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Restoration and Reforestation (PEN-CAFoRR)*

# **PEN-CAFoRR Final Conference**

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## **ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

## **Innovations in nursery production, afforestation and reforestation in Serbia**

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In this study, we tested the old and prevailing view that forestry is a traditional and mature sector with low innovation potential. To test this statement, we used patent information from the National Register of petty patents from the Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Serbia. Patent information is a rich but insufficiently used method of assessing the technical progress, creativity and innovativeness of individuals and employees in a given sector. An intensive and targeted search found 49 patents that are directly related to or have the potential to be used in nursery production, afforestation and reforestation. The patents were registered between 1996 and 2023. Based on a technical problem solved by a patent, we found seven specific groups of patents: 1. nursery tools and equipment (39%), 2. plant protection tools and equipment (27%), 3. irrigation tools and equipment (12%), 4. laboratory and measuring tools and equipment (6%), 5. climate smart tools and equipment (6%), 6. Machinery (6%), 7. afforestation and reforestation tools and equipment (4%). Most patents are owned by individuals (78%), universities, research institutions and vocational secondary schools (18%) and companies (4%). All patents are presented graphically with a brief explanation connected with practical application in nursery production, afforestation and reforestation. The results show that there are market-oriented or problem-solving drivers for innovation in the forestry sector and that there are individuals and employees with creativity and innovativeness.

**Keywords:** Patent; Noveties; Knowledge; Technology