

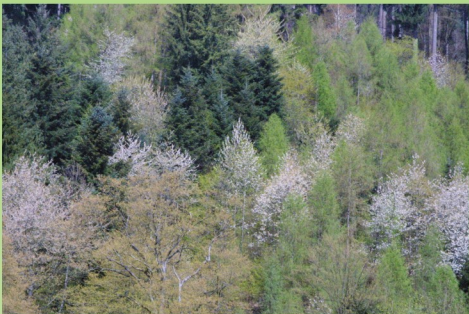
Growing Valuable
Broadleaved Tree Species

ValBro

Increasing expert knowledge
through cooperation of European countries.

Background

Valuable broadleaved tree species are an increasingly important element of forest production in Europe.



Broadleaved tree species have been neglected and pushed back from their natural sites by forest devastation and afforestation with coniferous species in former times. Missing knowledge about the management of valuable broadleaved species reduced the willingness to cultivate them. This development has contributed to the expansion of European monoculture forests with little diversity of habitats.



www.valbro.de



cost
E42



Ecological and economic considerations recently increased the interest in growing valuable broadleaved tree species. High-quality timber of these trees realise high prices on the market and demand exceeds supply. But the current level of knowledge of these species is insufficient. More information on how to grow valuable broadleaved species to obtain high-quality wood and more research into new opportunities for forest management are urgently required.

Growing Valuable
Broadleaved Tree Species

ValBro

Increasing expert knowledge
through cooperation of European countries.

Participating countries
(marked in blue)



Objectives and benefits

The main objective of ValBro is to increase knowledge of growing valuable broadleaved tree species, with emphasis on the production of valuable wood and with the intent to promote non-wood products that can be produced in parallel with, or in addition to the main product. Such products are biodiversity, nature conservation, habitat values, landscape and recreational values and products that can be collected parallel to wood production.



The benefit of this study will be the exchange of information between countries and research institutes. The available knowledge will be explored for the creation of new management options. Furthermore, management regimes, forestry practices and experience in the European countries will be brought together. A Europe-wide communication- and cooperation- system will be established: this COST Action will provide a good platform to put new knowledge into practice.

Structure and organisation

The organisational structure of ValBro consists of a management committee, a steering committee and 3 working groups, where most of the scientific work is done:

- Working group 1:** Basics of growing valuable broadleaved tree species.
- Working group 2:** Management for quality-wood production.
- Working group 3:** Non-wood goods and services.

The **management committee** is responsible for the coordination of the working results and runs the COST Action.

The **steering committee** ensures short dated decisions in between the regular meetings and facilitates the organisation of meetings.

Contact

Chair:
Prof. Heinrich Spiecker
Institute for Forest Growth
Albert- Ludwigs- Universität
Tennenbacherstrasse 04
79085 Freiburg
Tel.: +49-761-203 3737
Instwww@uni-freiburg.de

For further information please visit:
<http://www.valbro.de>
<http://www.cost.esf.org>