

Training School Report *“Coppice Economy - From Planning to Harvest”*

Krtiny, Czech Republic
10.04.2016 - 16.04.2016

The Training School “Coppice Economy - From Planning to Harvest” was hosted by Mendel University and the University’s Forest Enterprise. The event was held in Křtiny, a small town 20 km north of Brno, where the Head office of University Forest Enterprise Masaryk Forest is located (details on the Forest Enterprise can be found here: www.slpkrtiny.cz/en/). Since the success of coppice forest management depends on a proper forest management plan, based on the rational evaluation of stand conditions, forest road planning, the market situation and many other factors, the course aimed at showing the current trends and optimal solutions for a modern, economically feasible management of coppice forest stands and short rotation coppice. 25 Trainees affiliated to institutions in 13 different countries attended the Training School from April 10th to 16th, 2016.

Trainers

Radomir Klvac, Mendel University
Andrew McEwan, Nelson Mandela
Metropolitan University
Eduard Hochbichler, BOKU
Radek Pokorney, Mendel University
Marko Stojanovic, Mendel University



Image: McEwan 2016

Objectives & Learning Outcomes

- Promote awareness about sustainable coppice management (including SRC);
- Share knowledge about planning;
- Provide information on methods of economic calculation;
- Be capable of analysing and defining the optimal land utilisation
- Improve knowledge on eco-efficiency of coppice stands
- Improve knowledge about new technology and computing

Description

The school was organized in the heart of Training Forest Enterprise, which enabled the students and lecturers to stay directly inside the forest and near to the practical experiences.

Instead of travelling days, the school was composed of the blocks related to specific targets led by professionals. However, the rest of the lecturers were also as participatory as possible, with room for remarks etc. Thus, each block was widely commented and discussed not only by the lecturers but also by the trainees.



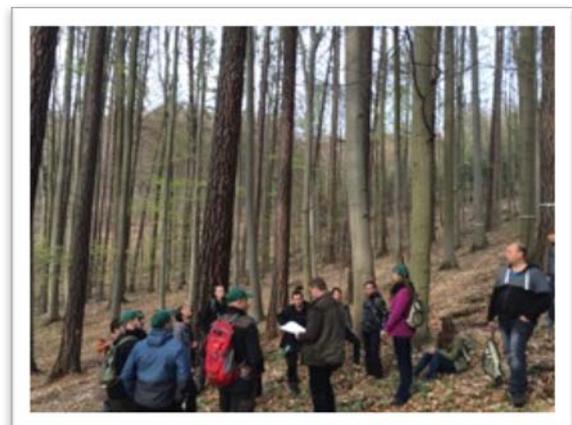
The first day was mainly focussed on terminology. The harmonisation of the terminology was necessary in order to understand each other, especially since Trainees originated from so many different countries. Partially the forest road network was started.

The second block was focused on coppice management related to economy of such forest land use. The third day was whole day field trip organized together with Preserve

Moravian Karst. All the participants had a chance to see the region formally intensively coppice managed, actually national preserve. Within the guided tour in the House of Nature the participants obtained detailed information about origin, evolution and actual preserve activities carried out in the preserve.

The second field trip to the experimental plots on coppice and Dauerwald was planned and carried out on Thursday. Before that trainees were informed about ongoing scientific activities, actual status and aims of the project. Afterwards the experiment was commented and discussed directly in field.

The final day of the school was focused on harvesting activities with relation to environment and economy. All, technical, technological and also economy factors were targeted.



Images: McEwan 2016

Detailed Program

April 10th

Shuttle from Mendel University to Křtiny Chateau. Accommodation of participants.
Free activities.

April 11th

8,00-8,45	breakfast
9,00-10,00	morning block - Opening words - Introduction of all participants (lecturers and participants) RK
10,00-10,20	coffee break
10,20-11,45	morning block cont. - Short introduction of training school schedule and networking in general, Glossary RK
12,00	lunch
13,30-15,30	afternoon block - forest road planning for coppice management AE
15,30-16,00	coffee break
16,00-17,30	afternoon block cont. - forest road planning AE
18,00	dinner

April 12th

8,00-8,45	breakfast
9,00-10,00	morning block - lecturing part
10,00-10,20	coffee break
10,30-11,45	morning block cont. - lecturing part - coppice management and economy EH
12,00	lunch
13,30-16,0	afternoon block - practical part in forest - coppice management EH
16,00-17,30	afternoon block cont. - lecturing part
18,00	dinner

April 13th

8,00-8,45 breakfast
9,00-17,00 Whole day field trip
18,00 dinner

April 14th

8,00-8,45 breakfast
9,00-10,00 morning block
- lecturing part - silviculture RP
10,00-10,20 coffee break
10,30-11,45 morning block cont.
- lecturing part
12,00 lunch
13,30-15,30 afternoon block
- practical part in forest
15,30-16,00 coffee break
16,00-17,30 afternoon block cont.
- practical part
18,00 dinner

April 15th

8,00-8,45 breakfast
9,00-10,00 morning block
- lecturing part - harvesting AE + RK
10,00-10,20 coffee break
10,30-11,45 morning block cont.
- lecturing part
12,00 lunch
13,30 + free afternoon
anytime dinner

April 16th

8,00-8,45 breakfast
Departure of all participants

Trainee Feedback

The Trainees kindly provided comments during coffee breaks and free time. They also sent a joint message following the school:

“The training school “Coppice economy - from planning to harvest” organized from April 10th - 16th, 2016 at Křtiny, Czech Republic in the framework of COST Action FP1301 - Euro Coppice (Innovative management and multifunctional utilization

of traditional coppice forests - an answer to future ecological, economic and social challenges in the European forestry sector) provided a well organized learning environment on how to use the coppice management to express ideas, interpret data, resolve problems, and generate novel scientific ideas.



We have found the courses very motivating and interesting for our own work. All the trainers explained their topics with enthusiasm and were able to inspire curiosity in the participants. Despite the limited time available, the mix of lectures, practical exercises, team work and local field trips were

the right combination to give to us, the participants a good knowledge about showing the current trends and optimal solutions for a modern, economically feasible management of coppice forest stands and short rotation forestry.

The organizers and the trainers were very friendly and willing to answer to any question and their lectures were very helpful. The organizers also supplied the courses materials, so everyone can examine the topics after the end of the training school, without time limitations.

In addition, the training school was an opportunity to meet other researchers with common interests and different backgrounds, to discuss about coppice management, economics, land utilization, calculation, efficiency and technology, and to create a network for future research.

Thanks to all the organizers and the trainers of the training school. “



Images: McEwan 2016