Agroforestry in the Pacific Islands: Systems for Sustainability
The replacement of forest with human domesticates figures as one of the most ancient relationships between humanity and the environment. What is new is the rate and scale at which forests are being cleared to make way for agriculture. With the possibility looming of a total loss of tropical forests, there is now a lively interest in making the place where farming and forests meet more harmonious. Agroforestry - which, simply expressed, might be understood to refer to farming with trees rather than without - represents a powerful harmonizer between the two competitors. This book describes the diverse traditional agroforestry systems that have evolved over thousands of years in the Pacific islands. Based on extensive field observations and a wide range of published sources, this study of the agroforestry systems and their hundreds of component trees - including detailed data on 100 of the most useful trees in the Pacific - of Polynesia, Micronesia and Melanesia shows how these systems and their component trees have contributed environmental stability and profound utilitarian value to Pacific Island societies for millennia and thus argues convincingly for the wisdom of protecting and using the existing systems and trees in current forestry, agricultural, and agroforestry development projects, rather than replacing them with introduced systems and plants or allowing them to deteriorate because of commercial pressures or ignorance. As the most comprehensive single source on agroforestry to date, this book will be a must for scholars as well as development agents, planners, aid officials, and foresters.

It describes the diverse traditional agroforestry systems that have evolved over thousands of years in the Pacific Islands and shows how these systems have contributed to environmental stability.
There are five basic types of agroforestry practices today in the US: windbreaks, alley cropping, silvopasture, riparian buffers and forest farming. Multilayer forest gardens are another common tropical agroforestry practice in the Pacific. They combine a permanent overstory of tall trees, a lower canopy of fruit and multipurpose trees, and an understory of shrubs and herbaceous plants to produce a variety of products for subsistence and sale. Agroforestry and Farm Management. It describes the diverse traditional agroforestry systems that have evolved over thousands of years in the Pacific Islands and shows how these systems have contributed to environmental stability. Book Ordering Information: Sales Number: E.93.III.A.5 ISBN: 9280808249 Pages: 308pp. Price: $25.00.

Agroforestry systems in the Pacific Islands  14 Box 4 Certified organic agriculture in the Pacific Islands.17 Box 5 Integrated farming systems for sustainability This document is the result of a fruitful partnership over many years among FAO, CBD, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), geared towards promoting a sustainable ecosystem-based approach to agriculture in the Pacific Islands. Pacific Islands. Literature Cited & Notes. I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. AFTA defines agroforestry as an intensive land management system that optimizes the benefits from the biological interactions created when trees and/or shrubs are deliberately combined with crops and/or livestock. There are five basic types of agroforestry practices today in the US: windbreaks, alley cropping, silvopasture, riparian buffers and forest farming. Multilayer forest gardens are another common tropical agroforestry practice in the Pacific. They combine a permanent overstory of tall trees, a lower canopy of fruit and multipurpose trees, and an understory of shrubs and herbaceous plants to produce a variety of products for subsistence and sale. Agroforestry and Farm Management.