

Introduction to the FAGUS 2010 Symposium papers on European beech

European beech (*Fagus sylvatica* L.) is an important species of Central and Southern Europe where it holds dominant position according to its share in growing stock and overall economic value. Although adaptable by its genetic system, due to climate change the future status of this species remains uncertain. By strengthening the perception of vital problems which affect beech at present and by emphasizing the necessity of their further analysis, it is possible to diminish potential risks and provide adequate answers. Implementation of results will support future management of this valuable broadleaf species

In the series of similar symposia, the international scientific symposium on beech FAGUS 2010 “Is There Future for Beech – Changes, Impacts and Answers” was jointly organized by the Croatian Forest Research Institute CFI and the Hungarian Forest Research Institute ERTI, with the cooperation of the Institute of Environment and Earth Sciences, Faculty of Forestry, University of West Hungary in Sopron. Under the support of IUFRO WP 1.01.07 on Ecology and Silviculture of Beech and the European Forestry Institute, altogether 190 participants from 14 countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Croatia, France, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Japan, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, and Turkey) participated in a 2-days conference in Varaždin, Croatia. 28 papers and 16 posters were presented, covering the field of forest ecology, silviculture, genetics and reproduction, modeling, forest protection, phytopatology, physiology and management. A field trip to Zala county, Hungary followed the conference. The presented paper’s abstracts have been published as trilingual FAGUS 2010 Book of Abstracts, while the complete Summary of the FAGUS 2010 Symposium is available as a separate document¹.

In cooperation with the editorial board of ASLH, conference participants were invited to submit manuscripts. The papers were selected and reviewed through the FAGUS 2010 reviewing process based on scientific excellence and actuality of the problem investigated. The reviewers were all members of the international scientific community with confirmed expertise in forest science. It is the expectation of the organizers that these papers will contribute to the better understanding of the challenges facing beech in the upcoming era of predicted climate change.

Igor Kolar²
guest editor

¹ Summary of the FAGUS 2010 International Scientific Symposium, October 27th – 29th 2010, Varaždin, Croatia and Zala county, Hungary. Croatian Forest Research Institute, Jastrebarsko, Croatia

² Croatian Forest Research Institute, Jastrebarsko, Croatia igork@sumins.hr

