

Identification of the important Japanese woods
by anatomical characters : supplement to the
Anatomical characters and identification of
Formosan woods etc.

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INTRODUCTION.

There are a number of works on the anatomy of the gymnospermous woods of Japan, such as those by Dr. Y. NAKAMURA, Mr. M. FUJIOKA, Mr. I. IWAKI and Dr. D. P. PENHALLOW, but very little has been done on the dicotyledonous woods, beyond the work of Professor S. KAWAI; this last work is, however, based only on the features which are visible to the unaided eye, or with the aid of a simple lens.

The available supply of the standard woods, has much decreased within the past few years; this explains the more and more extensive use of substitute woods, which were formerly considered worthless. It is, therefore, very important to be able to identify all the woods more accurately, by those points of their structure upon which the distinction is based.

In this work, Part I deals with the physical properties and anatomical characters in each species, these being arranged in the order of BENTHAM and HOOKER's system; in Part II is attempted an anatomical synopsis of the woods described in Part I.

The material used in this work was obtained mostly from the Forest Experiment Station attached to the Bureau of Forestry, Department of Agriculture and Commerce; it comprises 38 families, 104 genera and 181 species, mostly from Japan proper, though a very few came from Saghalien and Hokkaido. It does not embrace all of the economic woods of Japan; some omissions will be noted but very few genera are excluded which play important rôles from the economic point of view.

The method of making preparations was the same as that followed in connection with the study of Formosan woods.

In conclusion, the author desires to acknowledge his indebtedness to Messrs. S. FUJISAKI, K. NAGAYAMA, S. SASAKI and ŌZUIWA for assistance in this work.