



COST Training School
COPPICE HARVESTING AND USE OF PRODUCTS AS SOURCE OF
RENEWABLE ENERGY
University of Florence, 10.05.2015 – 15.05.2015

Background

Wood is the oldest source of energy for mankind, and still plays a key role in many countries. The most important energy assortment is still firewood, which is the main product of coppice forests. Firewood market is quite lively in many countries, within the EU and outside. Nevertheless, the role and importance of firewood are rapidly changing, due to the competition with other energy sources, as well as with wood chips. Firewood still has a higher market value than wood chips, due to its recreational and traditional use, and to its huge potential for use in decentralized energy production if appropriate technologies are used. Wood chips originate from the same sources, but are used in more modern plants offering higher conversion efficiency.

This course aims at showing the current trends and optimal solutions for modernizing coppice management and harvesting. Innovation is needed for increasing the economic value of coppice products.

Objectives and learning outcomes

- To promote awareness about sustainable coppice management and harvesting
- To share knowledge about planning and optimizing harvest operations and logistics
- To provide information about the traditional methods and the potential of modernization in coppice forests harvesting;
- To be capable of analyzing and defining the optimal integration of firewood production with other assortments such as wood chips, poles and small diameter timber;
- To improve knowledge on both environmental impacts and health and safety of forest workers



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

GESAAF
DIPARTIMENTO DI GESTIONE
DEI SISTEMI AGRARI
ALIMENTARI E FORESTALI



CNR-IVALSA
TREES AND TIMBER INSTITUTE

Chair of the COST Action:

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Gero BECKER
Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg
Chair of forest utilization (fobawi)
Werthmannstr. 6 - D- 79085 Freiburg
eurocoppice@fobawi.uni-freiburg.de



Program outline

- May 10th – Arrival to Florence, transportation by min-van to vallombrosa
- May 11th – Registration, Program description, presentations on coppice management, sustainable harvesting in temperate forests and coppice, potential impacts of forest harvesting and respective mitigation/restoration practices
- May 12th – Field trip to:
- a) Coppice forest management
 - b) Coppice harvesting operations and product processing machines
 - c) Firewood boiler
- May 13th – Presentations on mechanization of coppice harvesting operations, solid biofuels quality. Group work: Practical exercise on fuel quality and data analysis,
- May 14th – Presentation on Biomass combustion and treatments.
Group work: comparing and discussing the situation of coppice management and harvesting in the different participant countries.
- May 15th – Departure

The program may change due to the weather conditions of the day of the field trip.

All you need to know:

Who can participate?

Applicants should normally be engaged in a program of research as post graduate students or postdoctoral fellows, or be employed in a research institution of any Country that has accepted the MoU of the Action.

Participants will get a certificate for the participation in the course and 3 ECTS credits will also be awarded.

Financial support

The living and travel expenses of fifteen participants of the school will be reimbursed to the maximum amount of 700 Euros, depending on geographic location and travel required to attend the Training School.



2nd Training School. Vallombrosa (Florence), Italy

Application procedure

The interested students and young scientists who wish to attend the Training School must send the following information by **March 30, 2015** to the Action Training school coordinator Karl Stampfer (e-mail: karl.stampfer@boku.ac.at):

- Curriculum Vitae
- Motivation letter
- Short description on the forest harvesting background of the applicant

The Cost Action Management Committee will select a maximum of 15 students that will be able to participate in the Training School. Applications from female Ph.D. students and early stage researchers are strongly encouraged. In the interest of achieving gender balance, female candidates will have priority over male candidates with the same level of qualification.

Venue

The event will be held in Vallombrosa (Firenze - Italy) where the School of Agriculture has a student guest house for field training. The forest of Vallombrosa was created and cared over the centuries by the Vallombrosa monks. It was declared a Natural Biogenetic Reserve in 1977. The reserve covers an area 1,300 hectares and is managed by the National Forest Service (CFS). Chestnut, beech and white fir are the main species growing in this area, in pure or mixed stands.

For more information please contact the Cost Action Training school coordinator or the Local Organizer:

Training school coordinator

Prof. Dr. Karl Stampfer

University of Natural
Resources and Life Sciences
Peter Jordan Strasse 82/3
1190 Vienna
Austria

Phone: +431 47654 4301

Mobile: +43 664 1615385

Fax: +431 47654 4342

e-mail: karl.stampfer@boku.ac.at

Local organizers

Prof. Enrico Marchi

University of Florence
GESAAF
Via S. Bonaventura 13
50145 Firenze
Italy

Phone: +39 055 2755614

Mobile: +39 3334866136

Fax: -

e-mail: emarchi@unifi.it

Dr. Raffaele Spinelli

National research council of Italy
Trees and Timber Institute
via Madonna del Piano, 10
50019 - Sesto Fiorentino (FI)
Italy

Phone: +39 055 5225641

Mobile: +39 335 5429798

Fax: +39 055 5225607

e-mail: spinelli@ivalsa.cnr.it

