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
Second announcement and call for abstracts
http://www-spruce2009.slu.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.

30 April 2009  Last date for submission of abstracts is 30 April 2009. Abstracts should be prepared according to the guidelines presented on the conference web-site.
15 May 2009  Notification of acceptance will be issued by 15 May 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 http://www-spruce2009.slu.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 Orlander (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
Jens Peter Skovsgaard (chairman), University of Copenhagen
Richard Bradshaw, University of Liverpool
Douglas Godbold, University of Wales
Hillevi Eriksson, Swedish Forest Agency
Biing T. Guan, National Taiwan University, IUFRO Div. 4
Björn Hänel, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Coordinator IUFRO Div. 1
Sebastian Hein, Forest Research Institute of Baden-Württemberg
Seppo Kellomäki, University of Joensuu, Finland
Jean-Michel Leban, INRA, France
Bill Mason, UK Forest Research
Alex Mosseler, Canadian Forest Service, Coordinator IUFRO Div. 8
Urban Nilsson, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Göran Örlander, Södra, Sweden
Jean Luc Peyron, GIP ECOFOR, France
Heinrich Spiecker, University of Freiburg
Elina Vapaavuori, Metla, Finland
Robert G. Wagner, University of Maine