

DANUBEPARKS POPLARS - BLACK POPLAR CONSERVATION: Tasks, Objectives and Needs for Co-operation

Conference on Black Poplar
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DANUBE PARKS STEP 2.0

Anchoring the Danube River Network of Protected Areas as Platform for Preservation of Danube Natural Heritage

Network Of 17 Protected Areas

- Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve
- Lower Prut Nature Reserve
- Lower Prut Floodplain Natural Reserve
- Kalimok-Brushlen Protected Site
- Rusenski Lom Nature Park
- Persina Nature Park
- Đerdap National Park
- Lonjsko Polje Nature Park
- Kopački rit Nature Park
- Gornje Podunavlje Special Nature Reserve
- Duna-Dráva National Park
- Duna-Ipoly National Park
- Fertő-Hátság National Park
- Dunajské Luhy Protected Landscape Area
- Záhorie Protected Landscape Area
- Donau-Auen National Park
- Donauwald Neuburg Ingolstadt



The focus of DANUBEPARKS STEP 2.0

- to build on the achievements of the first joint project, anchor results firmly either by implementation actions or by integrating them into a policy framework and to further enlarge the network. The areas of work are [River Morphology](#), [Habitat Management](#), [Flagship Species](#), [Monitoring](#), [Tourism](#) and Anchoring of the [Network](#). Between October 2012 and September 2014, a budget of € 2.2 mio is to be invested in nature protection along the Danube.

Project Structure DANUBEPARKS STEP 2.0

- WP1 Project Management
- WP2 Communication & Dissemination
- WP3 STEP 2.0 Sustainable Transnational Environmental Platform
- WP4 Flagship species go for Stakeholder
- WP5 River Morphology goes Policy
- WP6 Building joint quality for joint tourism

Why Black Poplar?

- Black poplar (*Populus nigra* L.) is a main habitat species along the European rivers and plays a main role in the initial development of riparian forests having possibility to quickly widespread its seeds throughout the wind and water



Black Poplar

- Belongs to the hydrologically conditioned species, which grow naturally in **river inundations**, forming a complex of alluvial hygrophilous forests
- Heavily dependent on the hydrologic conditions of the riverside environment for its regeneration;
- Regulation of water flows for river navigation, flood control and agriculture in the last two centuries **destroyed 80% of natural floodplains along the Danube**, which are loss of habitat for rich flora and fauna of the Danube Basin.
- In Serbia, Special Nature Reserve „Gornje Podunavlje" represents the largest wetland and in terms of nature conservation has great significance

Current state

- Reduced natural sites
- Reduced natural populations
- Prevailing of old populations
- Lack of young populations
- Unfavourable health and biological vitality

Threats

- Alternation of riparian ecosystems, hydro-melioration works and changed natural water regime
- Lack of favourable sites for natural regeneration
- Pressure of diseases (*Dothichiza populea*, *Melampsora spp*, *Marssonina brunnea*)



Needs

- Gene pool protection
- New sites for reproduction
- Dynamic floodplains
- Recent deposits of sand and shingle
- Free of vegetation
- Optimal water / soil conditions
- Reproductive material
- Collaborative work



ВОЈВОДИНАШУМЕ
Петроварадин



Број: 886

Датум: 31. 03. 2008. год.

Due to specific problems in restoring and preserving the remaining black poplar (*Populus nigra* L.) forest fragments, it is required implementation of special protection and conservation measures for this species, whose harvesting is not permitted without the prior secured renewal.

