

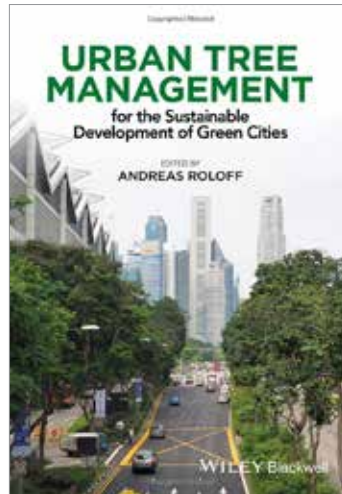
Urban Tree Management for the Sustainable Development of Green Cities

Edited by Andreas Roloff

Wiley Blackwell. 2016

274 pages. Paperback. ISBN: 978-1-118-95458-4

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This book is edited by Andreas Roloff, Chair of Forest Botany, Dresden University of Technology, but contains contributions by 15 other (all German) professionals. It is an ambitious book in that it attempts to cover all aspects of urban tree management. In that context and for those readers who may contemplate purchasing this book, it is worth listing these chapters. They are as follows:

1. Intro: Urban Trees – Importance, benefits, problems.
2. Urban Trees: Features and requirements.
3. Fundamentals of tree biology for urban trees.
4. Urban tree roots: Problems and peculiarities.
5. Drought stress: Adaption strategies.
6. Aspects of urban tree pathology.
7. Vitality assessment, tree architecture.
8. Body language of trees, tree diagnostics.

9. Tree inventory, risk assessment and management.
10. Tree preservation, maintenance and repair.
11. Tree pruning: Methods and parameters.
12. Transplanting large trees.
13. Dust and noise reduction.
14. Invasive species, indigenous vs. alien dendroflora.
15. Criteria for species selection: Development of a database for urban trees.
16. Genetic aspects.
17. Governance in urban forestry.
18. Allotment gardens and privately managed green space in urban environment.
19. Urban woods for relaxation and inspiration.
20. Acceptance for urban trees: Environmental education programmes.

Urban tree management is going to be fundamental to ensure that the cities of the future can be green ones. *Urban Tree Management* aims to raise awareness of the positive impacts and benefits of city trees and for their importance to city dwellers. It describes their advantages and describes their effects on the quality of urban life and well-being? In an age of increasing world-wide urbanisation, such aspects are becoming ever more important than ever before.

Does this book live up to its ambitious contents? In general it does and the list of references, particularly the many in English for this audience are very useful sources for further reading. With such broad coverage, not all subjects get extensive, highly detailed treatment, however, there is sufficient material to provide a solid foundation for each area discussed. Given that the editor and all the contributors all live and work in Germany, it is not surprising that the source material is all European.

This book is also extremely well illustrated with colour photographs and diagrams.

Anybody interested in or working with urban trees (the book is aimed at a wide variety of professions like arborists and arboriculturists, horticulturists, plant scientists, forestry scientists, city planners, parks department specialists and landscape architects) will find the book extremely useful, but may want to supplement it with books specialising in the many subjects covered in the 20 chapters.

Overall this is a very good book, an excellent general treatment of the subject, and is recommended to readers.

Kevin Hutchinson