

## **TO THE READERS**

Starting with the next issue, the Journal of Forest Economics will have a new publisher. Urban & Fischer Verlag in Jena, Germany, will from then on assume all responsibilities concerning production, promotion, sales and distribution of the journal. This will not lead to any changes in editorial responsibilities or policy. All conditions concerning ownership of the Journal, appointment and independence of editorial board, review and publication policy will remain the same.

The editorial board heartily welcomes the change and looks forward to the cooperation with Urban & Fischer. We are convinced that leaving the production and distribution to a respectable and professional publishing company will have two main advantages. First, it will lead to increased circulation of the Journal so that our articles will be more frequently cited both by scientists and in citation publications. Secondly, it will mean that the editorial board can concentrate more on the content of the journal, making it more interesting for the readers and for the whole scientific community.

For the readers, the change of publisher will mean that questions concerning subscription and deliveries of the journal will be handled by Urban & Fischer Verlag. We also want to announce that our publication schedule will change slightly from next year: from then on publication will be in April, August and December. Eventually we will extend our publication to four issues per year from 2004.

For the contributors, the new order will lead to some minor changes in our routines. The editorial policy will not change, but having Urban & Fischer as publisher means that the board can allocate more time to the content of the journal. This will enable us for instance to organise conferences on special topics and produce special issues on interesting and current questions in forest economics and policy.

The editorial board is convinced that the cooperation with Urban & Fischer will increase the quality and scientific reputation of the Journal of Forest Economics and that readers, authors and the whole scientific community will benefit from this agreement.

Sören Wibe, editor