

IUFRO Unit 1.03.01 on Traditional Coppice

Unit 1.03.01 “Traditional Coppice: ecology, silviculture and socio-economic aspects” of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) was founded as a direct result of COST Action FP1301 EuroCoppice and will ensure that international scientific efforts on traditional coppice will continue to have a platform for exchange and cooperation. The Unit was officially established in October 2016; information is available on the IUFRO website under: <https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-1/10000/10300/10301/>

Broadening the European focus of the COST Action, this Unit is world-wide in scope and welcomes researchers from all areas of the globe working on traditional coppice.

If you are interested in joining the Unit please contact the Coordinator:

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Unit Description

The principle of coppicing is the ability of many woody plants (trees and shrubs) to regrow from cut or damaged stems or roots. Since prehistoric times, man has taken advantage of this characteristic to utilise woodlands and their products. In many regions, different and elaborate forms of coppice management have evolved over centuries, designed to produce specific resources from coppice systems of selected species cut on strict rotation cycles.

This Unit addresses all aspects related to this specific management of coppice, including ecology, silviculture, management, utilisation, landscape, ecosystem services, supply chain development, greening traditional value chains and further socio-economic issues. It aims to identify common principles and analyse specific regional differences of coppice regimes and to derive strategies for the future sustainable management of this type of forest.

There is a separate IUFRO Unit for industrial short rotation coppice plantations (1.03.00 Short-rotation forestry), with which cooperation has been established.

Scientific Session at IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress

The Unit’s first event, co-organised by EuroCoppice, was Session 82 a and b “Traditional Coppice: Ecology, Silviculture and Socio-economic Aspects” at the IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress, held in Freiburg, Germany from September 18th to 22nd, 2017 (www.iufro2017.com). There were 13 presentations in total, 10 of which were by EuroCoppice members, while three of five posters were also presented by EuroCoppice members. Over 60 persons attended the Traditional Coppice Session and EuroCoppice dissemination material was available to the 2000 researchers attending the Congress.

<http://www.eurocoppice.uni-freiburg.de/publications-folder/conferences/iufro-2017>

COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

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The articles in this volume were developed within the context of COST Action FP1301 EuroCoppice (2013-2017). Numerous contributions were published as single, independent booklets during the course of the Action; they were subsequently reviewed and updated for this volume. A digital version of this volume, further results and more are available on the website: www.eurocoppice.uni-freiburg.de

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Coppice image acknowledgements: Simple coppice (grey) based on a drawing by João Carvalho (pp. 46); Leaf vector originals designed by www.freepik.com (modified)

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