

In this issue: GTTN phase II extension. Info Systems update. Latest publications and more.
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Global Timber Tracking Network News 7

April, 2020

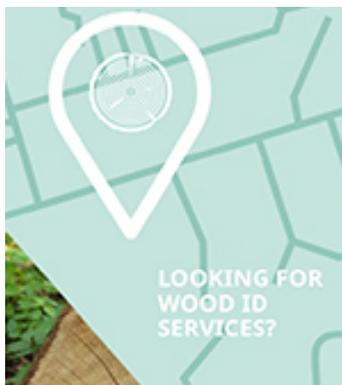
Welcome to another GTTN newsletter! We update you with news from the GTTN Secretariat and from our international network of scientists, labs, timber operators, policy makers, NGO's and many more. Stay tuned!

GTTN Phase 2 extended

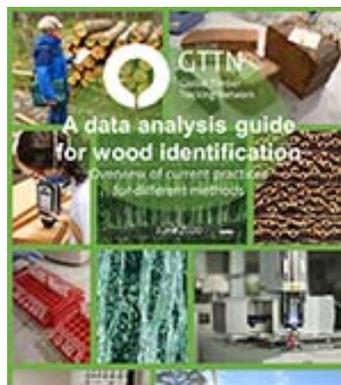
GTTN phase 2 was granted a neutral cost extension with half a year until mid-2020. This creates additional time to complete the challenging work of the Service Provider Directory and Reference Database. Meanwhile we bridge the gap until the start of phase 3, which will be coordinated by the ITTO, as part of its Legal and Sustainable Supply Chain programme.

While initially we planned to hold a workshop to test the Reference Database at the beginning of May in Barcelona, the meeting will be organised as a virtual event. This may allow more experts to join the meeting. So if, in the future, your laboratory would like to share data through the GTTN reference database, then get in contact with us. We can take on some extra participants as long as we keep it to a manageable number.

Products



The [Service Provider Directory \(SPD\)](#) is a system designed to help law enforcement, customs



The **data analysis guide for wood id** is planned to be published beginning of June. We are currently



EFI and the University of Connecticut (TreeGenes) teams have made good developments on the

agents and timber traders to get in contact with capable laboratories that can support their wood identification needs. We have recently sent an email to all laboratories in our network to update their lab info. Please contact [Simo Varis](#) if you did not receive this email and would like to add your laboratory's info.

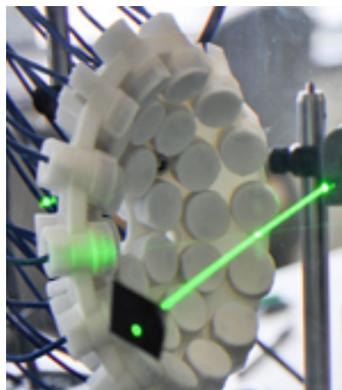
working on the genetics-based methods chapter. We are coordinating a virtual meeting of the contributors to finalise it. For further information or if you wish to contribute, please contact [Nele Schmitz](#).

Reference Database. We will hold an online workshop to test the system and to document any experience and lessons learned while uploading metadata for samples and reference (meta-)data. We will also like to discuss how the system could be improved in the future.

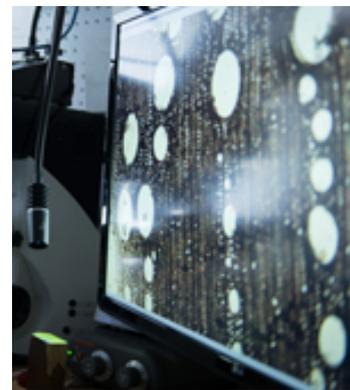
Media



The new timber traceability platform enables a full suite of services including supply chain mapping, product traceability, supply chain risk and data visualisation for analysis and communication. Find out more about **Nature's Barcode** [here](#).



The **Virginia Tech's College** of Engineering has received a \$1 million grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation to develop new technology for rapid extraction of DNA from timber and plant tissue. Read more [here](#).