ДИРЕКТОР ПРЕДУЗЕЋА

Marta Takac
Марта Такач, дипл. инж. шумарства



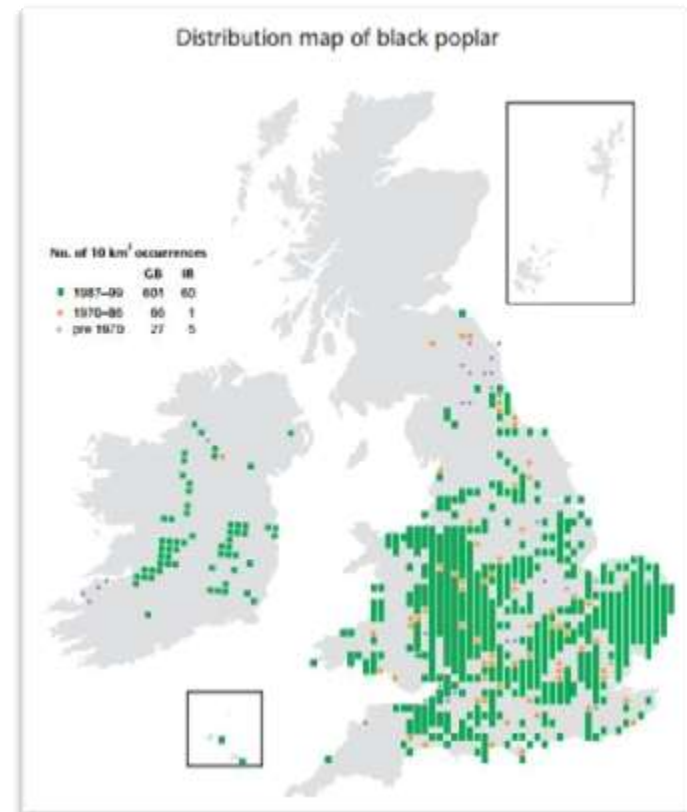
WP4

Flagship species go for Stakeholder

- Danube-wide [black poplar](#) (indicator species) cadastre of single trees, old growth stands and rejuvenation areas
- Genetic database of native black poplar species from the Danube for replanting
- The promotional campaign “Danube parks poplars” - raising awareness for the most majestic single trees
- Stakeholder involvement

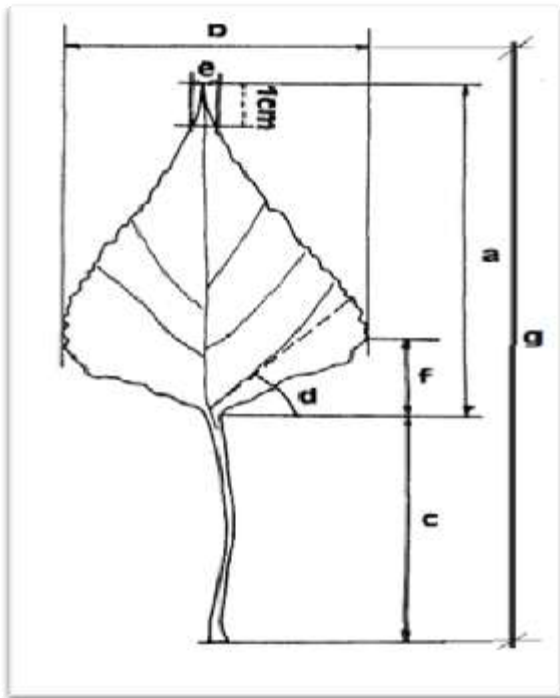
Mapping – Black poplar Cadastre

- Provide a basis for monitoring and evaluating local action for biodiversity priorities at both national and local levels
- Represent start point for future monitoring
- Inventory can be described as a point-in-time measurement of the resource to determine location or condition
- Map, record and monitor the localities of all remaining black poplars



Study of morfological variability

- Morphologic variation = genetic + environmental factors
- Picking trees, taking leaf samples, leaf herbarization, labeling, leaf measuring, statistic analysis, morphological study



IDENTIFICATION SHEET FOR PLUS TREE

Form who chose this tree: _____
(For all locations)

Country: _____

City: _____

Location: _____

Location of the site (specify the nearest town/village): _____

Local name: _____ Geographic coordinates: _____

ID number:

