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Digitial Archival of Rattan Information

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Project Summary

1. Project No.	KFRI RP-600/2010
2. Title	Digital Archival of Rattan Information
3. Objectives	1. To prepare searchable database of rattan and make it available in KFRI Library Portal 2. To prepare digital collection of rattan with full text for in-house use 3. To prepare CD on Annotated bibliography of world
4. Project Period	October 2010 to September 2011
5. Investigators	K. F. George; N. Sarojam and C. Renuka

CONTENTS

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INTRODUCTION

Rattans or canes, the climbing palms of the family *Areaceae* form one of the most useful non-wood forest resources, utilized for the manufacture of a wide variety of aesthetic furniture and articles of decoration. They provide gainful employment to many people in rural and remote areas, particularly among the tribal people. There are 13 genera of rattans comprising about 568 species (Uhl and Dransfiled, 1987). The largest number of genera and species of rattans are found in South East Asia. Among the 13 genera, *Calamus* is the largest genus with about 370 species. In India, there are about 61 species of rattans under four genera, *Calamus, Daemonorops, Korthalsia* and *Plectocomia*. Although economically important, rattan remained as a neglected natural resource till recent times. With the rampant destruction of forests and habitats and unsustainable extraction, its stock at present is highly depleted. The exploitation of wild rattans is increasing with the increase in demand for rattan furniture. Consequently, this resource is over exploitated and has become short in supply.

Rattans are mainly used for making furniture and handicrafts items. Bending nature, golden yellow colour, light weight and durability make canes dearer to furniture and handicrafts industry. A considerable size of rural population is engaged in making rattan furniture and handicrafts work in many countries like Indonesia, Malaysia, India, China, Myanmar, Thailand and Philippines. Considering the importance of this natural resource as a poverty alleviator, much research work on different aspects such as morphology, anatomy, distribution, ecology, genetics, propagation, plantation, preservation, utilization have been carried out on this plant during last three decades. Many of the International organizations like IDRC, INBAR and UNDP have supported cane research programmes for resource enhancement, product design and development and marketing. All such research activites generated considerable amount of information on cane. It has become necessary to bring together bibliographic details of widely distributed literature for documentation and for providing information on various aspects of cane to researchers, foresters, enterprenures, artisans. KFRI has brought out a bibliography of canes with 857 number of references in 2003. This is an up to date annotated bibliography contains a total of 1406 references.

The rattan genera, number of species and their distribution are shown below (Modified from Uhl and Dransfield, 1987)

Genus	No. of Species	Distribution
Calamus L.	Ca 370-400	Tropical Africa, India, Srilanka, China, South and East to Fiji, Vanuatu and Eastern Australia
Calospatha Becc.	1	Endemic to Peninsular Malasia
Ceratolobus Bl.	6	Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Borneo, Java
Daemonorops Bl.	Ca 115	India and China to Western most New Guinea
Eremospatha (Mann & Wedl.) Wendl.	10	Humid Tropical Africa
Korthalasia Bl.	Ca 26	Indo-China and Burma to New Guinea
Laccosperma (Mann & Wendl.) Drude	5	Humid Tropical Africa
Myrialepis Becc	1	Indo-China, Thailand, Burma, Peninsular Malasia and Sumatra
Oncocalamus (Wendl.) Wendl.	4	Humid Tropical Africa
Plectocomia Mart.	Ca 16	Himalayas and South china to Western Malaysia
Plectocomiopsis Becc.	Ca 5	Laos,Thailand, Peninsular Malasia, Borneo, Sumatra
Pogonotium J. Dransf.	3	Two species endemic to Borneo, one species in both Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo
Resitspatha J. Dransf	1	Endemic to Borneo

Importance of a bibliography

A bibliography, be it an annotated or otherwise, brings together citation details of all the literature on a particular topic. In annotated bibliographies, abstract of each reference is also provided. Bibliographies are highly useful to researchers and those who look for information on particular topics and to know the development of this subject. It also helps for bibliometric study to understand growth of literature in time and on specific topics.

Source of information

TREE CD, CAB CD and AGRIS databases have been used to collect literature on rattan. Rattan bibliography by Manokaran (1987) has also been consulted. References, reading list and cited literature of cane publications are also used as source of information.

