



International Conference

SPRUCE IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL CHANGE:

Ecology, silviculture, forest products, management risks and conservation practices

31 Aug – 3 Sep 2009 - Halmstad, Sweden

First announcement and call for abstracts

www.slu.ess.se

Conference background

Various species of spruce comprise a significant part of forests in the northern hemisphere and are widely used in forest management. The management of spruce influences carbon sequestration and the production of biomass that can be used for substitution of fossil fuels. Additionally, climate change may affect future management practices. Site requirements for certain species may shift and new potential risks may have to be considered when designing future management programs.

Conference themes

The conference will focus on a wide range of issues relating to all aspects of spruce forests and spruce management. These include, for example:

- biomass and timber production,
- genetic stock and spruce genomics,
- physiology, nutrient management, fertilization, and drainage,
- root dynamics, stump extraction, soil development and soil-tree interactions,
- biotic and abiotic risks, risk management,
- long-term forest development,
- economics,
- forest operations technology,
- biodiversity, water quality, forest recreation and landscape aesthetics.

These, and other related issues will be presented and discussed during a four-day conference in Halmstad, Sweden during 31 Aug– 3 Sep 2009. Scientists, forest managers and policy maker from around the world will present their experience and seek answers for specific spruce issues. In addition to basic scientific questions, presentations and discussions will emphasise practical problems for which scientific approaches or solutions are needed.

Meeting format

The conference will include invited keynote speakers as well as voluntary contributions. Technical presentations and computer demonstrations will be followed by discussion sessions to promote maximum exchange of ideas. A field trip to experimental plots will focus discussions on practical issues. The official conference language is English.

Call for abstracts / Publication timeline

Papers, posters and computer demonstrations are welcomed within the theme of the conference. Participants are invited to contribute problems and ideas as well as potential solutions. Extended abstracts (max. one printed page, including one figure or illustration) for all invited speakers, voluntary presentations, posters and demonstrations will be available in printed proceedings format at the start of the conference.

31 March 2009 Last date for submission of abstracts is 31 March 2009. Abstracts should be prepared according to the guidelines presented on the conference web-site.

30 April 2009 Notification of acceptance will be issued by 30 April 2009.

15 June 2009 Final, extended abstracts, including specific results, should be received no later than 15 June 2009.

Additional conference outputs

Selected contributions will be invited for review and inclusion in a special issue of an international forest science journal. Authors should note that acceptance of a paper for presentation at the conference does not guarantee journal publication.

Conference excursions

Two excursions will be offered during the conference. One excursion will focus on nature conservation issues and the multi-functional use of forests in the landscape. The other excursion will focus on forest management issues. The excursions are included in the conference fee and available for all participants.

Conference venue and registration

The conference will be held at Hotel Tylösand near Halmstad on the southwest coast of Sweden (www.tylosand.se). The conference site is conveniently located near the airport of Copenhagen (Denmark). Details of transport, lodging and other practical arrangements are available on the website.

Registration can be done with the registration form also found on the website at www.slu.ess.se. Early registration rates end on 30 April 2009.

Selected presentations

Jean-Luc Peyron (France): ECHOES - Expected Climate cHange and Options for European Silviculture: what are the possible consequences for spruce management?

Alex Mosseler (Canadian Forest Service): Old-growth remnants of red spruce: genetics, conservation, and adaptation under changing climate

Robert G. Wagner (Univ. of Maine): Thinning responses of natural spruce-fir stands in the Acadian Forests of Maine

Douglas Godbold (Univ. of Wales): Will climate change affect root processes in spruce?

Göran Örlander (Södra, Sweden): Södra's long term strategy for the silviculture of Norway spruce

Richard Bradshaw (Univ. of Liverpool): Modelling the spread of spruce in Scandinavia during the last 5000 years: lessons for the future

Hillevi Eriksson (Swedish Forest Agency): Strategic changes in silviculture as a response to climate change

Heinrich Spiecker (Univ. of Freiburg): Do we need to convert our Norway spruce forests?

Bill Mason & Mike Perks (UK Forest Research): Sitka spruce forests in Atlantic Europe: developing carbon lean management systems

Caroline Bald & Jens Peter Skovsgaard (Univ. of Copenhagen): Effects of site and silviculture on the biomass of roots, stems, branches and foliage of Norway spruce.

Additional information on keynote speakers and voluntary sessions are available on the conference website.

Organizing committee

Urban Nilsson (chairman), Swedish University of Agricultural Science

Jens Peter Skovsgaard, University of Copenhagen

Ulf Johansson, Swedish University of Agricultural Science

Scientific advisory board

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