



**Forest Pathology Lab**  
Plant Production and Forest Resources Department  
University of Valladolid



**SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT**  
Research Institute  
University of Valladolid-INIA



## GLOBAL CHANGE AND FOREST DISEASES: NEW THREATS, NEW STRATEGIES

*IUFRO DIVISION 7.00.00: Forest Health:*

*7.02.00 Pathology:*

*7.02.02 Foliage, shoot and stem diseases of forest trees*

**MONTESCLAROS MONASTERY (CANTABRIA, SPAIN)**  
**23-28<sup>th</sup> MAY 2011**



University of Valladolid at Palencia, Spain

With the scientific support of:

*Instituto Gestión Forestal Sostenible (UVa-INIA)*

With the technical collaboration of:

*EFIATLANTIC Regional Office - EFI*

The Monastery of Nuestra Señora de Montesclaros, built in a seventeenth-century highland Baroque style, houses the Patron Saint of Merindad de Campoo, much venerated in the area. It was built around a rock church and conserves an eighteenth-century altarpiece. The Merindad of Campoo is located in between Cantabria and Castilla y León, where the University of Valladolid is located.

Cantabria is a Spanish historical region and autonomous community with Santander as its capital city. Cantabria belongs to the *Green Spain*, the name given to the strip of land between the Cantabrian Sea and the Cantabrian Mountains in northern Spain. It is called *green* because it has particularly lush vegetation, due to a wet and moderate oceanic climate. Its climate is strongly influenced by Atlantic Ocean winds that get trapped by the mountains; the average precipitation is about 1,200 mm (47 inches). Cantabria is a mountainous and coastal region, with important natural resources. It has two distinct areas which are well differentiated morphologically: Coast and Mountains. A coastal strip of low, wide and gently rolling valleys some 10 kilometers in width, whose altitude does not rise above 500 meters, and which meets the ocean in a line of abrupt cliffs broken by river estuaries, creating rias and beaches. There is a long barrier made up of abruptly rising mountains parallel to the sea, which are part of the Cantabrian Mountains. The great limestone masses of Picos de Europa also stand out in the southwest of the region: most of their summits exceed 2,500 m, and their topography is shaped by the former presence of glaciers. The variation in the altitude of the region, which in a short distance ranges from sea level to 2,600 meters in the mountains, leads to a great deal of diversity in vegetation and a large number of biomes. Cantabria has vegetation typical of the Atlantic side of the Iberian Peninsula. Originally it had mixed deciduous forests containing ash, linden, bay laurel, hazel, maple, oak, poplar, birch, holm oak, and others. The riparian parts were filled with forests of alder and willow. Nevertheless, human intervention dating back to ancient times has favored the creation of pastures, allowing the existence of large areas of grassland and prairies suitable for grazing cattle. These grasslands are mingled with plantations of eucalyptus and native oak.

Castilla y León is placed at the middle-north of Spain. It is a geographical space of 94,224 square kilometres, a size that makes it the biggest region in Europe. Its landscapes are formed by soft planes, valleys and highlands in the centre, and a mountain belt surrounding it. These outstanding geographic conditions nurture the existence of many ecosystems, and create a contrast environment where many geological, orographic and climatic settings gather. The communication infrastructure, highways as well as an effective railroad network, links the region with its surroundings (Madrid, Bilbao, Santiago de Compostela and others). The solitary oaks and junipers now found on the Castilian-Leonese plains are remnants of forests that once covered these lands. Agricultural exploitation—cultivation of cereals and creation of pastures for the vast flocks of the Castilian Meseta—meant the deforestation of these lands during the Middle Ages. The last juniper forests of Castile and León can be found in the provinces of Soria and Burgos. In some of these forest, junipers are mixed with pine—or even with oak or gall oak—but the conifers predominate. The Castilian-Leonese slope of the Cantabrian Mountains and the northern foothills of the Sistema Ibérico both boast rich vegetation. The cool, moist slopes are populated by large beech forests, which can extend as high as altitudes of 1,500 m (4,900 ft). The beeches may form mixed forests with yew, rowan (mountain ash), common hawthorne, holly, and birch. The sunny slopes bring forth sessile oak, English oak, ash, common hawthorne, chestnut, birch, and Scotch pine. Wide extensions of oak survive on the lower slopes of the Sistema Central. Higher up, between 1,000 m (3,300 ft) and 1,000 m (3,300 ft) altitude, chestnuts are abundant. Yet higher up, *Quercus pyrenaica*—an oak species now rarely found in the eponymous Pyrenees—predominates. With its strong resistance to cold, it can reach heights of 1,700 m (5,600 ft). Nonetheless, many oak forests have disappeared, cut down and replaced by pines. The principal native pine forests are in the Sierra de Guadarrama. The subalpine zones between 1,700 m (5,600 ft) and 2,200 m (7,200 ft) are home to shrubs and juniper. Palencia, where the University Campus is located, is situated in the northern part of the region, enjoys near it natural and cultural marvels such as the Tierra de Campos planes, mountains 2,500 m high, the Camino de Santiago (European route of cultural interest) and the biggest concentration of Romanic art in Europe.

