BOOK REVIEW

ECATERINA FODOR, TATIANA-EUGENIA ŞESAN, Fitopatogeni în ecosistemele forestiere [Phytopathogens in forest ecosystems], 2014, the University of Bucharest Publishing, 647 p., ISBN 978-606-16-0447-0.

Knowing the phytopathogens with forestry importance presents a major interest not only for the specialists activating in the field of the forestry sciences but also for those who love the nature, generally, and particularly for those interested in the plants health and protection. The study of the phytopathogens from the forest ecosystems requires combining vast knowledge from fields such as environment protection, biology and ecology, and thus, this study is bringing valuable additions to the romanian literature in the field.

The authors are teaching in the University, Ecaterina FODOR, associate Professor at the Faculty of Environment Protection, University of Oradea and Tatiana Eugenia ŞESAN is Professor at the Faculty of Biology, University of Bucharest, corresponding member of the Academy of Forestry and Agricultural Sciences from Romania. The vast experience gained over the years while activating in the University, teaching and researching, allowed them to combine the information selected form the scientific literature with numerous results of their own.

The volume Phytopathogens in forest ecosystems is structured in 2 parts: first part – The Study of the trees diseases agents – that is treating general aspects referring to the
agents producing diseases on the plants, which is presented throughout 6 chapters, aiming: the synthesis of the most important data from phytopathology, focalized especially on forest field; aspects that refer to the dynamic of the phytopathogens’ populations; information on the preventing, controlling and fighting the phytopathogens agents from the forest ecosystems; features of nomenclature, classification and the main groups of phytopathogens (viruses, mycoplasma, bacteria, fungi) with representatives of the forest ecosystems; description of the most wide-spread diseases from the forest ecosystems in Romania, as their economic importance as well.

The second part – Applied mycology and phytopathology – is treating throughout 4 chapters the aspects that aim the main work methods for study in the field of mycology and forest phytopathology, techniques of microscopy for the analysis of the phytopathogens, as well as the main groups of pathogen agents from the forest ecosystems.

The volume has 647 pages and includes one extremely valuable Glossary, containing 1571 explained specialty terms, constituting a guide for both those less initiated and for the professionals in the field. The 306 images (pictures, drawings, diagrams – sometimes grouped as a plate) illustrate efficiently the information presented in this book, which is vast and well documented, referring to 1053 bibliographic titles, both romanian and foreign, and 50 web sites.

The book was presented in the XXth edition of the Scientific Communications Session “Dimitrie Brâncuș”, organized by the Botanical Garden of the University of Bucharest, on 8 November 2014, with the occasion of Mrs. Professor Tatiana Eugenia ȘESAN’s celebration of her 70th anniversary. The volume is dedicated to the professors of the authors and to the University of Bucharest’ Anniversary, at the celebration of 150 years from the foundation.

The work is very useful for the specialists in the field, students, master and PhD students who study biology, ecology, forestry and environment protection but also for those interested in other related fields.

Cătălin TĂNASE, Tiberius BALAEȘ
“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași, “Anastasie Fătu” Botanical Garden
Vascular plants: diversity, systematic, ecology and importance is a fascinating book exploring the botany science, aims of its study, the general features of the numerous groups of plant species, the diversity of vascular plants and their classification systems, their main evolutionary paths and also their ecology and practical importance. It is one of the most complex and actualized woks in domain of vegetal biology in Romania, in which, the author, a prominent researcher and professor of systematic botany, phytosociology and plant ecology, presents his opinion on the above mentioned aspects.

In the first chapter there is presented a short classification of the living organisms alongside the newest approaches focused on their classification: cladistics, phenetics and phylogeography. Chapter II includes a general characterization of the Cormobionta subregnum and aspects related to the nomenclature, origin, evolution and classification of cormobiont species. In the third chapter the author describes the general characteristics of ferns (sensu lato), their evolution and classification alongside the importance in the subsequent evolution of the plant species and also their practical importance. The gymnosperms and angiosperms are presented in the next two chapters where there are highlighted the various hypotheses on their origin and evolution alongside explanation on
their classification in supra or infra-specific taxa. Very comprehensive knowledge is also provided on their practical importance.

The book is written in a clear and concise academic style, illustrated with numerous photographies and drawings and is based on a comprehensive literature (over 550 titles). Its high quality contents drew attention of numerous plant biologists and the book was presented within the Scientific Communications Session “Biodiversity conservation in the context of sustainable development”, organized by the Faculty of Biology of the “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași, 23-25 October 2014, by the Senior Researcher PhD Ion Sârbu.

The contents and presentation form recommend the book Vascular plants: diversity, systematic, ecology and importance as a reliable information source for students (including MSc or PhD students), as it presents both theoretical and practical aspects and the description of the plants species includes original contributions concerning the biodiversity, chorology, ecology and specific habitats of occurrence. It is also very useful to all plant biology specialists, and in the same extent, too all the people fascinated by nature.

Constantin MARDARI, Cătălin TĂNASE
“Anastasie Fătu” Botanical Garden, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași