

Abstract template for the conference “A century of national forest inventories – informing past, present and future decisions”

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On page two, you are asked to fill in your abstract in the format and font size indicated. Please remember to include authors affiliation information in the footer section of page two. The length of the abstract may not be more than one page including references.

Abstract title:		The multi-objective Spanish National Forest Inventory
Take-home message:		<i>By broadening the variables recorded, the Spanish National Forest Inventory (SNFI), has become an even more important source of forest information for the development of support tools for decision-making and assessment in diverse strategic fields. Recently, the SNFI has developed new protocols for assessment stem quality and different non-wood forest products.</i>
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General topic, see website: <small>(please double click on the check box and activate the relevant one)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Improving future NFIs by learning from the past
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NFIs today and in the future
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cutting edge and futuristic inventory techniques and technologies
Preferred presentation form:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oral presentation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Poster

The multi-objective Spanish National Forest Inventory

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Introduction: National forest inventories (NFIs) are the primary source of forest data for national and large-area assessments. Their scope has been broadened to include new variables, so to improve and to increase forest information requirements. The main aims of this study are twofold: i) to present the new field protocols dealing with the improvement of the information provided for wood statistics (stem quality) and non-wood forest products (NWFP); and ii) to present applications of the Spanish National Forest Inventory (SNFI) as a multi-objective inventory capable of responding to the demand for forest information regarding bioeconomy and forest biodiversity.

Methods: The SNFI is designed with a 10 years monitoring cycle. The SNFI covers all forest land in Spain. From the second cycle onwards, the plots are permanent, enabling growth comparisons and stratification to be undertaken post-sampling. Recently, a new methodology for monitoring the productive forests of the Northern Iberian Peninsula stand has been established with a 5 years monitoring period. To the usual dendrometric parameters, additional ones related with the quality of the wood, such as branches height or twisted fibre, the silvicultural treatments applied and the presence of relevant pests and diseases, are recorded. Additionally, new protocols are being or have been already implemented for the assessment of NWFP production. A set of indicators has been selected to characterize wood quality and NWFP production. The tree and shrub species richness and the horizontal and vertical structure by forest type and bioregion was compared.

Results: The new wood quality data recorded, will allow to better determine wood assortments regionally and nationally, improving the accuracy of national statistics by reducing differences between the data obtained from the fellings derived from the SNFI and those provided by the regions from timber industry. The estimates for NWFP yield will provide harmonized estimates of their production at different spatial scales, as well as analyse both their evolution and their valorisation. Forest biodiversity indicators allow the characterization of the Spanish forest types.

Conclusion: The results will provide information to improve our support decision-making tools at the national and regional level related to a complete set of timber (wood production, wood quality, biomass) and non-timber products (cork, pine nuts, resin) and for conservation purposes.

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