



Photo: Pierre Mens.

Building bridges

Building bridges is a recurrent theme in this issue of News & Views, in which we present new inter-Nordic networks in forest research and marketing. The photo to the left illustrates this new era of international collaboration, showing the high-level of the bridge under construction between Denmark and Sweden.

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Finnish and Swedish paper research institutes extend co-operation

The two paper-research institutes KCL in Finland and STFI in Sweden have launched a new initiative to deepen their co-operation.

"It is natural that we establish new alliances", says Mr Olle Ahlsholm, managing director of STFI to News&Views. "The paper-making companies are getting bigger and bigger and becoming more and more international. StoraEnso OY, the big Swedish-Finnish group formed two years ago, is of course the most obvious example".

"We foresee room for only ten or twelve real global paper making companies in the future. And they will seek the most competent staff available for their R&D—regardless of national boundaries", Mr Ahlsholm says.

"Co-operation between our two

institutes will help us both to become strong players on this new stage. We will start by jointly running pilot R&D programs in the areas of chemical and mechanical pulping. Experience gained will be used when considering further regional and global co-ordination of the Institutes' activities".

Facts about STFI

English name: The Swedish Pulp and Paper Research Institute
Number of employees: 225

Facts about KCL

English name: The Finnish Pulp and Paper Research Institute
Number of employees: 350



The EuroFEX research paper machine at STFI, Sweden.
Photo: STFI

Joint Nordic promotions on the European timber market

Increased timber consumption on the European market: that is the goal for a new marketing-campaign to be launched shortly. Behind the campaign stand the sawmill industries and the private forest owners in Norway, Sweden and Finland.

The Europeans annually consume some 70 million cubic metres of timber. "This level has been constant for several years," says Finn Johansen, administrative director for the Norwegian Timber Association, in an interview in the Norwegian journal Norsk Skogbruk (Norwegian Forestry).

"We must increase the market. Otherwise Nordic timber suppliers might find themselves in a tough situation, when timber starts to flow in from the Baltic States and Russia.

It is also time to take up the challenge of substitutes, such as aluminium and concrete, he says.

The campaign will start in selected test-areas in England. The aim is to direct the marketing towards both private consumers and construction companies.

"We will have ads both on television and in magazines. Women form a key target group. We will focus on two messages: wood is good for design, and it is easy to clean", Mr Johansen says.

If the test run is successful, the campaign will continue in the rest of England, Germany, and the Netherlands.

The preliminary budget is Skr300 million and the campaign will last for three to five years, but the final financial decisions before launching it are to be taken in Finland in November 1999.

Source: Norsk Skogbruk No. 7/8 1999



Swedish-Danish axis in forest research

Three forest research bodies in Denmark and Sweden have signed a mutual action plan for future co-operation.

The joint operations will be focused on three main activities: education and research within hardwood silviculture and urban forestry.

There is a clear need for more knowledge of urban forestry: two major cities, Copenhagen on the Danish side

and Malmö on the Swedish, will soon be connected by a bridge, thereby establishing a centre with more than 3.5 million people within a radius of 100 km. This is by far the most densely populated area in the otherwise quite sparsely inhabited region of Scandinavia. The participating research bodies are:

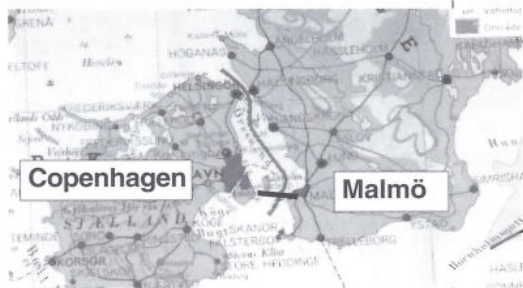
From Denmark

- The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Unit of forestry

• The Danish Forest and Landscape Research Institute

From Sweden

- Department of Southern Swedish Forest Research Centre at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.



Christmas trees and foliage

Production of Christmas trees and foliage is a thriving business in Denmark. An exhibition and fair in August 1999 attracted more than 2,600 growers from all over the country.

The Danish Forest and Landscape Institute also arranged a field excursion during the fair, which emphasised two main points for the producers:

1. Analyse the chemical properties of soil and needles. This can give valuable information on nutrient deficits that may mar the growth and colour of your "crop".
2. The best growing provenances of *Abies nobilis* are probably not the best suited for foliage production. More slow-growing provenances normally have a more attractive blue coloration for decorative purposes.

Source: FSL-Nyt No. 3 1999.

Iceland celebrates 100 years of forestry

Icelanders consider the planting of the "Furulund" ("Pine Stand") at Thingvellir in 1899 to represent the beginning of organised forestry on the island.

The 100th anniversary was marked by a ceremony at Thingvellir, August 8, 1999. The celebration also encompassed various other events, including conferences, excursions and the publication of a book.

The event provided an opportunity to look ahead to what is to come. A common opinion was that the future of Icelandic forestry looks bright, with afforestation efforts set to increase, and changes in land use underway that will allow increased natural extension of woodlands.