A recent study suggests that a lot of fraudulently or **inaccurately identified wood** turns up in products on the U.S. market and that inspectors' capacity to root out these issues is lacking. Find out more about this study [here](#).



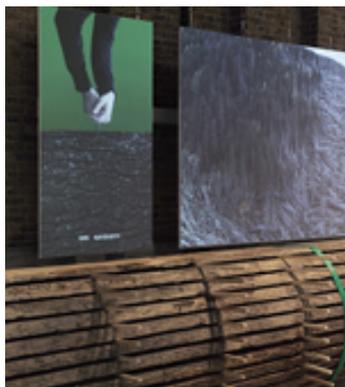
Wood sampling and analysis videos

The Spain Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPA) in collaboration with the wood laboratory of the National Institute for Agricultural and Food Research and Technology (INIA) has produced some videos.

The videos demonstrate tools and procedures used for wood sampling. They also explain the techniques used in the laboratory to identify the species of wood samples. Note that the material is also available in English.

Watch them [here](#).

Events



Maybe physical distancing does not allow you to travel to the exhibition called **Cambio at the Serpentine Sackler Gallery** in London, but there is plenty to read and watch [here](#). A collection of research outcomes and an archive of documents, videos, books and articles on extraction, production and distribution of wood products.



The Canadian Forest Service of Natural Resources Canada organised a **Wood Identification Workshop** and discussed a Wood Identification Centre of Expertise to provide enforcement officers with tools to prevent illegal forest products imports and to contribute to the international efforts to combat illegal logging and trade. Read more [here](#).



CITES decisions 18.140 to 18.143 on Identification of timber and other wood products as adopted at CoP18 can be consulted [here](#). The call for collaboration with relevant organisations is reflected in Decision 18.142 paragraph a), including GTTN in effect since 26 November 2019.

The University of Lorraine and INRAE are organising an **International Doctoral Course called “Stable Isotopes in Forest Ecosystem Research”** from 7 to 11 September 2020 in Champenoux, France. Find more information [here](#).

Share this newsletter

Help others be part of our network! Share this newsletter or ask interested scientists, law enforcement and customs agents, traders and wood id service providers to join GTTN [here](#).

Edit-a-thon

Are you interested in sharing your knowledge on illegal logging, wood identification and related topics? We would like to organise a Wikipedia **Edit-a-thon** to add scientific articles to the most visited online encyclopedia. If interested, please contact [Jose Bolaños](#).

GTTN Tracks

To spice up your days during physical distancing or just your hard work in the lab or office, we are compiling your favourite wood id related songs to make the **GTTN Tracks** Compilation. Please send links to your songs to [Nele Schmitz](#). Stay tuned!

Publications



5 Things to Know about the Use of Scientific Testing in the Enforcement of Timber Import Regulations

Forest Trends surveyed government agencies responsible for the enforcement of timber legislation about their current and future plans for using scientific testing.

The results include aggregated and anonymised results from 17 European countries, the US and Australia as well as countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

Read more [here](#).

More publications

Deklerck, V., Lancaster, C.A., Van Acker, J., Espinoza, E.O., Van den Bulcke, J., Beeckman, H. 2020. **Chemical Fingerprinting of Wood Sampled along a Pith-to-Bark Gradient for Individual Comparison and Provenance Identification.**

Forests. <https://doi.org/10.3390/f11010107>

Dormontt, E.E., Jardine, D.I., van Dijk, K.-J., Dunker, B.F., Dixon, R.R.M., Hipkins, V.D., Tobe, S., Linacre, A., Lowe, A.J.. 2020. **Forensic validation of a SNP and INDEL panel for individualisation of timber from bigleaf maple (Acer macrophyllum Pursch).**

Forensic Science International: Genetics <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fsigen.2020.102252>

Ruffinatto, F and Crivellaro, A. 2020. **Atlas of Macroscopic Wood Identification.** Springer, Cham. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-23566-6>

Call for papers for Forests Special Issue: Wood Origin Identification and Wood Tracking from the Forest to the Final Product

This special issue aims to gather state-of-the-art methods for wood tracking and origin identification. Manuscripts should be submitted online at [MDPI website](#) by 25 September 2020.



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