

EC and ICP-Forests

Meeting subgroup “Techniques of Phenological Monitoring Level II” Firenze, Italy, January, 15-18, 1998

Minutes

Participants: Mr. Egbert Beuker (FIN, Chairman)
Mr. Marco Ferretti (I, Secretary)
Mr. Teja Preuhsler (D)
Mrs. Päivi Merilä (FIN)
Mrs. Astrid Vassella (CH)

Agenda: see annex 2

Objective: The objective of this meeting was to prepare a draft for a technical manual for phenological monitoring in level II plots (annex 1 to the Sub-Manual on Phenological Observations in the Intensive Monitoring Programme (Level II)).

Minutes: The discussion was held following the Annex 5 to the minutes “Phenology - Level II”, Punkaharju, Finland, 21 - 23 September 1997: “Proposal for Sub-Manual on Phenological Observations in the Intensive Monitoring Programme (Level II)”. During the discussion it was found that parts of this proposal had to be adjusted or deleted, because of technical feasibility.

For the optional intensive phenological monitoring a number of the proposed phases were removed. It seems nearly impossible to observe timing budset and fruiting in Level II plots, because in many plots the trees are too high. The amount of fruiting is already part of the crown condition and the litterfall monitoring. Autumn coloration of larch was deleted because there are only 3 Level II plots with larch as the main species.

A first draft of the technical manual was prepared during the meeting (annex 1). However, some technical parts remained open. They will be filled in by members of the sub-group before the manual is send to all NFC's:

- Mrs. Vassella and Mrs. Menzel will, in co-operation with Mr. Beuker and Mr. Ferretti, prepare the definitions and determination of the phenological phases mentioned in the annex 1
- Mrs. Merilä and Mr. Ferretti will further develop the instructions for the techniques for litterfall sampling.
- Mr. Beuker will make proposals for new recording forms.

Before sending the draft to the NFC's it will be send to Mr. Durrant (UK) for a review of the English language, to Mr. Vel (EC/FIMCI) for comments concerning the data recording, and to Mr. Haussmann (ICP Forest) and Mr. Intemann (EC) for comments from their sides.

The members of the sub-group like to thank Mr. A. Hofmann of the Forest and Agricultural Estate, Dept. Economic Development, Regione Toscana, and Prof. P. Grossoni of the University of Florence, Dept. of Plant Biology for their hospitality to provide us with suitable meeting facilities. The sub-group would like to thank also Mr. Allavena of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture Policy for supporting the meeting.

Timetable for the further preparation of the sub-manual (1998):

- Jan. 20: Final version of the annex 1 plus the minutes of the meeting send to the members of the sub-group by Mr. Beuker.
- Feb. 2: Final comments from the members of the sub-group to Mr. Beuker. This includes additional information on the phenological phases and litterfall techniques and proposals for recording forms.
- Feb. 4: Revised version send by Mr. Beuker to members of the subgroup as well as to Mr. Durrant and Mr. Vel.
- Feb. 12: Deadline for comments to Mr. Beuker.
- Feb. 16: Revised version send to Mr. Preuhsler, who will distribute it to Mr. Haussmann (ICP Forest) and Mr. Intemann (EC) for their comments.
- Feb. 20: The draft of the sub-manual will be distributed to all NFC's and the participants of the meeting in Punkaharju by Mr. Preuhsler.
- Mar. 20: Deadline for reactions to be send to Mr. Beuker.
- Apr. 13: Deadline for the sub-group to include the comments of the NFC's into the draft manual.