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This issue sees the light when social conditions in Mexico are becoming too worrisome. The violence in certain regions has caused a great consternation in society and has led to a large number of social manifestations, both in the sense of marches and sit-ins as in the sense of social networks. It is really a situation like there have been few times in Mexico. The only light of inspiration is that all sectors of society have shown great solidarity with those affected by the violence, the students of teacher's schools primarily, and have left their voice be heard with great clarity and firmness, but in a peaceful manner. Hopefully, this kind of expressions will allow that the social fabric of the country gets recomposed gradually and recovers the peaceful state that not too long ago was enjoyed in Mexico. Not everything is bad news, fortunately, and in the field of science and technology, the head of the Federal Executive Branch of the Government, the President of the Republic, has announced significant increases to the investment in this field, which if fully complied, portends better times for the nation, as it is well known the importance that scientific and technological development has in the well-being of the countries.

In this issue we have included twelve works of great importance and technical quality. The first is about the transformation of biomass into second-generation biofuels by Faba, Díaz and Ordóñez. This work aims to make a review of the possibilities for second-generation biofuels using hydrolytic chemical process. The second manuscript refers to the environmental importance of coffee agroecosystems under shadow in the central mountainous region of the State of Veracruz, Mexico with the authorship of Ruelas-Monjardín, Tablada-Nava, Cervantes and Barradas. The objective of this study was to identify the perception of the producers about the importance of growing coffee under shade in the provision of environmental services and if this affects their willingness to conserve it. The results show changes in regional climate, as well as the identification of the main environmental benefits of coffee plantations by the producers. The third text refers to the response of predators and pine beetles to semiochemicals in the South of Mexico, by Macías-Sámamo, Rivera-Granados, Jones, and Ibarra. This work documents the attraction in field of beetles (Coleoptera: Curculionidae, Scolytinae) of pine and their predators, by multi-funnel traps baited with commercial formulations. The different responses of the trapped insects are discussed in the light of similar works, emphasizing variations found in bark beetle-predator guilds and the response to semiochemicals between the populations of the United States and the south of Mexico.

The fourth article deals with the evaluation of particleboard made with wood of *Toona ciliata* produced with different densities and levels of resin, by Trianoski, Iwakiri, and Matos. The results indicate that all treatments met the minimum requirements established by the standards of reference. Panels produced with least amount of raw material, in addition to complying with statutory requirements, indicated an economy of up to 23.7% in quantities of particles, of to 42.8% on quantities of resin and catalyst, when compared with the other treatments. The fifth manuscript concerns the defibration of wood obtained from the saltpeter offices of Humberstone and Santa Laura in Chile, a World Heritage Site by Ortiz and Blanchette. This work consists in a description and assessment of the damage observed in facilities belonging to both offices. The results determined that evidenced deterioration is chemical product type of the accumulation of salts in the woods, and whose effect is associated with degradation of the highly lignified middle lamella in wood of species of *Pseudotsuga menziesii* and *Nothofagus obliqua*. The sixth work refers to the wood anatomy of twelve species of mountain cloud forest (MCF) from Tamaulipas, Mexico, by Aguilar-Alcántara, Aguilar-Rodríguez and Terrazas. In this work the anatomical description of the wood of 12 species of the MCF, was made, with specimens coming from the reserve of the

biosphere 'El Cielo', Tamaulipas, which corresponds to the more northern of Mexico. The results show a trend to the presence of evident growth rings; this character seems to be related to the geographical position of the MCF. The authors discussed the possible meaning of the presence of rings growth and compared some anatomical characters of the species with their affinity groups at the level of genus and family. The next paper also deals with the subject matter of plant anatomy, in this case the culms of bamboo (*Bamboo aculeata* Rupr.) of the northeastern region of the State of Puebla, Mexico. The work of Zaragoza-Hernández, Borja de la Rosa, Zamudio-Sánchez, Ordóñez-Candelaria and Bárcenas-Pazos had the objective of knowing the proportion of the anatomical structures that compose the culm and the dimensions of the fibers, to contribute to the knowledge of the species. The following work addresses the development of pellets from three woody species under Mediterranean conditions by Fernández-Puratich, Oliver-Villanueva, Valiente, Verdú and Albert. The objective of this work consisted in determining the suitability of three tree species as solid biofuel. The main results show that the biomass of each studied species is suitable for energy use as solid biofuel, with the exception of the wood of orange tree that has some limitations for the manufacture of pellets. The ninth manuscript presents the theme of the elastic behaviour of the wood of *Acer rubrum* and *Abies balsamea*, two Canadian woods, by Hernandez Maldonado and Sotomayor-Castellanos. From the characteristics obtained empirically, the authors analyzed the properties and orthotropy relationships of the matrix of elastic constants of general elastic model. The experimental values of the elastic characteristics of the wood studied are comparable to values corresponding to these woods determined in other studies.

The tenth manuscript deals with the topic of the histochemistry, total phenolics and antioxidant activity of leaf and wood content of *Litsea glaucescens* Kunth (Lauraceae) by Tapia-Torres, De la Paz-Pérez-Olvera, Quintanar-Isaías, Román-Guerrero, García-Márquez and Cruz-Sosa. In the study, histochemical techniques were used to locate the presence of phenolic compounds such as lignin and tannins as well as lipid and non-structural carbohydrate in leaf and wood cuttings. According to the results obtained, it is possible to establish a relationship between the content and the distribution of phenolic compounds in plant tissues and its antioxidant activity with use potential in traditional medicine. The next article, called "Climate sensibility of three dendro-chronological indexes for a Mexican conifer " by Pompa-García, Dávalos-Sotelo, Rodríguez-Téllez, Aguirre-Calderón and Treviño-Garza had the objective of comparing the climate sensitivity of three dendrochronological series of *Pinus cooperi*: standard (Sd), Residual (Rd), and Arstan (Ar). It is concluded that proper selection of the version of the dendrochronological series is important in interpretations of climate scenarios. The final work is a scientific note on the dimensional analysis to determine volume and weight of wood of mesquite (*Prosopis* L.) by Hernández-Herrera, Valenzuela-Núñez, Flores-Hernández and Ríos-Saucedo. This work generated a table of volume in m<sup>3</sup> and weight of wood at the level of land that can be used in the area of influence.

We are confident that these articles will fill an important part of technical information that is still lacking in Latin America and Spain about the characteristics and properties of the forest resources of the region and of the products that are manufactured from these resources. With this important contribution, *Madera y Bosques* journal accomplishes its task of disseminating scientific information among Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries with founded hope that is useful to readers.

Raymundo Dávalos Sotelo  
Editor