BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

SERBIAN-CHINESE FORESTRY FORUM

FORESTS FOR THE FUTURE: CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES AND INTEGRATED APPROACHES

BELGRADE, 2025

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PREFACE

The University of Belgrade – Faculty of Forestry, in cooperation with the College of Forestry and Biotechnology of Zhejiang A&F University, organised the scientific conference Serbian–Chinese Forestry Forum "Forests of the Future – Challenges, Opportunities and Integrated Approaches." Thanks to the initiative of colleagues from our partner institution, the national conference gained an important international dimension.

Collaboration between our faculties has so far taken place primarily through the mobility of master's students from China, who attend one semester of the master's programme Forestry and Natural Resources Management, in English, at the University of Belgrade – Faculty of Forestry. The visit of the delegation from Zhejiang raised new questions and opportunities for reciprocal student exchange, as well as for joint participation in international projects.

Numerous issues related to sustainable forest ecosystem management, biodiversity conservation, and the restoration of degraded habitats under climate change represent shared challenges for forestry scientists worldwide. Modern forestry connects tradition with new knowledge and technologies – from sustainable forest management and the protection of soil and water resources to the development of renewable materials and the creation of green spaces that enhance quality of life.

The Forum provided a platform for the exchange of knowledge and ideas among students, teachers, researchers, and professionals from various forestry-related sectors. Its goal was to strengthen academic cooperation, stimulate innovation, and promote the development of green, sustainable technologies, with special emphasis on students and young researchers.

With more than 220 participants and 71 submitted abstracts presenting research results and project activities, the content of the Forum was organised into five thematic sections:

1. The State and Challenges of Forestry in Serbia and China
2. New and Green Technologies and Knowledge in Forestry, Wood Technology, Landscape Architecture and Horticulture, and Ecological Engineering in the Protection of Soil and Water Resources
3. Responses and Adaptation of Trees and Forests to Environmental Stress
4. Forests and Human Well-Being (Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Ecological, Economic, and Social Dimensions)
5. The Role of Young Researchers and Innovation in the Future of Forestry (Student Projects, Start-up Ideas, and International Cooperation)

The Organising Committee will publish the full papers, after peer review, in a special issue of the Bulletin of the Faculty of Forestry. The Book of Abstracts will be available online, along with other activities carried out during the Forum. The programme was enriched by an excursion to the Bojčinska Forest, where participants were introduced to the management system of floodplain pedunculate oak forests (Quercus robur L.) and established agroforestry systems.

Finally, we wish to express our sincere gratitude to the College of Forestry and Biotechnology of Zhejiang A&F University for their support and cooperation in organising the Forum, as well as to everyone who contributed to preparing and publishing the Book of Abstracts.

Chair of the Organising Committee
Prof. Snežana Belanović Simić, D.Sc.

TOPIC 5

The Role of Young Researchers and Innovation in the Future of Forestry

DEFINING THE INITIAL SUCCESS OF FOREST REGENERATION THROUGH THE APPLICATION OF DIFFERENT METHODS AND CRITERIA

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ABSTRACT
This paper presents the results of research based on the assessment of regeneration success in a pedunculate oak stand within the management unit ''Kupinski kut''. Determining regeneration success in a pedunculate oak stand is of great importance in the initial phase of sapling development, as the results of this assessment guide future steps in the forest management process. The aim of this study was to gain insight into the current state of regeneration within the sample plot using different methods, to perform a comparative analysis of the obtained results, and to examine the possibilities of applying these methods in the territory of the Republic of Serbia. Field research was conducted in 2025. The stand was established artificially, on a site previously occupied by an artificially established poplar stand that had been clear-cut. A four-year pedunculate oak sapling layer was analysed on the sample plot in order to determine the success of regeneration. Seven methods were used to assess the initial success of forest regeneration. For the purpose of assessing the regeneration success, the following criteria were considered: sapling density, distance between saplings, weed-cover classes in which the regeneration occurs, quality classes, presence of herbaceous and shrub vegetation, biotic and abiotic damage, sapling height, root-collar diameter, and shoot length. A comparative analysis of the results showed significant variations in seedling density, ranging from 13.508 to 64.500 individuals per hectare. Application of the selected methods indicated that the regeneration success was satisfactory according to established regeneration-success classification systems. The obtained results suggest that regeneration success is satisfactory and that the examined methods may be applicable in forests in Serbia.

Keywords: forest regeneration, saplings, pedunculate oak, regeneration success, regeneration assessment methods.

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