

ex Wendl). In the present report the flowering of bamboos in recent years and also the occurrence of flowering which were not reported earlier have been incorporated. The report is based on the information available to us and from the specimens housed in the herbarium of Forest Research Institute, Chittagong. The informations are given in Table 1.

## REFERENCES

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## NEW FORMULATION OF A 'BBC' PRESERVATIVE

Copper salts, borax and boric acid individually provide good to excellent protection to wood against fungal and insect attack. A new formulation has been developed at the Forest Research Institute, Chittagong, Bangladesh with borax, boric acid and copper sulphate (BBC) in mixture. Immediate precipitation of copper borate occurs when borax is added to a clear solution of copper sulphate and boric acid in mixture. The precipitate dissolves in ammonium hydroxide and an intense blue solution is obtained. On vaporization of ammonia from the solution copper borate is reprecipitated.

This formulation has three distinct advantages over other water-borne-preservatives :

1. This is well adapted to Boucherie process of preservative treatment of wood because the blue colour of the solution makes it easy to determine when treatment is complete.
2. Ammonia vaporizes rapidly from the treated wood and deposits salts in the wood ultrastructure.
3. Because the salts deposited in the wood are insoluble in water, it does not need any further addition of expensive leach-resistant fixing agents.

Moreover, all the components are locally available and comparatively inexpensive. Further work on various aspects of preparation and efficacy of the preservative is in progress.

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