

Urban Forestry



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

Tento projekt je spolufinancován Evropským sociálním fondem a Státním rozpočtem ČR InoBio –
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Faculty
of Forestry
and Wood
Technology

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Urban forestry – introduction

Mendel
University
in Brno





Organization setup of course

- Termination of the course – all students will close the course with test
- The test will be the same for all students (with and without exam)
- Credits and exams will be given by test

Organization setup of course

- The course will be held in blocks
- Three blocks will cover the topics needed for successful exam
- One special block with invited lecturers will be organized on the end of the semester.

Students are encouraged to attend lectures on related topics, the information about those lectures will be given

Literature

- Is difficult to find at the university :-)
- Urban Forests and Trees by Cecil Konijnendijk is the basic source
- Urban forestry by Robert W. Miller
- Articles
- Don't be afraid to use Scopus or WoK, Springer site, etc. There is access to them paid by university.

Disclaimer

Dear students, English is not our native language. We apologize especially to those of you, who has it as the mother tongue. We will cripple the language of great Shakespeare in creative way, but not intentionally. If anyone wouldn't understand, feel free to ask.

What is Urban Forestry

Urban Forestry is a multidisciplinary approach to the **planning** and **management** of all forest and tree resources – ranging from street trees to peri-urban woodlands – in and near urban areas.

Origins of Urban Forestry

- Urban Forestry as we know it has been established in 60s and 70s of 20th century in USA with an attempt to bring various professions and approaches together to take a more integrative perspective on the tree-based part of urban green structures.

Origins of Urban Forestry

- In Europe arose a strong conflict between new concept of UF and recent concept of landscape architecture, horticulture and gardening.
- In some parts of Europe (e.g. Czech Republic) we are in the middle of process of reconciliation of those two approaches

How it all began

- Urban forestry, as the name induces, is connected with urban environment, with cities.
- While the history of Homo sapiens sapiens species hold for 40 000 to 200 000 years, most of this time we spent as nomads – hunters and gathrers

How it all began

- First settled populations arose in Africa about 15 000 B.C.

Do you know, what allowed the people to settle down?

How it all began

- First settled populations arose in Africa about 15 000 B.C.
- This is connected with the development of agriculture.
- Independence on hunting and gathering (so, no need to move because of exploitation) allowed rise of cities.

How it all began

- The woodlands has been used as a source of timber and firewood mainly
- With the development of society this type of use remains (Epping Forest).
 - Coppices and pollards to produce material, pasture
 - Hunting (for the allowed ones – king, aristocracy)

An example: Epping Forest

In Epping Forest the monarch kept deer, commoners and landowners grazed two thousand sheep and a thousand cattle and had wood cutting rights on tens of thousands of pollarded trees. Many

others grazed goats and other animals illicitly. The main tree species in Epping Forest were birch (*Betula*), crab apple (*Malus*), hawthorn (*Crataegus*), holly (*Ilex*), hornbeam (*Carpinus*), lime (*Tilia*), oak (*Quercus*) and beech (*Fagus*); though the relative quantities of these genera have altered over the years.

(Konijnendijk, *Urban Forest and Trees*)

An example: Epping Forest



An example

Trees were also
valuable source of
food (and drinks)



Fig. 2.2. Evidence of woodland surrounding towns is seen in paintings from the medieval period. Pieter Breughel's (1525/30–1569) painting 'Spring' depicts people busy planting a garden with a background of trees, houses and woodlands (reproduced by J. Cock, 1570)

How it all began

- But not only such an utilitarian use of woodlands was on the beginning of UF, also aesthetic function of trees was in the interest of people.
- Parks, gardens were created to recreation of aristocracy, but also common people. This trend can be dated to the 17th century.

How it all began

- Before this, in the Medieval period, people would have used “Commons and Greens”, lands used by the common people, for recreation and there is little evidence of the construction of public parks.
- Open spaces within the city walls were primarily used for growing vegetables, fruits, herbs and ... for drying laundry.
- Trees were mostly within the walls of private gardens, e.g. of monasteries.

And now...

- Nowadays urban forests and woodlands have more the recreational function than productive.
- Very valuable are urban trees as refuge for endangered species of insects or vertebræ.
- Thus, presence of trees in our environment is very important

And this is why we decide to create and learn this course. To help protect and develop green spaces in our cities.

Thank you for your attention ...