

Editorial

Subtropical Forest Research Plot

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The special Issue of this journal presented partial results of an integrated research of subtropical Forest Dynamic Plot (FDP) studies in Taiwan. The methods of establishing 17 FDPs were followed strictly the protocol used by Center for Tropical Forest Science (CTFS), Smithsonian Institution (Condit 1995). These FDPs, distributed island wide ranging from 1- to 25-ha in size, have been studied their forest organizations, and associated ecological processes and phenomena. Special interests have been placed on the impacts of natural disturbances, such as typhoons and northeastern monsoon, on the long term and broad spatial forest dynamics. Major ecological studies presented in this issue included plant biodiversity, tree population dynamics, tree regeneration, seed dispersal, seedling's occurrence, development, and growth.

The studied 6 FDPs in this issue are subtropical forests varying with environmental conditions and under various natural disturbances. They were located in the north (Fushan and Peitungyen FDPs), central (Lienhuachih and Nansi FDP), and south (Kenting and Nanjenshan FDPs) of Taiwan, respectively.

A technical paper introduced the concept of data management by exploiting advanced information management techniques (Michener et al. 2007). The development of new information systems and methodologies for the study of FDP databases provides concrete, scientifically valuable products.

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LITERATURE CITED

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編者的話

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台灣林業科學本期以專刊方式呈現給讀者，本期主題是台灣的森林動態樣區整合性研究，本期的內容僅是台灣17個森林動態樣區研究的部份成果，集中探討亞熱帶森林動態，相當具有特色。台灣森林動態樣區依循美國史密森學會熱帶森林科學研究中心所使用的全球一致的規範設立，樣區小自1公頃大至25公頃，廣泛分布於全島，各樣區生態進程及現象彼此相關。研究主題特別關注在天然的擾動，如颱風或東北季風對於長期且廣泛空間的森林動態上所造成的影響。本期的6篇論文分別針對植物生態多樣性、樹種族群動態、樹木更新、種子散佈，及幼苗發生、成長及發育。各論文調查樣區在不同環境條件及各種天然擾動下的亞熱帶森林。它們依次位於台灣北部(福山與北東眼山樣區)、中部(蓮華池與楠溪樣區)及南部(墾丁與楠梓仙溪樣區)。

另外一篇論文介紹運用最新的資料管理技術以協助動態樣區管理龐大原始資料與分析，為森林動態樣區研究提供了新的資料管理架構及方法，也展示了新架構下所產生的具體、合乎科學且極具價值的資料分析結果。

我們樂意藉此機會感謝所有的論文作者及來自各組織機構的經費支持者。也要特別感謝林務局、林業試驗所、各大學及美國熱帶森林科學研究中心支持與協助這些森林動態樣區的確立及後續的研究工作。