AGROFORESTRY AS A SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION SYSTEM

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Drought conditions in Europe 2011



precipitation percentage of normals for Febuary to May 2011

Source: WMO



Europe's long drought has created severe conditions like this at the Loire River, near the Anjou-Bretagne Bridge in western France.

Credit: Stephane Mahe/Reuters

Corn field in the Great Plain, June, 2012

Poor yield due to severe drought

"Agroforestry is a collective name for land-use systems and technologies where woody perennials are deliberately used on the same land-management units as agricultural crops and/or animals, in some form of spatial arrangement or temporal

sequence "

(FAO)

Source of picture : EURAF



I. Agrisilvicultural systems (trees combined with crops) - Alley cropping









I. Agrisilvicultural systems – Shelterbelts and windbreaks, live hedges









II. Silvopastoral systems (trees and pastures or animals)Trees on rangeland or pastures, plantation crops and animals





Hereford cattle browsing in a mixed-species hedgerow in 2014, Hereford, UK L. Whistance (AFINET)



Multipurpose woody hedgerows: woody hedges for browse, mulch, green manure, soil conservation, etc.

III. Agrosilvopastoral systems (animals, trees and crops)



Apiculture with trees

Source: TourdeFarm https://tourdefarm.in/blog/5-reasons-why-a-visit-to-a-honey-bee-farm-is-an-enlightening-and-excitingexperience/

Soil protection functions

- Increasing soil biodiversity
- Erosion control
- Improving groundwater management
- Improving nutrient flow
- Reduce leaching



Environmental functions

- Preserving biodiversity
- More favorable
 microclimate
- Increasing resource
 efficiency
- Carbon Sequestration
- Reduction of GHG emissions

Economic functions

- A range of diff. products: agricultural products, quality timber, firewood, feed..
- Carbon-trading
- Better living space, multifunctionality
- Reduce production costs



Dry period in Dehesa: grass remains green under trees

Santiago-Freijanes, J.J., Mosquera-Losada, M.R., Rois-Díaz, M. et al. Agroforest Syst (2018). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10457-018-0215-9

Use of nitrate by tree and pasture roots (green lines) and nitrate leaching (red lines)



Introduction of trees into pastures could reduce nitrate leaching and improve water quality.

Source: A. Rigueiro-Rodríguez et al.: Agroforestry Systems in Europe: Productive, Ecological and Social Perspectives.Springer, 2009.

Products and services offered by the Pyrenean oak silvopastoral system and interactions between the two components



Source: Antonio Rigueiro-Rodríguez • Jim McAdam, María Rosa Mosquera-Losada (Editors): Agroforestry in Europe. Chapter 6. Silvopastoral Systems in Portugal: Current Status and Future Prospects (by M Castro)

Trees in grazed arable land provide also environmental benefits such as protection for livestock



Here an oak tree in Italy (Maremma grossetana, Southern Toscana) (SAFE project)



Variety of high value products from agroforestry systems: fodder, fuelwood, timber





Variety of high value products from agroforestry systems crops, cork, fruits, meat, milk, egg....



Montado + cattle, SouthEast Portugal. Photo by João HN Palma agforward Holm oak, pasture + turkey. Photo taken by João HN Palma agforward Predicted interactions between relative tree yield and crop yield within selected agroforestry systems





Shelterbelts and windbreaks: protection against snow drifts on the roads and snow accumulation on agricultural lands









Natural plant protection

Agroforestry for remediation purposes



Agroforestry helps regenerate soil and ecosystems in mining area in Germany (Source: D. Freese, Technical University of Cottbus)

HOW CAN AGROFORESTRY SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE LAND USE?

- Habitat diversification
- Provides protection for plants and animals (shade and shelter against strong sun, heat, wind, snow) and helps migration
- Improve micro-climate
- Improve water and nutrient balance
- Improve organic matter content of soil
- Diversified economic systems that are more resilient to risk

INCREASE THE SECURITY and RESILIENCE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION -> ADAPTATION

MAINTAIN AND PROTECT NATIONAL RESOURCE SERVICES



 AF has been implemented in the policies worldwide
 In the new CAP agroforestry receives support through Pillar II. (Art. 23, new Rural Development <u>Regulation 1305/2013)</u>

AGROFORESTRY IN EUROPE

Total extent of agroforestry in Europe based on LUCAS data



ESTIMATED EXTENT OF AREA COVERED BY AGROFORESTRY IN HUNGARY (AGFORWARD)

| Type of agroforestry system | Area (ha) |
|--|-----------|
| High value tree agroforestry: Intercropped fruit (including nuts) | 2 000 |
| Livestock agroforestry: | 36 100 |
| woodland | 2 000 |
| grassland with sparse tree cover | 22 100 |
| shrubland with sparse | 2 000 |
| | |
| Sum | 38 100 |





Based on the LUCAS land cover maps, the estimated total area covered by agro-forestry systems is 0.4% of the country's territory and 0.8% of the areas under agricultural cultivation.