The pine stand at Thingvellir also symbolises a starting point for Nordic co-operation in Icelandic forestry. The planting was instigated by a Danish sea captain, Carl Ryder, and organised by two other Danes, Prof. Carl V. Prytz

and Christian Flensburg. The planting itself was, however, carried out by an Icelander, Einar Helgason.

Meanwhile, the Pine Stand is starting its second century of growth. Located within the Thingvellir national park, it has become part of the rich history that the park encapsulates.

Source: *Pröstur Eysteinnsson*.
throstur@simnet.is

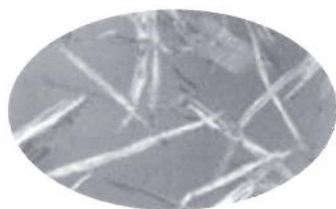
The 100th anniversary at Thingvallir.
At the rostrum: Olov Olde, Norway.



Strong fibres detectable in young trees

With breeding, it is possible to improve the wood properties of the trees. In a recent thesis, Björn Hannrup, of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, shows that there is a strong genetic correlation between the wood properties of young Scots pine trees and their properties at later stages. Hence, in a breeding programme, it is possible to select for desirable wood properties even at a young age.

Source: *Notiser från SLU, No. 4 1999.*



Forest research in 4th EU programme

The fifth Framework Programme is now well under way. The outcome of the fourth Framework Programme can now be summarised. SNS has analysed Nordic participation in approved projects concerning forestry and forest industry.

Only Finland and Sweden were represented among the project co-ordinators (8 and 14, respectively). It can be noted that as many as 33 projects included participants from more than one Nordic country.

Source: *CORDIS*



Total number of approved forest-related projects:

Programme	No.
FAIR:	
The Forestry-Wood Chain	38
Multifunctional Management of Forests	38
ENVIRONMENT 2:	
Environment and Climate	27
TRAINING AND MOBILITY OF RESEARCHERS	4
In total:	107

Participation in forest-related projects by Nordic countries:

Denmark *	20
Finland *	31
Iceland	3
Norway	11
Sweden *	40

* member of the EU

GIS helps researchers understand bark beetles

"With the aid of Geographical Information Systems, GIS, we have been able to carry out extensive measurements of distances between bark beetle attacks and stands susceptible to attack. This has helped us in our understanding of the biology of the bark beetle", says Lars Wichmann and Hans Peter Ravn in an article published in the Danish magazine "SKOVEN". They also give an illustrative example: "We measured 246.068 distances in order to find the shortest distance between two attacks. This took us less than 10 seconds with a standard Pentium PC!"

The researchers used old data,

collected during an attack of the spruce bark beetle following extensive storm damage to spruce stands in Denmark in 1981.

The bark beetle multiplied ... the windfalls, and the surrounding forests were heavily attacked in the following years. The spread of the attack was carefully recorded.

The two researchers have now analysed the old data using a GIS-system. Key results:

- Although the bark beetle can fly several kilometres, most attacks occurred closer than 500 metres from previous ones.
- Forests surrounding areas where the storm-felled trees were taken away after June 1982 were much more heavily attacked in 1983, than those in areas where the trees were removed earlier. The bark beetle had presumably used the windfalls for propagation.
- The least serious attacks

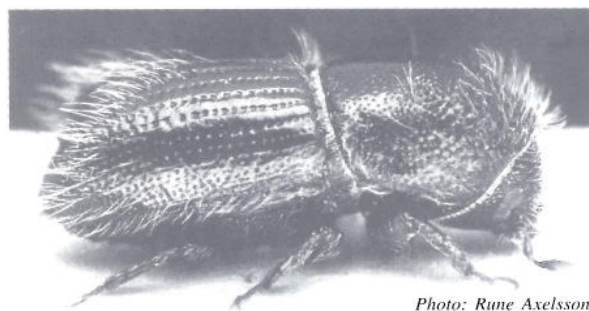


Photo: Rune Axelsson

occurred close to areas where the trees were removed between May 15 and June 1. During this period, the mature beetles tend to remain in the trees for breeding, and the new generation has not yet left the trees. The processing of the storm-felled trees in this period may have killed many of the beetles.

- Traps with pheromones attracting spruce bark beetles had only a minor effect on the rate of attacks on surrounding forests.

Source: SKOVEN 6/7 1999

Note: The dates given are of course only relevant for Danish conditions.

Rold Forest



Millennium celebration

1,200 kilometre line of trees through France

"A woodland monument that will come into its fullness as the years go by..." This is the description of a giant millennium tree-planting project in France.

More than 10,000 trees are to be planted in a line along the meridian that passes through Paris. From Dunkirk in the north to the Spanish border in the south. In fact, even beyond the border, since authorities in the Catalonia region of Spain have agreed to continue the tree line to Barcelona.

The architect of the project, Paul

Chemetov, explains: "The green meridian constitutes a symbolic way in which to share time. All over France, it will represent the passage from one millennium to another".

