

# Brief CV / Personal data

**Zürcher Ernst**, Prof. Dr.

Formation as Forestry Engineer at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zürich (ETH-Zürich). Dr. in Natural Sciences at the same institute (thesis on tree morphology and wood anatomy). Research activities on tree vitality, spiral grain and chronobiology (rhythms in tree growth and wood properties). Project leader of the Swiss Development Cooperation with 4 years activity in Africa / Rwanda (different research projects based on a national research institute, dealing with natural forest dynamics, plantation silviculture, agroforestry and seed technology).

Since 2001: Professor and Researcher at the Berner Fachhochschule / University of Applied Science, School of Architecture, Civil and Wood Engineering AHB - Division of Wood Engineering in Biel (Switzerland). Research projects on temperate and tropical wood biology, anatomy, physics and technology, natural wood protection and on the role of felling date on wood properties.

Since 2008 invited lecturer in Wood Science at EPFL (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne, Master degree Section Materials Science and Engineering).

Since 2011 invited lecturer in Wood Science at ETHZ (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zürich, Master degree Section Environmental Sciences).

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## Main publications:

Zürcher, E., Cantiani, M.-G., Sorbetti-Guerri, F. and Michel, D. (1998): Tree stem diameters fluctuate with tide. *Nature* (392):665-666.

Zürcher, E., Schlaepfer, R. (2014): Lunar Rhythmicities in the Biology of Trees, Especially in the Germination of European Spruce (*Picea abies* Karst.): A New Statistical Analysis of Previously Published Data. *Journal of Plant Studies*, Vol. 3, No.1, 2014: 103 – 113.

Zürcher, E. (2014): *Trees in the Mystery of Space and Time - an Essay*. *Elemente der Naturwissenschaft* Nr. 101, 2014.

Zürcher E., Ruiz J.-P., Ruiz D. (2013): « Les Arbres dans le Mystère de l'Espace et du Temps ». Livre d'artiste, Editions Ruiz, 33 p. Saint Aulaire (France).

Zürcher, E., Schlaepfer, R., Conedera, M., Giudici, F. (2010): Looking for differences in wood properties as a function of the felling date: lunar phase-correlated

variations in the drying behavior of Norway Spruce (*Picea abies* Karst.) and Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa* Mill.). *TREES – Structure and Function* (2010) 24: 31-41.

Zürcher, E. (2008): *Les Plantes et la Lune – Traditions et Phénomènes*. Chap. 13 in : *Aux Origines des Plantes – Des plantes anciennes à la botanique du XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle*. (F. Hallé éd.). Fayard, Paris., p. 389 – 411.

Oteng-Amoako, A. (ed.) and Zürcher, E. (2003): *100 Tropical African Timber Trees from Ghana . Tree description and Wood identification, with Notes on Distribution, Ecology, Silviculture, Ethnobotany and Wood Uses*. ITTO / FORIG, Kumasi, Ghana. 304 p.

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Zürcher, E. (2016): *Les Arbres et leurs secrets - entre le visible et l'invisible : s'étonner, comprendre, agir*. Actes Sud, Arles (282 p.).

Zürcher, E. (2016): *Die Bäume und das Unsichtbare - Erstaunliche Erkenntnisse aus der Forschung*. AT-Verlag, Aarau und München (240 p.).

