

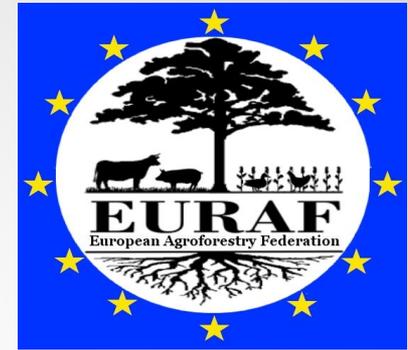
Agroforestry policies in the EU



Are we learning any lessons?

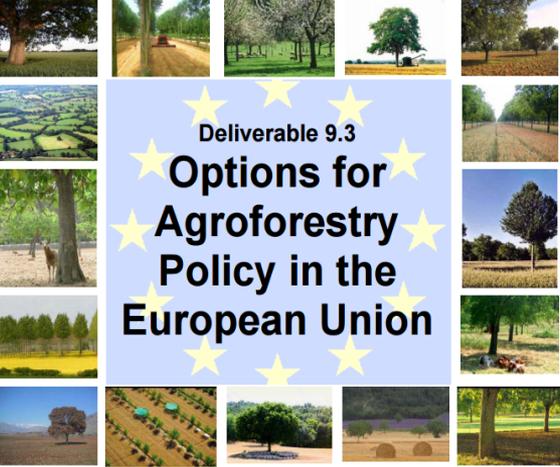
Gerry Lawson, Vice Chair, European Agroforestry Federation (EURAF), Montpellier;
Fellow, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Edinburgh (gerrylawson2@gmail.com)
Andrea Pisanelli, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Istituto di Biologia Agroambientale e Forestale. Italy.
andrea.pisanelli@ibaf.cnr.it

The EU SAFE Project (2001- 2005) conducted experimental research, modelling, farm surveys and policy analysis.



Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources
Silvoarable Agroforestry For Europe (SAFE)
European Research contract QLK5-CT-2001-00560



Deliverable 9.3
Options for Agroforestry Policy in the European Union

Gerry Lawson¹, Christian Dupraz², Fabien Liagre³, Gerardo Moreno⁴,
Piero Paris⁵, Vasilios Papanastasis⁶

¹ Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (Natural Environment Research Council), UK
² Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA) SYSTEM, Montpellier, France
³ Assemblée Permanente des Chambres d'Agriculture (APCA) Paris, France
⁴ University of Extremadura, Plasencia, Spain
⁵ Istituto per l'Agrosilvicoltura, Porano, Italy
⁶ University of Thessaloniki, Greece

March 2005

1

EURAF was formed in Dec 2011 to

- Promote agroforestry by any means, including lobbying for appropriate policies at the European scale.
- Organise a bi-annual congress. (next 25-27/5/2016)
- Send an electronic newsletter to all members.
- Manage a dedicated website, www.agroforestry.eu, with the aim of sharing information, scientific results and policy issues related to agroforestry.
- Make agreements with related national and international organisations for the exchange of information and organization of joint congresses and seminars.

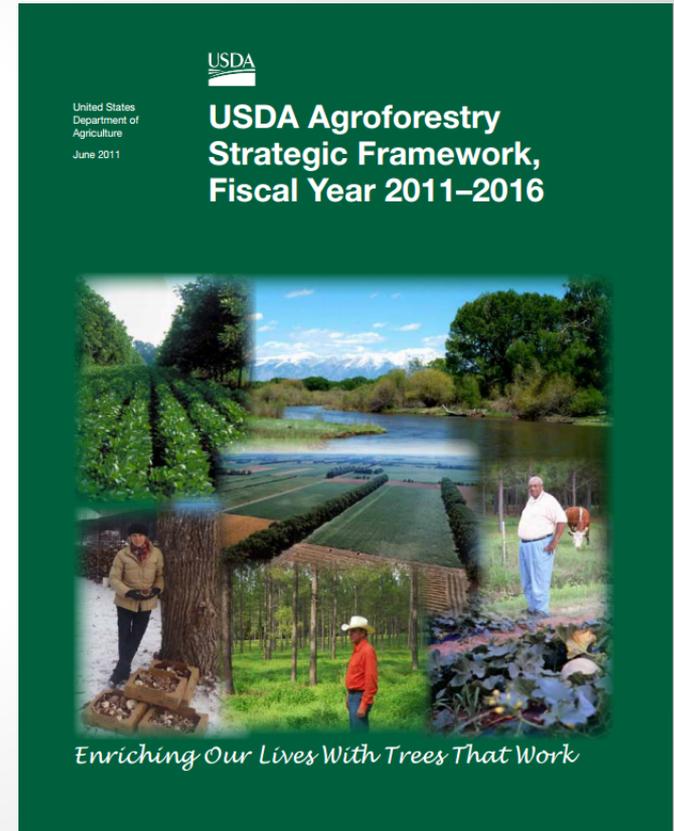
European Agroforestry Federation (EURAF)

