

in less than a minute I found stunning and detailed colour photos (“a picture is worth 1000 words”) of *P.edulis*, complete with a good map and verbal description of the natural distribution.

Score: book 5, internet 10.

**What is the potential for *P. torreyana* and *P. pseudostrobus* as commercial species?**

The book did not mention *torreyana*, which was a pity since it would have been possible to double the species covered and thus construct a truly comprehensive reference book. *Pseudostrobus* is briefly described as having been tried in South Africa, Brazil, and Columbia but rejected because of slow growth rates. Using the key word “potential” the internet quickly located a site that enabled me to subscribe to an agroforestry newsletter about the potential of new species, and the key reference for the discussion on *torreyana*. It would cost about NZ\$50 for a subscription, so I aborted the search. A similar search for *pseudostrobus* was disappointing.

Score: book 3, internet 2.

So what lessons can be learned from this exercise? Firstly, that reference books such as the one reviewed here face a very real threat from the internet. Secondly, if an author or publisher wants to get the information out to the widest readership, it may be necessary to forgo royalties and publish in electronic form, perhaps in addition to hard copy.

Piers Maclaren  
*Piers Maclaren & Associates Ltd*  
 115 East Belt  
 Rangiora

**UNASYLVA 1947–2000: AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF  
 FORESTRY AND FOREST INDUSTRIES**

Compact Disc. FAO, Rome.  
 2000. ISBN 92-5-004529-8. US\$40.00  
 System requirements: Windows 95 / 98 / NT  
 Minimum: Pentium PC, 16 MB RAM, CD-ROM drive

Having all the issues of Unasyuva (from 1947 to 2000) on the one CD offered some exciting search prospects.

I am not a computer expert but my computer knowledge and usage would be typical of at least some of those most likely to use the Unasyuva CD. An initial disappointment came when I found that the CD would not run on my Macintosh computer (unless I “converted” my Mac to a PC with a programme called Virtual PC).

As a record of Unasyuva the CD is very good. Unasyuva is printed in three languages (English, French, and Spanish) but the early issues were not available in Spanish. As the screen letter size of the articles is large and bold, articles are easy to read. The layout (which includes photographs, tables, graphs, etc.) is exactly as is published in the hard copies of Unasyuva.

Like all new computer applications some time is needed to learn to use the search options to advantage. There are two search options:

**CATALOGUE** — This gives a chronological listing of all issues of *Unasylva*, some of which have a general theme (teak, fire, agroforestry, etc.). Click on the issue wanted and up comes a list of contents; to access a specific paper, comment, book review, etc., click on its title and up comes the item. This search option is good and easy to use.

**SEARCH** — This offers a search by Title, Author, Volume/Issue Number, and Publication Year. The search by year of publication always seems to work (input the year and back comes a full listing of publications for that year, click on an issue and up comes the list of contents, etc.). I had no consistent luck when I input the Volume/Issue Number. Title and Author searches were very good but there was one slightly annoying limitation in that to start the SEARCH option a user has to choose between searching on an “issue” or an “article” basis. As the default option is always the “issue” option, this means that if a user is searching for an author (because the search on an author basis is only in the “article” option) the “article” option has to be reselected each time. Usually the search on a word, or words, was restricted to only those words within the title of an article. However, sometimes a title came up where the paper must have listed the search word as a keyword — for example, a search on the word “pine” brought up two papers that did not actually have the word pine in their title (but pines were a major feature of the papers).

Although it might have had better search facilities, the *Unasylva* CD is a very useful asset.

Wink Sutton  
*Plantation Focus Limited*  
24 Kerswell Terrace  
Rotorua