Growth of literature

In this bibliography, citation of total of 1406 literature is included**.** As per the literature included in this bibliography, it can be seen that rattan publications started appearing with the turn of 20th century. Earliest article appearing in this bibliography is of Ridley in 1903 on morphology of rattan. It is also observed that till 1969 there was not much literature published on rattan. During this period only 54 literature were published. From 1970 0nwards considerable growth can be seen in literature publication. But from 1980 onwards great boom on research and publication on rattan. The growth of literature is shown in the following grap for every 10 years starting from 1900.

During the last three decades a number of studies have been conducted in different aspects of rattan. These studies have been published in various forms such as books, research reports, reprints, conference proceedings etc. Therefore, a strong need was felt to put together various published studies related to rattan in one publication. Many of the international organizations like IDRC, INBAR and UNDP have published documents on rattan. It has become necessary to bring together bibliographic details of widely distributed literature for documentation. It also helps for bibliometric study to understand growth of literature in time and on specific topics. It is in this context that this annotated bibliography on rattan has been prepared.

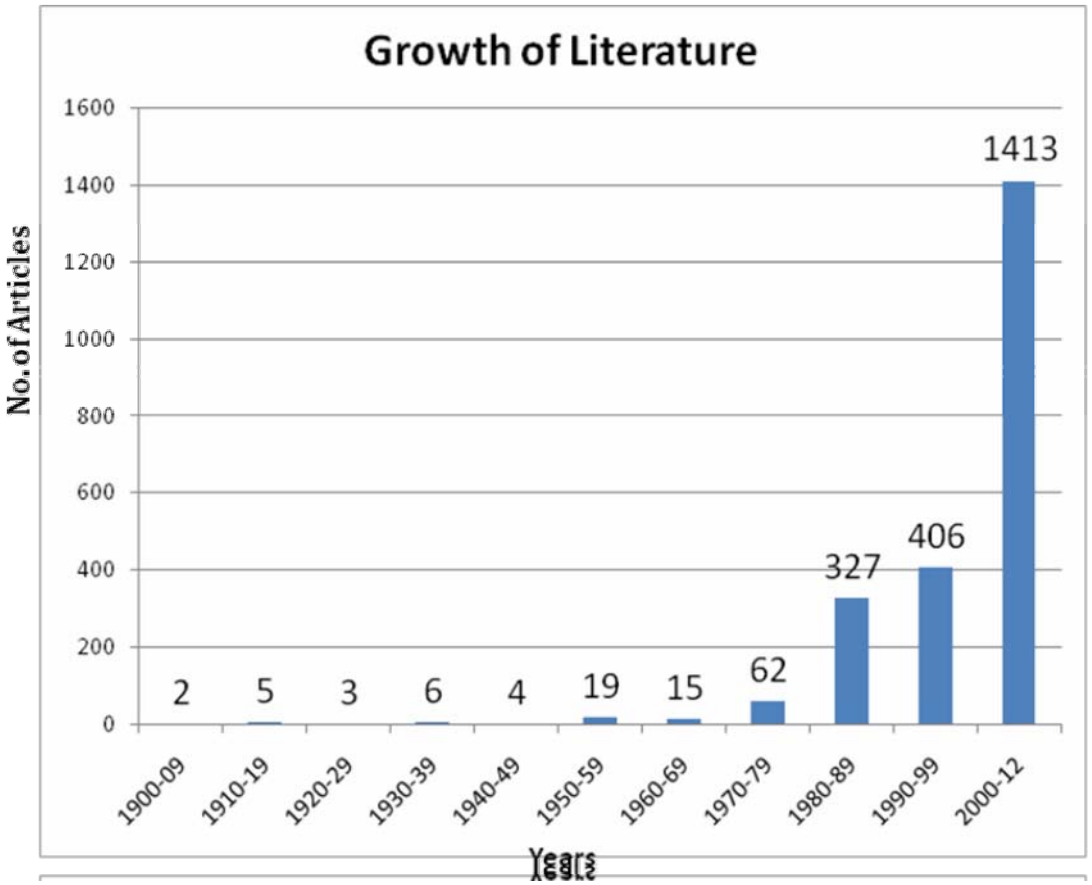


Fig. 1. Map of growth of literature

Purpose of Digitisation

There are number of reasons for considering digitisation as an alternative to traditional library activities. The term digital library in a broad sense is a computerized system that allows obtaining a coherent means of access to an organized, electronically stored repository of information and data. With the information explosion, libraries are facing space and monetary constraints. Every document published is to be acquired and stored under one roof and so evolve the concept of resource sharing and network. Automation has helped libraries in improving library activities and has accelerated their working. It saves the effort, time and manpower of libraries. In an automated system the information can be altered and updated without the repetitive work involved in the manual system. With the development of computer, any information can be turned into sequences. So, any user can access into the sequence without any trouble and delay. It saves the time of the users and staff and increases overall productivity and reliability. Preservation is more easy and single copy can access multi users.