The University of Valladolid, the first university in the Spanish-speaking world, has managed to pervive from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It has not only maintained the importance of the more traditional disciplines (law, medicine, and the arts) but has also incorporated an extensive roll of new areas in social and natural sciences as well as technology. Today, teaching is enriched by academic research, technological innovation and connections to the world of business and industry. The University of Valladolid's Campus officially called Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingenierías Agrarias (Agricultural, Forestry and Food Technology School) is locally known as "La Yutera" because it is located in a complex originally built as a jute processing plant. Then transformed in the modern campus it is today, La Yutera is still devoted to the sustainable management of natural resources, yet in a higher way: it nowadays does it through excellent research and learning.



## **PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME OF CONFERENCE**

### **Sunday 22<sup>th</sup> May**

Arrival of participants. Transport from Santander airport to Montesclaros Monastery.

### **Monday 23<sup>th</sup> May**

**800- 830** Registration

**830- 930** Transport to Campus “La Yutera “ in Palencia (University of Valladolid).

**930-1000** Opening ceremony

**1000-1015** Welcome speech by organising committee

**1015-1045** Welcome speech by **Antti Uotila**, Coordinator of the IUFRO WP 7.02.02

**1045- 1115** **Coffee break**

**1115- 1145** Welcome speech by **Gaston Laflamme**, Coordinator of the IUFRO Section 7.02.

**1145-1200** Welcome speech by **Prof. Dr. Pedro Caballero**, Vice-rector of Valladolid University.

**1200-1300** Inaugural talk by **Mike Wingfield** (accept conditionally) Mondi Professor of Forest Protection. Director, Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI). University of Pretoria.

**1300-1345** **Lunch**

**1400- 1700** Palencia city tour

**Session 1 Foliage disease- conifers**

**1500-1530** Self introduction of the participants

**1530-1600** Oral communications

**1630-1700** **Coffee break**

**1700-1800** Oral communications

**1900** **Welcome cocktail at Palencia City Hall**

**2100** Transport to Montesclaros Monastery

## **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

### **Session 2: Foliage disease- conifers**

**830-1100** Oral communications

**1100-1130** Coffee break

### **Session 3: Dieback and canker diseases**

**1130-1230** Oral communications

**1230-1330** Lunch

**1330-1530** Oral communications

**1530-1600** Coffee break

### **Session 4: Rust diseases**

**1600-1830** Oral communications

## **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

### **Tree Disease Field Trip 1**

*Gremmeniella abietina* damage on *Pinus halepensis*

*Pinus pinaster* decline (*Ophiostoma minus*, mistletoes...).

## **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

### **Session 4: Foliage diseases- hardwoods and nursery disease**

**830-1100** Oral communications

**1100-1130** Coffee break

### **Session 5: Other diseases**

**1130-1230** Oral communications

**1230-1330** Lunch

**1330-1500** Oral communications

**1500-1530** Coffee break

**1530-1700** Poster session

**1700-1800** Business meeting

**1900-** Social event

## **Friday 27 th May**

### **Tree Disease Field Trip 2**

*Fusarium circinatum* on *Pinus radiata* forest

*Mycosphaerella* damage on *Eucalyptus globulus* plantations

**15<sup>30</sup>-17<sup>00</sup> Evaluation of the meeting**

## **Saturday 28 th May**

Departure. Transport from Montesclaros Monastery to Santander airport.

### ***Deadlines to remember:***

**Abstract submission:** Not after 31 January 2011

**Notification of acceptance:** 30 March 2011

**Final papers:** 30 April 2011

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