Adapting planted forests genetic to future climate and other risks

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EFI Sept 2019 Aberdeen

Plantation forests to native forests: delivering multiple ecosystem benefits in a changing climate

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 773383

The components of a successful planted forest project



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A positive perception of adaptive tree breeding from the European forest sector

Best 2019 survey coordinated by D. Roitsch & G. Winkel (EFI) 565 responses – 9 EU countries

High expectations on

Diversification of tree species
Plantation with improved FRM and revision of guidelines
Enrichment of natural regeneration with better adapted FRM





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Adaptation to future climate and other risks is dealing with

1- the <u>uncertainty</u> about climatic scenarios



2- increased interannual variability





B₄est WP1 : Combine decision theory, thresholds and scenarios with selected climatic indices





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The Tree Breeder Tool box



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B∧est



A multitrait selection which manages trade-offs



Genomic selection to accelerate breeding cycles

Genomic selection to compromise genetic gain and genetic diversity **11**



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Low-stress site

Male Cones

Cone



Bark

hickness

Proportion

Share information **DNA-based tools**

about trade-offs and

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Longer term options -> Explore new genetic diversity

Controlled crosses between complementary genotypes



Increase frequency of « adapted » alleles and genotypes Infusion of genetic diversity

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« Orchards for future generations » Ex-situ collections with high genetic diversity in multiple environments



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The Tree Breeder Tool box



100= unimproved local seed stand



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Sv404

Suhola 2

Finland

118

67.3

128.8

40



The Tree Breeder Tool box



100= unimproved local seed stand



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Take home messages

- Forest reproductive materials need human help to <u>adapt quickly</u> to future climate and increased biotic and abiotic risks
- Maintain genetic diversity in selected FRM will ensure higher adaptive potential for an uncertain future
- <u>High phenotypic plasticity</u> has been observed in selected FRM and in natural genetic resources
- Evaluation of performances in **wider range of environments** is needed : how to share resources, evaluation efforts, expertises on different risks and performance information?
- <u>User-friendly decision support tools</u> are needed to promote updated deployment guidelines of a more diverse portfolio of improved FRM.

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Best

Acknowledgments

- EFI for the invitation to the 2019 annual meeting in Aberdeen
- All partners of the Best H2020 project (2018-2022)
- All respondents from forest-based sector to 2019 Best survey
- Partners from other national or European initiatives involved in a responsible management of forest genetic resources that will secure the future of forests



Best