

Editor's Note

It is with great pleasure that I write the editorial note for this volume, which is special in several ways. The first contribution is always a landmark for a new editor, but more important is the number of novelties related to this volume. One of the most welcome ones is that the page fee for publishing with the International Journal of Forest Engineering (IJFE) has been removed—in the future, the journal will rely only on income from subscriptions. For readers, the major novelty might be that articles are published online as “in press” as soon as they are made final. Thus, the research will be available faster. Moreover, as a compromise between cutting costs and providing desired service, IJFE will be printed once a year, collecting all numbers in a single publication.

During 2012, IJFE formally broadened its scope to encompass all categories of forest management (such as short and long rotation; uneven-aged and even-aged) and all uses of the forest biomass (for example, lumber, pulp and paper, energy). This opened up collaboration with the Journal of Forest Energy (JFE), which joined IJFE instead of fully launching solo. The benefits of this teaming are mutual: The scope of JFE will be covered without the difficulties and uncertainties of establishing a new journal, and IJFE will have a much welcome network of additional expertise within the area of forest biomass for energy.

The partnership means that a number of manuscripts have been transferred to IJFE. As you will see, the transferred manuscripts fill out the full 23rd volume of IJFE. To have a complete volume of transferred articles enables IJFE to build up a healthy backlog, which will ascertain timely publishing going forward. As a part of the arrangement with JFE, the transferred articles will be open access. However, in the future, subscriptions will be required to access IJFE articles, unless authors choose to pay a publishing fee to make their articles permanently available for free online.

First out in 2012 is a special issue from the workshop ‘Sustainability Across the Supply Chain of Land-Based Biomass’ held 1-4 June 2010 in Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada. The second number contains articles originally submitted to JFE and has therefore, a clear bioenergy theme. The articles are all very interesting and warmly welcome, and they firmly manifest the broadened scope of IJFE.

However, future submissions should focus on the stated IJFE scope, which is somewhat more narrow than what is published in this volume. Moreover, this volume contains one technical note, which in the future will be used very restrictively.

I will also take the opportunity to thank my predecessor, Cornelis F. ‘Niels’ de Hoop, for his great job and for the support in practicalities, and of my ideas. I wish Niels all the best of luck in his future endeavors, especially as board member and upcoming president of the Forest Products Society (FPS). I also appreciate the support of my suggested and realized changes for IJFE from FPS in general, and from Executive Vice President Stefan Bergmann in particular. With a strengthened position on the forest engineering side, FPS will have the capacity to provide full member services all across the production spectrum, from raw material to end product.

In the first number of 2013 (if not earlier via other sources), you will hear more about exciting changes—collaboration with the well-renowned scientific publisher Taylor & Francis Group!

Ola Lindroos
Editor