Forrás: Michel den Herder et al. (2016 Current extent and trends of agroforestry in the EU27 . Deliverable 1.2: AGFORWARD (613520) .





SOIL MICROCLIMATE EXPERIMENT IN ALLEY CROPPING

- Area size: 2ha
- 1 ha of alley cropping: 126 pcs Paulownia tomentosa var. Continental E. seedlings in 6 rows with alfalfa intercrop
- 1ha control site with alfalfa crop







- Distinct difference between the agroforestry and the control area in soil moisture and soil temperature, from the age of 2 years of trees.
- The presence of trees resulted in a reduction of mean soil temperature, the variation of temperature values, and the frequency of extreme values occurrence.
- In hot and dry periods, soil water conditions were more favourable in the agroforestry system.
- The presence of trees reduced significantly soil temperature variability in the upper 10 cm layer.



The use of trees in alley cropping improved soil moisture for shallow-rooted crops (eg. cereals and vegetables) and also reduced the extreme changes in soil temperature during periods of drought or in extreme cold weather conditions.

| Leading institution (L) / Hungarian partner (P) | Program / Date | Subject |
|--|----------------------------|--|
| University of Sopron, Faculty of Forestry (L) | State financed , 1960's | The effect of shelterbelts on crop yields; development of shelterbelt systems Survey of shelterbelt systems, develop guidelines of establishment and sustainable management |
| | From the 90's | Introduction of woody elements (SRC) in arable systems |
| Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Ecology MTA Centre for Ecological Research (L) | 2006- | Survey of traditional forest-pasture systems |
| Szent István University, Faculty of Horticulture (L) | 2010 - | Establishment and examination of pilot forest garden system |
| University of Debrecen (P) | EU Leonardo 2013-2015 | AGROFE – Transfer of agroforestry knowledge by transforming research results into pedagogical material |
| University of Sopron, Co-operational Research Centre (P) | FP7 2014-2017 | AGFORWARD -Promote agroforestry practices in Europe that will advance rural development |

| University of Debrecen (P) | ERASMUS+ 2015-2018 | AgrofMM – Training in agroforestry |
|---|--|--|
| University of Sopron, Co-operational Research Centre (P) | H2020 2017-2019 | AFINET – Agroforestry Innovation Networks |
| University of Miskolc (L) University of Sopron (P), University of Pécs (P), University of Szeged (P) | Széchenyi 2020 EFOP-3.6.2-16 Thematic research networks 2017-2020 | Sustainable raw material management thematic network development - RING 2017 (Agroforestry invloved) |
| University of Sopron (L) University of Kaposvár (P), University of Dunaújváros (P) | Széchenyi 2020 EFOP-3.6.2-16 - 2017-00018 Thematic research networks 2017-2020 | Grow together with nature – agroforestry as a new breakout opportunity |

Synergies between national and international activities

AFINET:

Farmers experienced the benefits of agroforestry share their knowledge, innovations and best practices ... http://www.eurafagrofores

try.eu/afinet









Synergies between national and international activities

AGFOSY

...aims to raise awareness of the sustainable opportunities provided by Agroforestry, and the benefits this offers our environment

https://www.facebook.com/ AGFOSY/







Synergies between national and international activities..







Featured Farm





Agricultural fields are usually alternated with wooded lands with oaks, ash, maple, etc. managed as coppice to produce fuelwood destined to local energy market.

Introduction of a Hungarian farmer family, Tüzkövesbörc Farm



Agroforestry initiatives in Flanders (Belgium)



Eric Avermaete is a farmer in the neighborhood of Tienen, about 50 km east of Brussels. He grows cereals, sugar beets, potatoes and corn.





The farm started this activity only few years ago with a handful of chickens.

Wakelyns Agroforestry - a diverse organic silvoarable system in the UK



Agroforestry on municipally owned sites - example Donzdorf (Germany)



Between 2007 and 2010 the city established five agroforestry plots

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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