of February 2025 as to whether you are interested in submitting a paper in order to help with the planning. The Special Issue will be published as IAWA Journal Volume 46, Issue 4 (2025), however, manuscripts will be available online once accepted.

Please note you will enjoy 50% discount on APC for Open Access if your manuscript is accepted for publication.

Please indicate in the cover letter your wish to be included in this Special Issue. Manuscripts can be submitted to the IAWA Journal at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/iawa/default.aspx>. Deadline for manuscript submission is 30 June 2025.

Yafang Yin, Georg von Arx and Veronica De Micco

Incoming and Outgoing Associate Editors of IAWA Journal

Professor Jong Sik Kim from Chonnam National University, Republic of Korea, and Professor Feng Xu from Beijing Forestry University, China have recently started to serve as new associate editors of IAWA Journal. Prof. Susan Anagnost and Prof. Carmen Marcati will no longer serve as the associate editors of IAWA Journal, their contribution over many years has been greatly acknowledged. Please find the latest information on the editorial board members of IAWA Journal from https://iawa-website1.org/en/IAWA_Journal/Editor_Board.shtml.

Call for Newsletter Items

The IAWA Newsletter keeps the IAWA community actively informed and stimulates members to visit the IAWA website for the latest and detailed news. Please send any news items you wish to share with the whole IAWA community to the newsletter editors Dr. Shan Li (lishan.ecology@hotmail.com) and Dr. Yang Lu (yang.lu@caf.ac.cn) of the IAWA Office, Beijing.

Call for Manuscripts of IAWA Journal 2025/6

The editors of the IAWA Journal would like to encourage new manuscript submissions for volume 46, 2025 (almost full) and for volume 47, 2026. A reminder that subscribers/IAWA members can register for 'table of contents' alerts on the IAWA Journal homepage. Volume 46(1) will go to press in the next month or so and contents will be listed online at <https://brill.com/view/journals/iawa/iawa-overview.xml>.

Lloyd Donaldson & Veronica De Micco
Editors in Chief – IAWA Journal