

The Nordic Dendroweeks

Dendrochronology is a central tool in analysing forest history. By utilizing the information contained in tree rings a historical archive is explored. Methods and techniques evolve and there is a continuing need for training of students and researchers. The Nordic Dendroweeks have played a major role in this and provided more than 60 researchers with appropriate hands on knowledge.



*Laboratory work at the Dendroweek in 2014
Photo: Igor Drobyshv*

The Nordic Dendroweeks

Dendrochronological fieldweeks have been an important part of regular PRIFOR activities since the initiation of the network. Over the course of last four years, more than 65 students have joined the events. Participants, predominantly at PhD level, represented all Nordic countries as well as Canada, France, Russia, China, and Ethiopia. We were much pleased to see that the fieldweeks were of interest not only for the forest ecology students, but also for those in landscape design, archaeology, sustainable forest use, plant physiology and even forest economy. A dynamic combination of methodology-oriented lectures, field exercises, excursions,

mini-project work and tight interactions among course participants led to strongly positive feedback we received from the students after the courses. Beside learning the methods of dendrochronology, students also acknowledged in their evaluations that the courses helped them establish good contacts with other researchers, which we consider as another important achievement of these events.



Participants at the 6th Nordic Dendroweek in Borgholm 2014. Photo: Unknown



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Networking benefits

Thanks to close connections between dendrochronology and many related fields of research, dendrochronological fieldweeks have become a valuable resource for Nordic and international students and an excellent example of cross-network cooperation. It is our hope that PRIFOR, together with the Nordic Dendro network, will continue to provide such high-quality PhD education in the future.

Dendroweek 2014

The latest Dendroweek in Borgholm was arranged by the Dendrochronological laboratory at SLU, Alnarp in September 2014. A group of 12 students from 8 countries received a thorough training and are now prepared to use their skills within their respective research projects!

Information on the Dendroweeks is available at <http://www.dendrochronology.se/Dendroweeks.htm>



Field sampling in pine forests

Photo: Tuomas Aakala

NB Forest Policy and Research Briefs

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SNS Project name and number: Prifor 2014-06

Published March , 2015

Nordic Forest Research (SNS) www.nordicforestresearch.org

