



COST ACTION FP1301

“Innovative management and multifunctional utilization of traditional coppice forests - an answer to future ecological, economic and social challenges in the European forestry sector (EuroCoppice)”

Minutes of the WG 2 Meeting: *Ecology and silvicultural management*

**Barcelona, Spain
November 30th-December 1st, 2015**

Minutes Summary

Participants: 10 WG2 members as below:

Joao	Carvalho	Portugal
Cornelia	Hernea	Romania
Eduard	Hochbichler	Austria
Murat	Ertekin	Turkey
Magnus	Löf	Sweden
Valeriu-Norocel	Nicolescu	Romania
Miriam	Piqué-Nicolau	Spain
Patrick	Pyttel	Germany
Petra	Stochlova	Czech Republic
Helder	Viana	Portugal

WG Leader: Valeriu-Norocel Nicolescu (Noro)

Rapporteur: Valeriu-Norocel Nicolescu

Agenda

(i) Discussions on *Best practice silvicultural guidelines for European coppice forests*. Structure/contents, work distribution, deadline - moderator Valeriu-Norocel Nicolescu.

(ii) Discussions on the potential joint paper *Coppice forest management in Europe: a review*. Structure/contents, available data, work distribution, deadlines – moderators Míriam Piqué-Nicolau and Valeriu-Norocel Nicolescu.

(iii) Discussions on the potential joint paper *Growth and yield of European coppice forests: a review*. Structure/contents, available data, work distribution, deadlines – moderators Míriam Piqué-Nicolau and Valeriu-Norocel Nicolescu.

Welcome

Noro Nicolescu welcomed all participants to the meeting and thanked Míriam Piqué-Nicolau for hosting it. The Agenda was approved and Noro volunteered to write the Meeting Notes - a condensed form, including important discussion points and decisions.

(i) **Discussions on *Best practice silvicultural guidelines for European coppice forests.***

Structure/contents, work distribution, deadline - moderator Valeriu-Norocel Nicolescu.

The participants have discussed in detail the structure and content of each chapter and sub-chapter, tackling the current situation of coppice forests in Europe as well as the main traditional silvicultural systems (e.g., low coppice, high coppice, selection coppice, and coppice with standards) used for European coppice forests. In addition the issues *Restoration of coppice forests* and *Conversion of coppice forests to high forests* were also discussed in detail.

Participants volunteered to prepare each chapter and sub-chapter of guidelines, which should be submitted to Noro Nicolescu no later than April 1st. All contributions, as well as pictures to be potentially used for guidelines, will be brought in to the future meeting of WG which will take place (if approved by the MC) at Pruhonice (close to Prague)-Czech Republic, 25-26 April 2016.

In addition, Noro proposed to contact Yves Ehrhart (AgroParisTech Nancy-France) and Francesco Pelleri (CRA Arezzo-Italy), two important European coppice specialists, and invite them to co-author these guidelines.

(ii) **Discussions on the potential joint paper *Coppice forest management in Europe: a review.*** Structure/contents, available data, work distribution, deadline – moderators Míriam Piqué-Nicolau and Valeriu-Norocel Nicolescu.

The discussion was initially based on a document prepared by Míriam Piqué-Nicolau. Considering the fact that many initial proposed issues will be part of the above guidelines and there is a certain need for making clear to different target readers the importance of coppices to continue to exist and play their role in European forests, the participants decided to give up the old title and change into *The loss of traditional coppice forests and the consequences for ecosystems function delivery.*

The participants have discussed in detail the structure and content of each chapter and sub-chapter, tackling the current situation of coppice forests in Europe in relation to the multiple consequences (for timber/biomass production, species loss/biodiversity, etc.) of their possible area reduction or even disappearance.

Participants volunteered to prepare each chapter and sub-chapter of proposed paper, which should be submitted to each other to improve before June 2016. All contributions will be brought in to be further discussed at the MC/WG meeting which will take place in Antwerpen-The Netherlands, 15-17 June 2016.

(iii) **Discussions on the potential joint paper *Growth and yield of European coppice forests: a review***. Structure/contents, available data, work distribution, deadline – moderators Míriam Piqué-Nicolau and Valeriu-Norocel Nicolescu.

Since the beginning of discussions it was decided that, under the obvious time constraints, this point (iii) should be withdrawn from the Agenda of Barcelona WG meeting and be discussed during a future joint activity of WG2 members.

Closing remarks

Noro thanked the all present for a productive meeting – looks forward to the following WG2 meeting in Pruhonice.