# Plant and insect diversity in young forests?

## - The role of productivity, thinning and browsing

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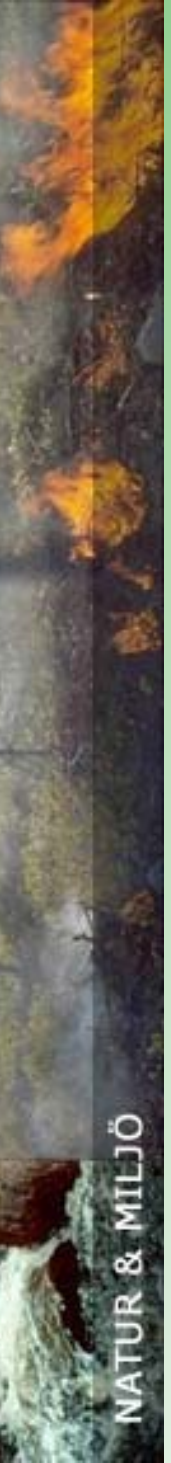


# Why studying young forests?

- Large proportion of the production forest landscapes. ¼ of the forested land of Sweden
- Biodiversity in boreal forests is poorly known

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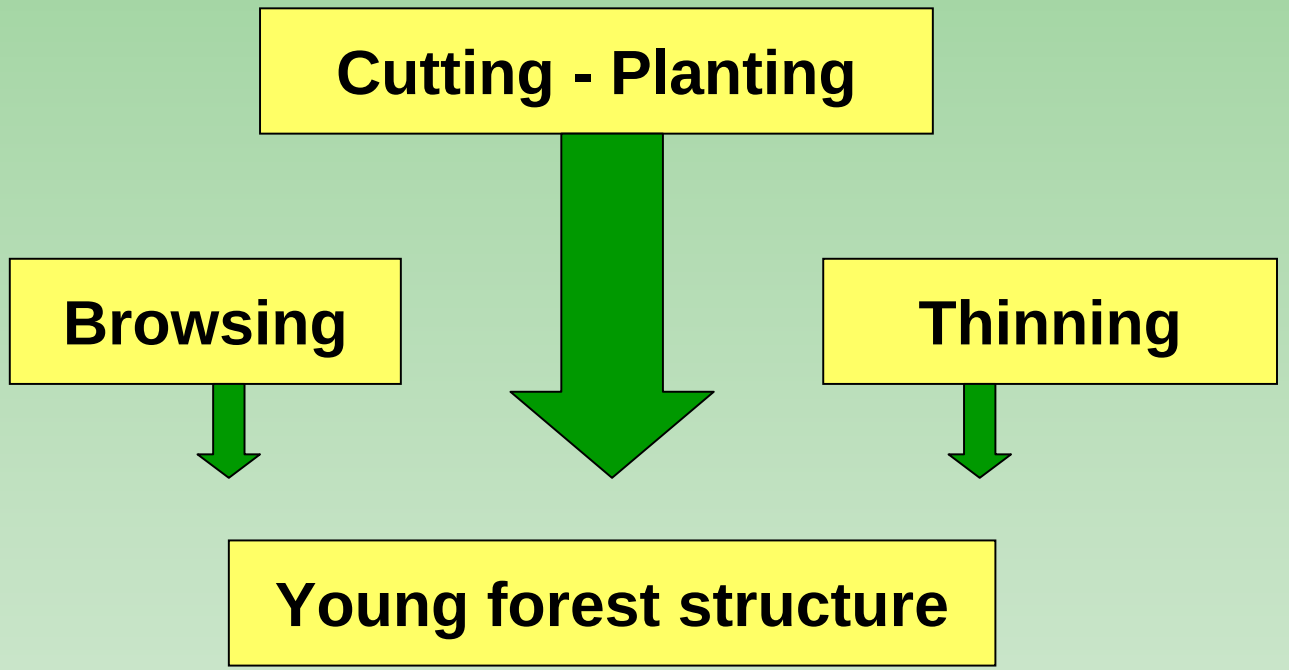
# Todays production forests

