

types and models of consortia, pricing models, licensing aspect, skills required for price and access negotiation, technology requirement to make consortia happen and digital preservation of consortia content.

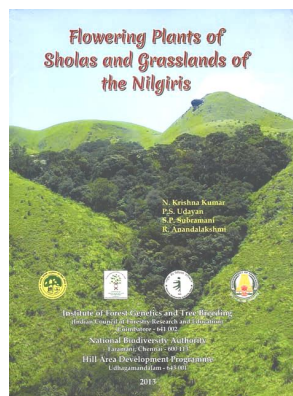
As the title of the book suggests, it deals with e-journals, their objectives and consortia in the electronic age. Consortia have become a reality only because of e-journals. This has been addressed precisely in the book. Copyright and licensing are the other sensitive issues associated with any consortia. Library professionals need to be well informed about these aspects, before entering into any consortia. The book has enough material for beginners. Negotiation is a skill which needs to be developed. This skill helps in bringing down the cost and enhanced content access. This is yet another area which is not addressed much in library science literature and this book throws light on this aspect.

In the last 25 years, India has seen many consortia. The book discusses elaborately the 17 major Indian initiatives giving information about background, participating libraries, core programme, reasons for formation, funding and governance, and thus acts as a ready reckoner.

The only negative aspect of this book is too many fragmentations, which may be ignored keeping in view the rich content of the book. Target audience could be library professionals, consortia administrators, students of library science, policy makers, etc. This is an excellent addition to the existing library science literature and can be a good reference tool to library consortia in the country. I congratulate the author for articulating his knowledge and ideas in the form of a book, which can be of use to the library science fraternity.

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Flowering Plants of Sholas and Grasslands of the Nilgiris. N. Krishna Kumar, P. S. Udayan, S. P. Subramani and R. Anandalakshmi, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, P.B. No. 1061, Coimbatore 641 002, India. 2013. 575 pp. Price: £40.99.

The Nilgiris District is an important floristic region of the Western Ghats. It is one of the most explored regions of the Western Ghats, but yet incompletely studied. One of the most comprehensive studies on the plants of the Nilgiris is by B. D. Sharma and his team in 1975, which enumerates 2769 plants from the entire district. However, several new species have been described from the Nilgiris in the last three decades.



Strobilanthes foliosus (Wight) Anders.

The book under review has compiled 641 taxa. The term 'shola' needs a critical definition. As I understand from the photographs provided in the book this term is used in a broader sense that includes patches of evergreen forests. The term 'solai' (in Tamil) used to denote dense evergreen patches, has always been misinterpreted as equivalent to the shola forests, which are of distinct climax vegetation type. This ambiguity in the concept is also employed by K. M. Matthew in his *Flora of Tamil Nadu Carnatic*. Shola forests are characterized by stunted nature of vegetation, restricted to the slopes and interspersed by rolling grasslands. Inclusion of plant species such as *Embelia ribes*, *Agapanthus africanus* and *Wattakaka volubilis*, is the result of confusion between shola and solai.

Baring this conceptual ambiguity, the book serves as a good reference volume for all those who are interested in knowing the plant wealth of sholas and grasslands. The book provides keys for identification, nomenclature and detailed description. It also provides good field notes, uses and citation to the specimens referred. The photo plates are helpful to the users, though the quality of images could have been better. The identification of some of the photographs is incorrect. For example, *Andrographis producta* is wrongly labelled as *A. alata* and *A. lawsonii* is wrongly labelled as *A. lobeloides*. Some of the herbarium sheets given in the plates could have been avoided, as there is no clarity in the photographs. The book could have served a wider audience, if it had been brought out as pictorial flora.

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