Materials and Methods

Target of the work is to digitize all the books, research reports, scientific papers, Bibliography on rattans on rattan available in library. An annotated bibliography on rattans of the world is also prepared. Each report was scanned using a scanner and saved as PDF format in a folder htdocs/links. A web based mechanism was used for searching and retrieving reports. This has the added advantage that the reports can be published in internet at a later time. A local server mechanism provided by free software, Server2go is used for the CD implementation. This acts as a virtual server. The search engine is developed in php, which reads list of documents, checks for existence of keywords and lists matching records.

Results and Discussion

Software used

CDS/ISIS and WINISIS

CDS/ISIS is a software package for generalised *Information Storage and Retrieval Systems* developed, maintained and disseminated by UNESCO. It was first released in 1985. CDS/ISIS is an acronym which stands for Computerised Documentation Service/ Integrated Set of Information Systems. CDS/ISIS is a menu-driven generalized information storage and retrieval system designed specifically for the computerized management of structured non-numerical databases. One of the major advantage of CDS/ISIS is that it is able to manipulate an unlimited number of records each of which may consist of completely different data elements. It is also possible to handle variable length records, fields, sub fields and repeatable fields, thus saving disk space and making it possible to store greater amounts of information.

CDS ISIS has been modified to suit MS Windows, known as WINISIS. The development of the Windows version was the result of strategic development policy decision aiming at maintaining the leading role CDS/ISIS has played and is still playing on the international scene. WINISIS is used for creating the database. The database created using CDS/ISIS serves as the master database. A text file is generated from the database to serve as list for searching.

System Requirements

- Operating System: Windows XP or above
- Internet Explorer 6.0 or above

How to use CD

Insert the CDROM in the CD Drive. If auto run is enabled, the title and search box would appear. Otherwise one will have to run the program Rattan.exe. Enter the keywords to be searched in the search box and click on SEARCH, then result will be displayed

Search Strategy in CD

The search can be done by giving the title, name of the author, title keywords and year. We can do search by single word or multiple words. For example, for searching rattan cultivation just type rattan cultivation and press enter key. Single author search and combination of authors also can be searched. It is also possible to know how many articles are there by an author. One has to click to PDF shown at the bottom of each search output to go to full text.