Tree characteristics:

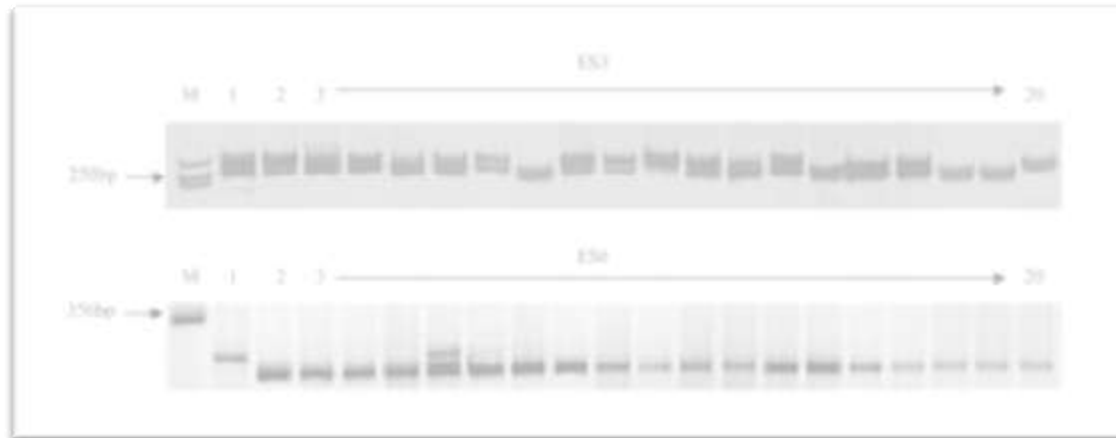
diameter (cm)	
height (m)	
age (years)	

Number of cuttings that you took from this tree: _____

Reason why this tree should be plus tree:

Study of Genetic Variability

- The objective of this molecularly based approach was to examine existence of genetic variability and diversity of *Populus nigra* L. between different locations, different countries using the most polymorphic SSR markers to acknowledge existence of intraspecific DNA variation within and between populations



Nursery reproduction



may



jun



july



august

Labeling

DanubeParks
GIANTS



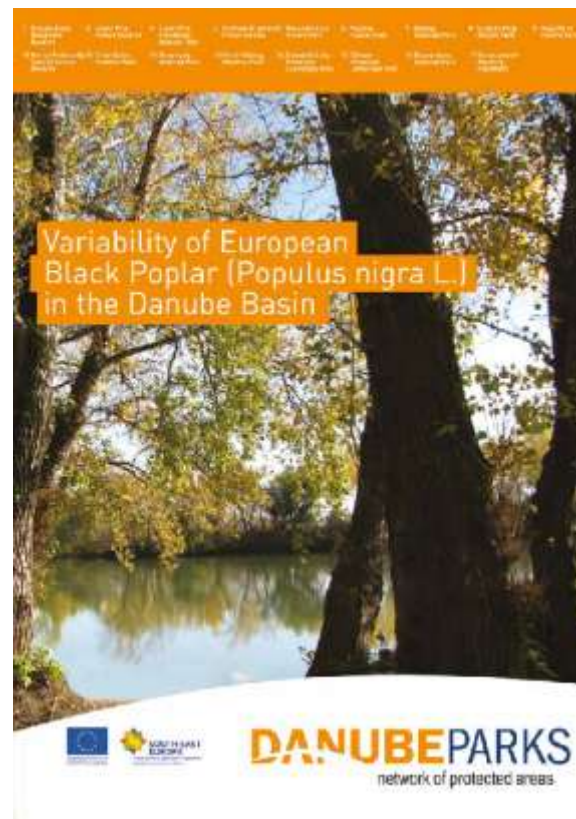
**Crna topola od
posebnog značaja**

Stakeholder involvement, Black poplar monograph

- Black poplar monograph

Black Poplar Conference



Keep on...

