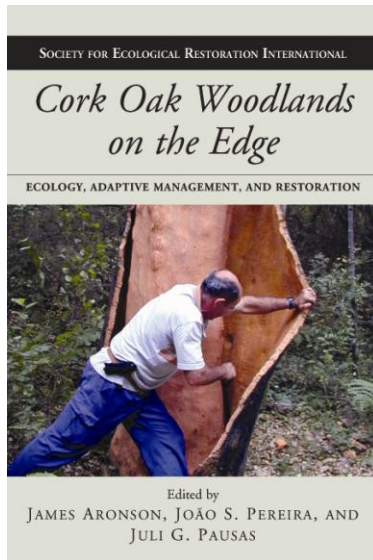




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

Cork Oak Woodlands on the Edge: Ecology, Adaptive Management, and Restoration

Edited by James Aronson, João S. Pereira, and Juli G. Pausas

“This book brings together the best of the ecological and social sciences to assess the condition of an iconic ecosystem of the western Mediterranean world, with results as useful and beautiful as the cork oak itself.”

- J. R. McNeill, author of the bestselling *Something New Under the Sun*

“Cork oak forests have coevolved with human societies for thousands of years; they support the livelihoods of millions of people and are a key component of treasured Mediterranean landscapes, but the pressures on these forests have never been greater.”

- Jeffrey Sayer, senior science advisor to the IUCN

Washington, DC (April 2009) — Natural cork comes from the bark of the cork oak, one of the most extraordinary trees on Earth. *Cork Oak Woodlands on the Edge*, edited by James Aronson, João S. Pereira, and Juli G. Pausas, is the first overview of the ecology, biogeography, and genetics of cork oak, including its current economic context and implications, and the natural, semi-natural, and cultural restoration and active management prospects for cork oak woodland ecosystems. The book provides a synthesis of the most up-to-date scientific and practical information on the restoration and management of cork oak woodlands and the cultural systems that depend on it, including Spanish *dehesas* and the Portuguese *montados*.

Cork Oak Woodlands on the Edge:

- considers ecological, genetic, economic, and historical perspectives surrounding cork oak trees, cork oak woodlands, and cork-based products;
- presents cost-benefit analyses of cork oak woodlands and the commerce of cork products;

- offers specific science-guided techniques for the practice of restoring cork oak woodlands;
- examines challenges for the future, including ecoregional planning options, threats posed by climate and land-use changes, and modeling techniques that can help guide decision making;
- explores cork oak woodlands across a range of biophysical, historical, and cultural contexts in 10 site profiles by local experts, with 16 pages of full-color photos that illustrate the tree, agro-silvopastoral systems, products, resident biodiversity, and more.

Cork Oak Woodlands on the Edge is an important book for anyone interested in the future of cork oak woodlands, or in the management of cultural landscapes and their associated land-use systems. In a changing world full of risks and surprises, it represents an excellent example of a multidisciplinary and holistic approach to studying, managing, and restoring an ecosystem, and will serve as a guide for other studies of this kind.

Cork Oak Woodlands on the Edge is the newest volume in The Science and Practice of Ecological Restoration series, published by Island Press in collaboration with the Society for Ecological Restoration International. The series offers a foundation of practical knowledge and scientific insight that will help ecological restoration become the powerful reparative and healing tool that the world needs. To learn more about the series and to download the free SER Restoration Reader, please visit: <http://www.islandpress.org/ser/index.html>

Island Press was established in 1984 to stimulate, shape, and communicate the ideas that are essential for solving environmental problems. Publishing approximately 40 books and other information tools a year, we use a multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed approach that brings practical solutions to complex challenges like climate change, the depletion of our oceans, sustainable energy and agriculture, and species extinction. A nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, Island Press publishes for scientists, policy makers, environmental practitioners, students, journalists, and the general public. Island Press – Solutions that inspire change.

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