KFRI Library Portal

Fig.2 Worksheet of KFRI Portal

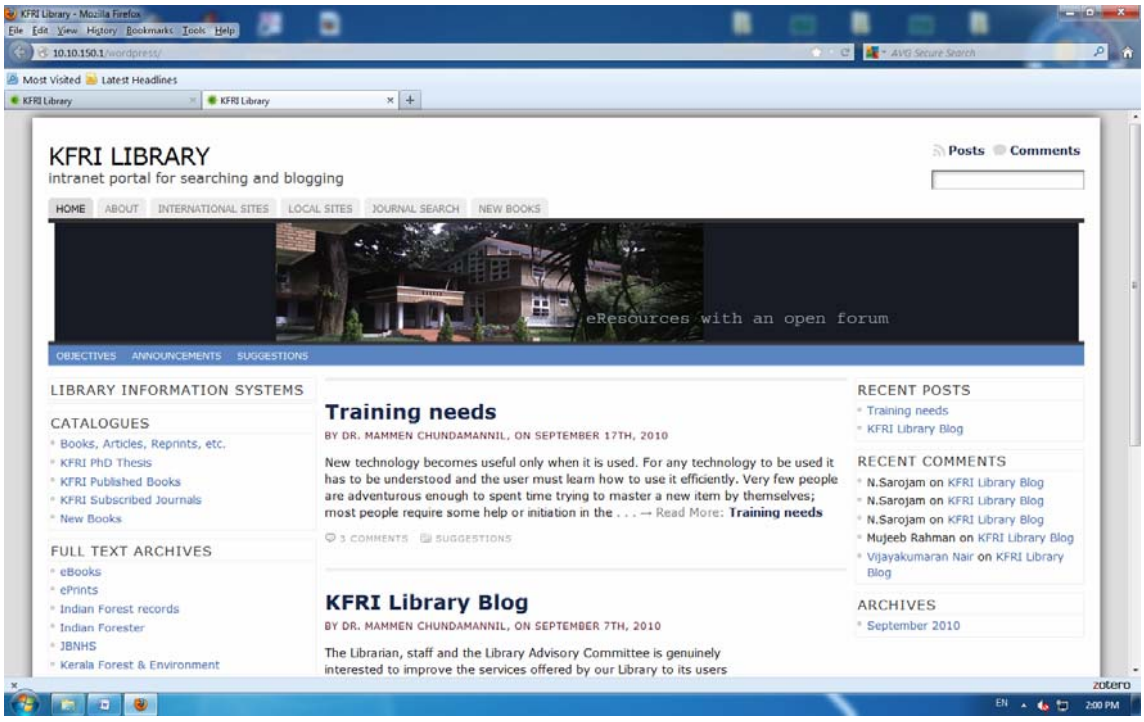
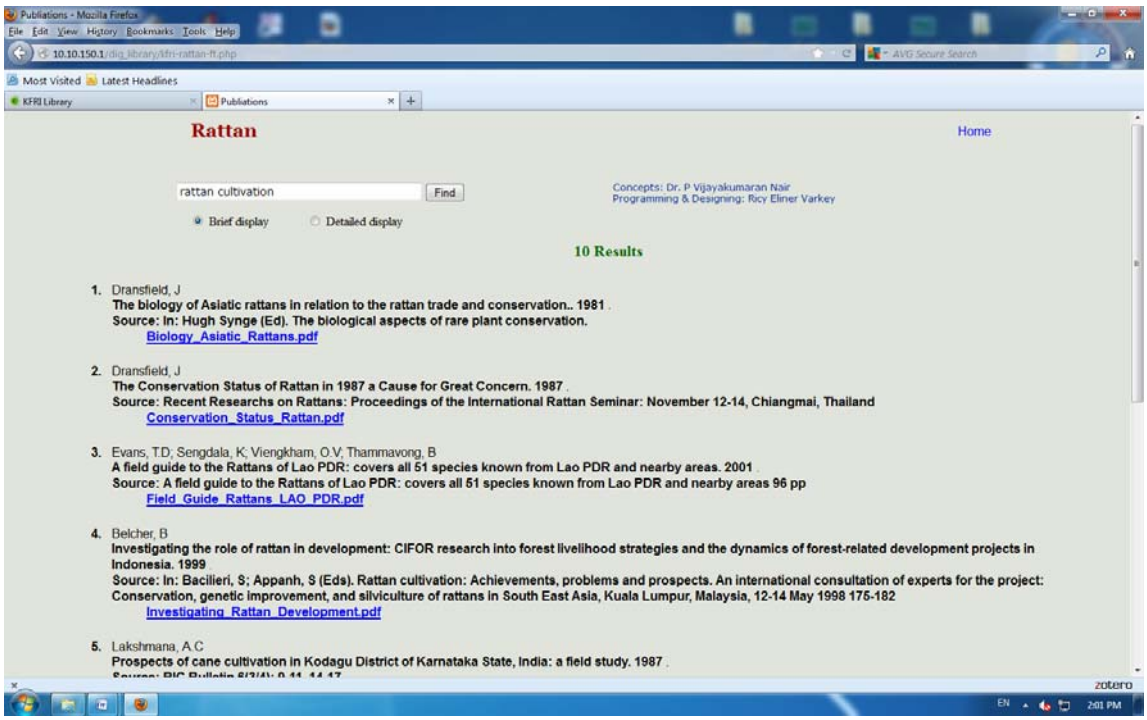


Fig 3. Display format



Conclusion

Annotated bibliography on rattans of the world prepared with 1406 references and brought out in a CD which can be searched by author, title, keywords and year. 68 books, 14 KFRI research reports, 90 KFRI scientific papers and 170 reprints on rattan are digitzed and made available in KFRI library portal (Fig. 2). Digitized books and reprints are available in KFRI library portal in the folder rattan under the heading full text of archives. KFRI Research Reports and Scinetific Papers on rattan available in the folders KFRI Research Reports and KFRI Scientific Papers which can be searched by author, title, keywords and year.

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