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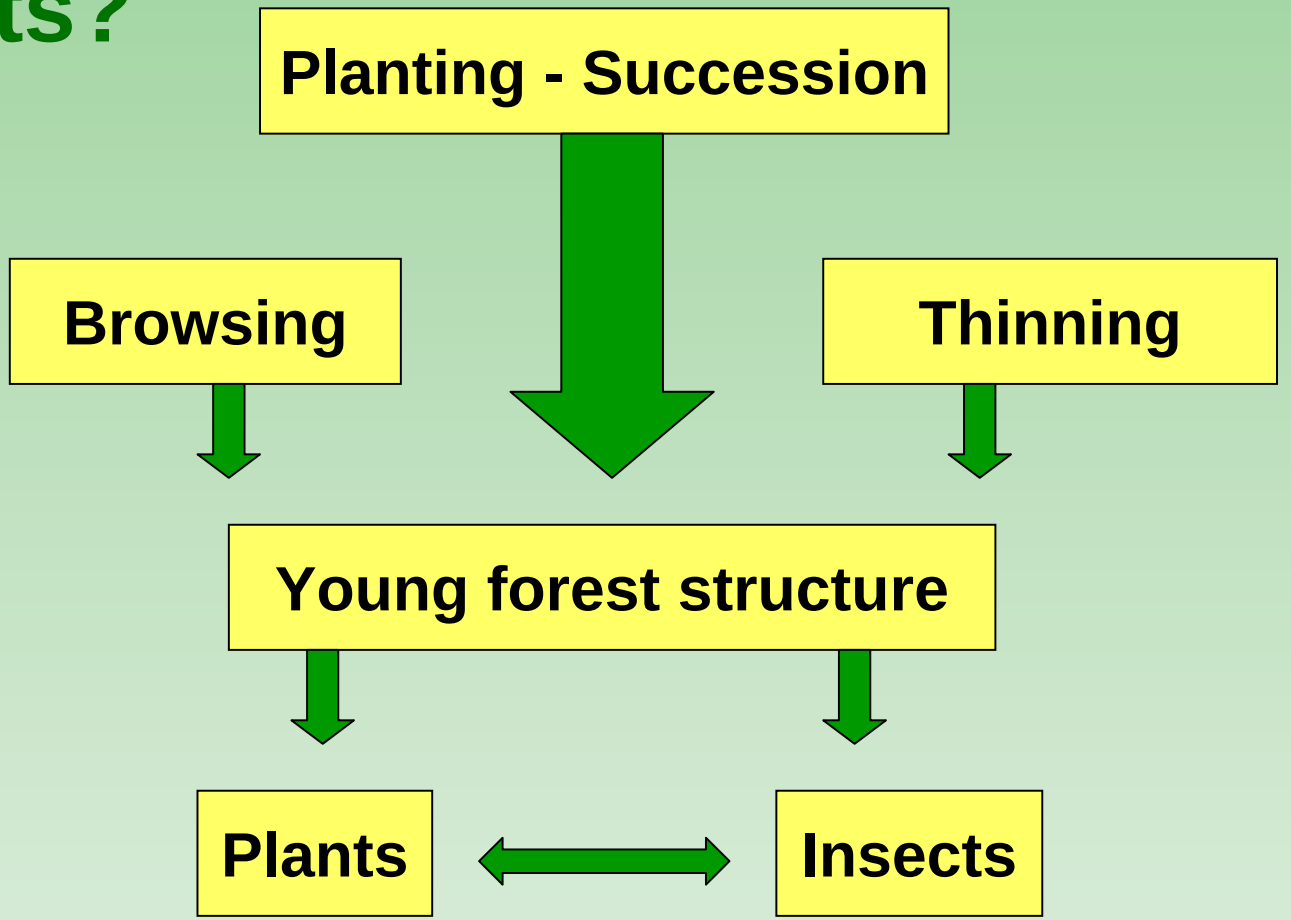
# How do changes in these processes affect diversity of organisms in young forests?

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# Vascular plants – Succession and thinning

- Testing the intermediate disturbance hypothesis

(Widenfalk and Weslien, Forest Ecology and Management, 2008)

More species in intermediate successions?

More species in 'gappy' stands?

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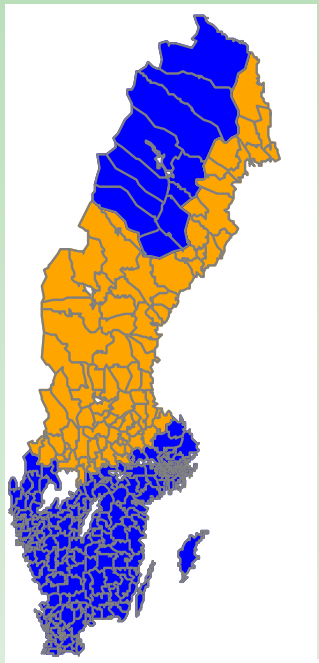
# Plant data

- National Survey of Forest Soils and Vegetation, 20 379 plots, 100 $m^2$, invented over 10 years.
- 230 plant species, 120 in this analysis.
- This analysis restricted to middle and north eastern parts of Sweden



