

Acknowledgements

This book has been five years in the making, off and on, and was inspired by our diverse experiences of producing field guides before that, which led to the idea of a manual based on actual experience, tested and documented through a logical process with the users. It has been a collaboration between two research projects, and we thank John Palmer, manager of the Forestry Research Programme, for bringing us together, and Katelijne van Rothschild, senior administrator, who has constantly supported and encouraged us.

For encouragement and the opportunity to publish this within the People and Plants Initiative series, we thank Alan Hamilton, Anthony Cunningham and Susanne Schmitt, and for initial guidance and direction, we thank Steve Tilling (Field Studies Council), Sandra Knapp (Natural History Museum), Gwilym Lewis and Simon Mayo (both of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew).

Thanks from Anna Lawrence go in particular to Bob Allkin of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (and based in Brazil during the time of the project), who helped to create the project and provided much energy and input to debates and team-building. Thanks, also, to Frans Pareyn of the Plantas do Nordeste Programme, Brazil; Carlos Eduardo Leite of Serviço de Assessoria às Organizações Populares Rurais (SASOP); Luciano Queiroz of the University of Feira de Santana; and Pierre Ibisch of the Fundación Amigos de la Naturaleza for their advice and support to the research teams in Brazil and Bolivia. The members of those research teams are co-authors of some of the chapters; but the whole process relies on their actions, reflections and communication, all of which have been part of a profound and rewarding learning experience for which I am particularly grateful. In the UK, Karen Jarvis helped to organize material at an early stage when it all seemed rather confusing, and Mark Temple contributed elegant translations as I sought to incorporate documents arriving in Spanish and Portuguese.

Acknowledgements from William Hawthorne: apart from our project staff, who are listed as authors of some chapters, thanks go to Stuart Cable, Rosemary Wise and, in particular, Colin Hughes, who was initially in charge of the project and worked briefly in Mexico with the Sociedad para el Estudio de Recursos Bióticos de Oaxaca (SERBO), before leaving to monograph lupins, whereupon William Hawthorne has since managed the project. Thanks also to Stephen Harris, curator of the Oxford University herbaria, and Alison Strugnell for keeping the herbarium in order. Our main collaborators in Grenada have been Alan Joseph (chief forest officer), and with the fieldwork and interviews, Dean Jules and Alban Clarke (forestry co-workers).

In Ghana, we were greatly assisted by Abu Juam Musah (Ministry of Lands Biodiversity Unit and Northern Savanna Biodiversity Project), Ntim Gyakari (curator of the Kumasi Forest Herbarium), Patrick Ekpe (curator of the Legon Herbarium), and Nana Adjoa, Agatha Rockson, Leitia Owusu and other field assistants. We are grateful

to the Ghana Forestry Commission; Forestry Resource Management Service Centre, Kumasi; the Ghana Game and Wildlife Department, especially their European Union-supported Protected Areas Development Project; the Botany Department of the University of Ghana, Legon; and to Andreas Brede (manager of the Oda-Kotoamso Agroforestry Project, Ghana, and of Samartex Ltd, Samreboi). In Cameroon, our main collaborators have been the staff of Limbe Botanic Garden, and thanks go especially to Nouhou Ndam, Rita Lysinge and Elias Ndivé. We also thank approximately 1500 respondents who took part in our interviews and field trials.