



**Nordic Forest Research (SNS)**

**Network no:**

*Send the report to SNS-secretaries Jonas Rönnberg and Inga Bodeker (bodeker.sns@slu.se)*

## REPORT NETWORK ACTIVITY (meeting, conference etc.)

Please notice that the size of text sections in the form can be adjusted if needed.

**The length of the final report should not exceed 3 pages.** Supplementary information can be attached.

1. Aktivitetsens titel	SNS – Nordiska produktionsforskarnätverket
2. Activity title	SNS – Nordic Growth and Yield Researchers Network
3. Coordinator /contact person (name, address, telephone, telefax. e-mail)	Urban Nilsson Professor Southern Swedish Forest Research Centre Box 49, 230 53 Alnarp +46 70 346 51 92 <a href="mailto:Urban.Nilsson@slu.se">Urban.Nilsson@slu.se</a>
4. Duration	The activity started 16/6 2015 and ended 18/6 2015
5. Cost	SNS-grant: 143 037 SEK Total activity cost (estimate):378 500 SEK
6. Description of activity (incl. objectives, results, conclusions)	<p>The aim of the conference was to maintain and improve the network between growth and yield researchers in the Nordic and Baltic countries. The conference had an overall focus on the growth and yield of mixed and heterogeneous forest stands. The program for the conference included one day of indoor seminars where current trends within the field of forest growth and yield research were shared and discussed. During the presentation, special focus was on available data and new measurement techniques. Examples of presentations are (i) Biomass production and stand development in a mixed birch and Norway spruce forest, (ii) Optimizing the management of conifer mixtures in Finland – a summary, (iii) Pre-commercial thinning, birch admixture and sprout management in planted Norway spruce stands in South Sweden. As inspiration, there were also two invited speakers; Bronson Bullock from North Carolina, USA and Euan Mason from New Zealand. During the conference, we also had a day and a half of excursions in southern Sweden. The excursion-points was chosen to illustrate topics that are high on the agendas for discussion in the Nordic countries. Examples of excursions were carbon budget of Norway spruce plantations, continuous cover forestry, tree species experiments and rectangular spacing.</p> <p>Beside listening and learning from interesting presentations, participants at the conference also had a chance to net-work and discuss future collaborations. A joint project on mortality functions for old stands was formed as a direct spin-off from the conference. The project is</p>

<p>7. Evt. publication/ communication</p>	
<p>8. Activity summary (about 1/3 page) for possible use in the News &amp; Views section of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research</p>	<p>The network of researchers within the topic of forest growth and yield research has been ongoing since the 1960s and many co-operations in studies and projects can be traced to this network. In the Nordic and Baltic countries there is a shortage of data concerning development of forest stands that are mixed and heterogeneous, with regards to tree-species, age and tree-size. Therefore, it is of great interest to make a joint effort between the countries in the network, to share ideas and available relevant data. Through co-operation it is possible to develop tools and models that are more accurate and useful than what would be the case if each country would work on their own. The theme of the conference in 2015 was “Mixed forests – production, plant physiology and silviculture”, with the subtitle: “Does current research meet the future demands”? About twenty presentations were given during the conference and they all contributed to an overall picture of the width of current knowledge in this field within the Nordic and Baltic countries. In addition, two invited key-note speakers provided valuable perspectives from countries outside Europe. As a direct spin-off of this conference, at least one new joint project between the Nordic countries was formed. This project, which will develop mortality functions for old trees, commenced in January 2016</p>
<p>9. Date and signature</p>	<p>Date: _____ Signature of project leader/coordinator: _____</p>