On November 25, 1999, school children from different regions will plant trees. In June 2000, a footpath will open along the so-called Green Meridian, inviting anyone who wants to hike, or stroll, through France.

On July 14, 2000, the French National holiday, there will be a giant picnic and a host of festivities along the line.



More info: http://www.tour-eiffel.fr/teiffel/an2000_uk/gene/page/fs_evenement.html

Icelandic inventor awarded

Markús Runólfsson from Langagerði in Hvolhreppur, south Iceland, was recently awarded the *Hornsteinn* (Cornerstone) award for his contribution to land conservation and afforestation.

A former farmer, Markús has taken a keen interest in afforestation since 1950. He has been chair of the Rangárvallasýsla Forestry Association for 12 years.

Markús has invented a planting machine, a form of plough towed by a tractor, which can plant up to 1,000 seedlings per hour. Two people operate the machine. By the end of the autumn, he will have planted half a million seedlings for the Forestry Association.

"Results are much better using the planter than with conventional techniques: with this method, the plants are sheltered by the furrow, and are planted deeper," comments Markús.

Markús has planted seedlings in many areas of the Rangárvallasýsla region, where the forestry association has several thousand hectares at its disposal. In the Markarfljót river delta, the soil is largely composed of sand and gravel.

Trees and lupins have been planted

here over the years: the lupins providing shelter and nutrition for the tree seedlings. According to Markús, the seedlings thrive far better when planted with lupins.

Alder, birch and Sitka spruce have been planted on the delta. The Sitka spruce, says Markús, has difficulty in establishing in barren soil, but it does well when sheltered by the furrow made by the planter and by the lupins.

Source: *Sunnlenska fréttablaðið* (The South Iceland newspaper)
Reporter & photographer: Helgi Valberg



Recent PhD's in forestry in Finland

University of Helsinki

Kundu Sunil. Genetic diversity, mating system, adaptation and domestication in the Neem tree (*Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.).

Lippu Jukka. Assimilation and allocation of carbon in Scots pine seedlings during shoot elongation and as affected by soil temperature.

Peltonen Mikko. Bark beetles at forest edges.

Sirén Matti. Hakkuukonetyön korjuujälki ja siihen vaikuttavat tekijät. – A monograph in Finnish.

Vaara Lauri. Toimitus- ja pystykauppapuun hintasuhteet ja puunkorjuun rationaalisuus. – A monograph in Finnish.

Kytö Maarit. Impact of forest fertilization on the vitality and pest resistance of conifers.

Li Chunyang. Drought adaptation and genetic diversity in *Eucalyptus microtheca*.

University of Joensuu

Marja Kolström. Effect of forest management on biodiversity in boreal forests: a model approach.

Liisa Tyrväinen. Monetary valuation of urban forest amenities in Finland.

Cecil C. Konijnendijk. Urban forestry in Europe: A comparative study of concepts, policies and planning for forest conservation, management and development in and around major European cities.

Olavi Rautiainen. Growth dynamics and management of *Shorea robusta* forests in southern Nepal

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief:**Good news for authors!**

We have decided to subsidise an additional 44 pages in this issue, and subsequent ones, until the queue of accepted manuscripts has reached a more "normal" level.

Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research has endeavoured to maintain a high standard of scientific quality in the papers published. This principle has been rewarded by a gratifying interest among members of the scientific community to publish their work in the journal. I think I may safely say that the standard of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research has significantly

increased during the last few years.

From this year on, the journal is being published in six issues annually instead of four, resulting in a higher total number of pages than in previous volumes. However, this increase has not been sufficient to keep up with the inflow of manuscripts of high quality of interest to our

readers. The result is that the queue of accepted manuscripts has grown faster than expected. Thus, regrettably, many authors have had to wait an unacceptably long time to see their work in print.

+44
pages

A prime goal for a scientific journal must be that the time between submission and publication of manuscripts is short, enabling important research findings to reach an international audience as quickly as possible. This is certainly the explicit aim of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research.

I would like to thank our authors for their patience, and I hope that the effort described will ensure your continued confidence in the journal.

Jan-Erik Hällgren
Chairman of SNS
Editor-in-Chief

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Urban forestry researcher awarded

Cecil Cornelis Konijnendijk has been given the Tim Peck prize. The prize is awarded by EFI, The European Forest Institute in Joensuu, Finland.

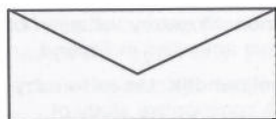
Prize-winner Cecil is a Dutch forester, mainly interested in urban forestry, forest policy analysis and forestry education, who has recently received his PhD.

Tim Peck is a British forester, active for many years in the FAO/ECE Agriculture and Timber division at

Geneva, and a former chairman of EFI.

The objective of the prize is to promote the scientific career of young forest researchers. The prize is to be given to a person working or involved in an EFI-project. The award is worth 1,000 euro.

More info: EFI, Finland

**Letters to the editors**

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- short
- relevant to the Journal
- interesting for the readers.

Examples: comments on papers published in the Journal, views on ongoing research, trends in research policy, opinion about forestry practice etc.

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