

POLAND

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Background info

- Forest management in Poland: based on stands of seed origin (*high forest system*).
- Coppices: considered a *lower important forest management type*, because Polish forestry and wood sector are focused mostly on high quality timber production.
- Coppices are connected with difficult accessible areas (where tolerated) and are considered to be water and soil-protecting forests.

Tree species used in coppices

- A main coppice-forming species in Poland is black alder (*Alnus glutinosa* Geartn.).
- Oaks (*Quercus spp.*) and silver birch (*Betula pendula* Roth) coppices occur occasionally and on small areas.
- As mixed species European beech (*Fagus sylvatica* L.), lime (*Tilia spp.*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus* L.) are also used as coppice species.

Special form of coppice

- after cutting browsed seedlings (mostly *Quercus petraea* and *Quercus robur*).
- the low cutting is performed 3-8 years after planting the unsuccessful, browsed crop. The damaged plantation is fenced one year prior the intervention. This low cut results in a rapid growth of coppice shoots, which reach about 1 m height in 1 year.