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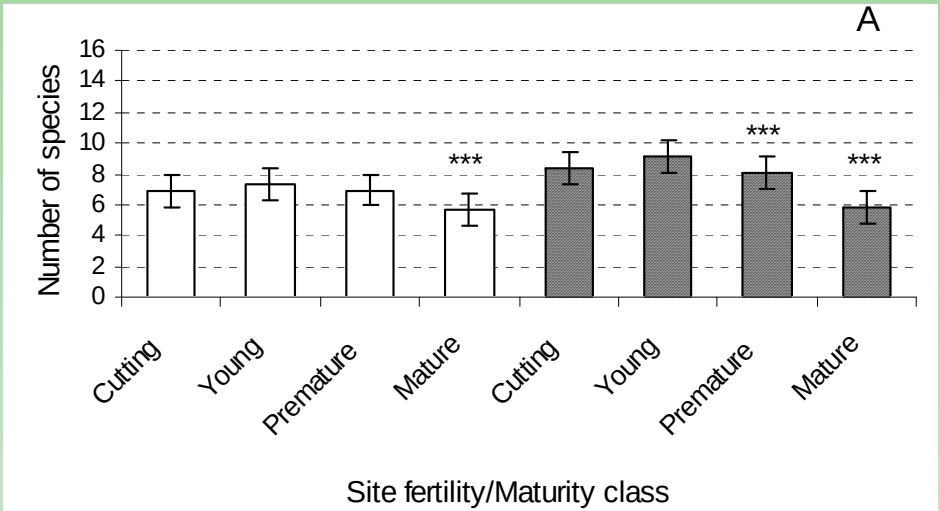
# Higher mean species richness in young forests
# Higher effect in fertile sites

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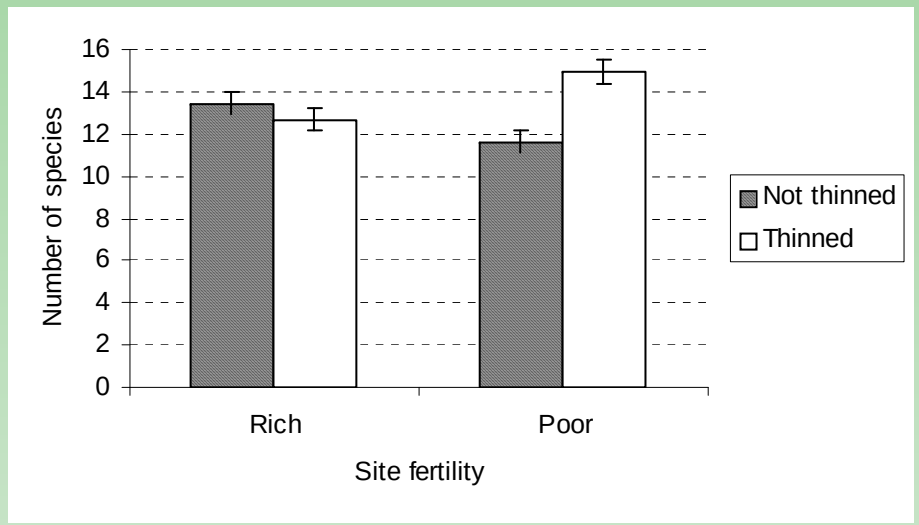
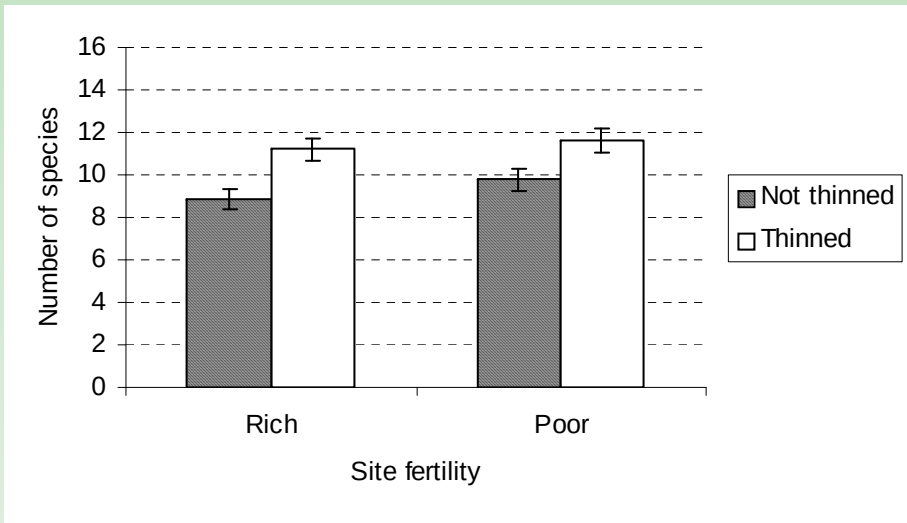
# Stands thinned early have higher species richness
# Stronger effect in premature stands

Young




Premature

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