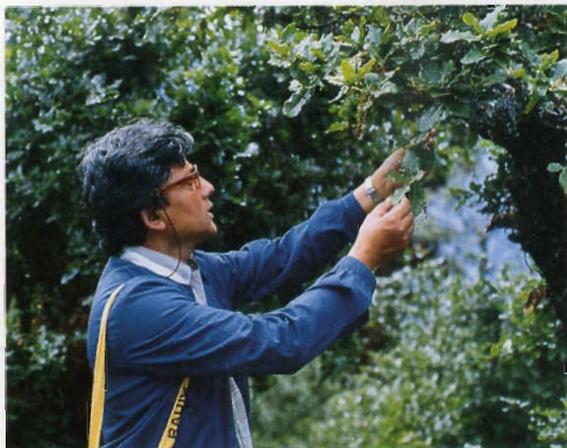


## The Author



Tirtha Bahadur Shrestha is a plant ecologist who has spent over 25 years in plant collection and botanical research in the Nepal Himalaya. He has a doctorate degree in applied ecology from the Grenoble University in France where he presented a thesis on the ecology, biogeography and cartography of North-West Nepal (Jumla-Saipal region). Prior to that he spent well over one year at the British Museum (Natural History) and at the Kew Herbarium in London studying Himalayan plants.

Dr. Shrestha is a member of the Royal Nepal Academy where he is responsible for promoting the growth of science in Nepal and for integrating scientific knowledge with Nepali language, literature, arts, culture and various other branches of knowledge and learning. His working base in botany and ecology is in the Department of Forestry and Plant Research (previously Department of Medicinal Plants), Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

Dr. Shrestha is the first recipient of the Senior Research Fellowship of ICIMOD and he has been keenly interested in ecological problems and developmental prospects of the Arun River Basin in eastern Nepal. Besides, he has been actively engaged in various endeavours of nature conservation in Nepal.