National Associations affiliated to EURAF

- Belgium:** [AWAF](#) - Association pour l'Agroforesterie en Wallonie et à Bruxelles
[WERVEL](#) - Werkgroep voor een Rechtvaardige en Verantwoorde landbouw
- Czech Republic:** [CSPA](#) - Český spolek pro agrolesnictví
- Denmark:** [POL](#) - Plantning og Landskap
- France:** [AFAC](#) - Association Française Arbres Champêtres et Agroforesteries
[AFAF](#) - Association Française d'Agroforesterie.
- Germany:** [AG-AFD](#) - GPW Arbeitsgemeinschaft Agroforst
- Greece:** [HAN](#) - Ελληνικό Αγροδοασικό Δίκτυο
- Hungary** MASZ - Magyar Agroerdészeti Szövetség "- coming very soon
- Italy:** [AIAF](#) - Associazione Italiana Agroforestazione
[SISEF](#) - Società Italiana di Selvicoltura ed Ecologia Forestale
- Netherlands:** [AN](#) - Agroforestry Nederland
- Poland:** [OSA](#) - Ogólnopolskie Stowarzyszenie Agroleśnictwa
- Spain:** [AGFE](#) - Asociación Agroforestal Española
- Sweden:** [PS](#) - Permakultur Sverige
[ANNC](#) - Agroforestry Network for Nordic Climates
- Switzerland:** [IG Agroforst](#) - Interessensgemeinschaft Agroforst
- United Kingdom:** [FWF](#) - Farm Woodland Forum

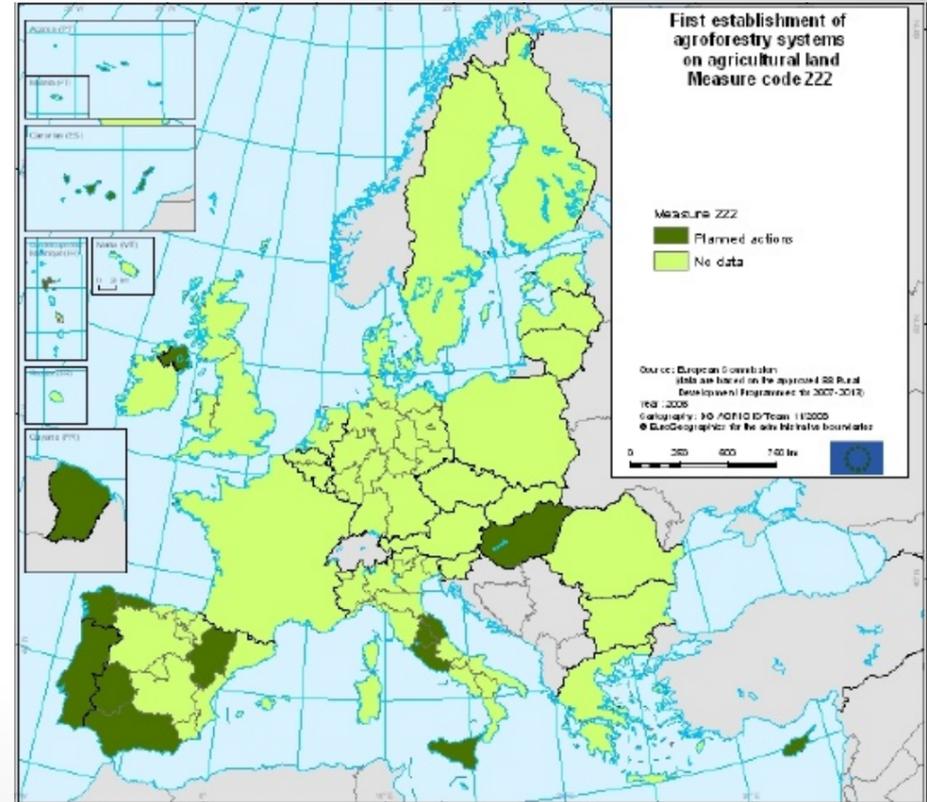
Definition of 'agroforestry'

- **EU:** Article 23 of the new Rural Development [Regulation 1305/2013](#): “For the purposes of this Article, agroforestry systems are defined as land use systems in which **trees are grown in combination with agriculture on the same land**”
- **USDA:** “Agroforestry is the intentional growing of **trees and shrubs in combination with crops or forage**. Agroforestry also includes tree and shrub plantings on the farm or ranch that improve habitat value or access by humans and wildlife, or that provide woody plant products in addition to agricultural crops or forage. Agroforestry is distinguished from traditional forestry by having the additional aspect of a closely associated agricultural or forage crop.”



Measure 222 EU Rural Development Plans (2007-13)

- Measure 221 - afforestation of agricultural land, was adopted in 66 regions (from 88)
- Measure 222 - agroforestry was initially planned in 18 regions (CY, ES(6), FR(2), HU, IT(5), PT(2), UK(1)). More than 3000 beneficiaries were planned on 60 000 ha.
- Two more France (Hexagone) and Flanders joined in 2010 after mid-term reviews.
- Agroforestry was present in other measures: □
Tamas Szedlak ([FWF 2012](#))

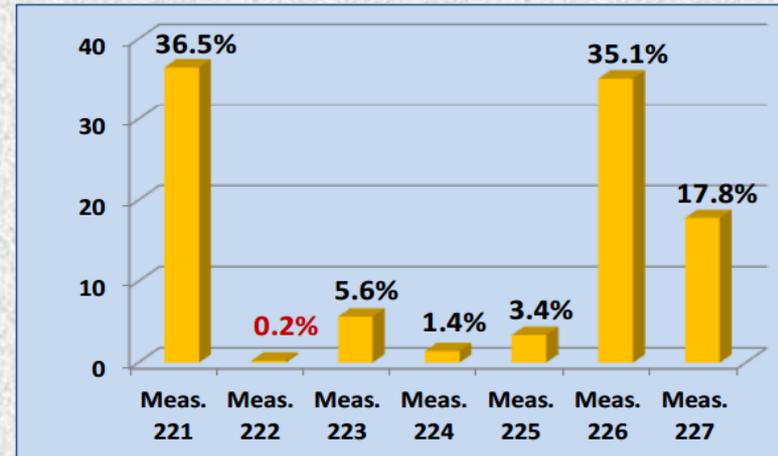


Forestry Measures 2007-2013

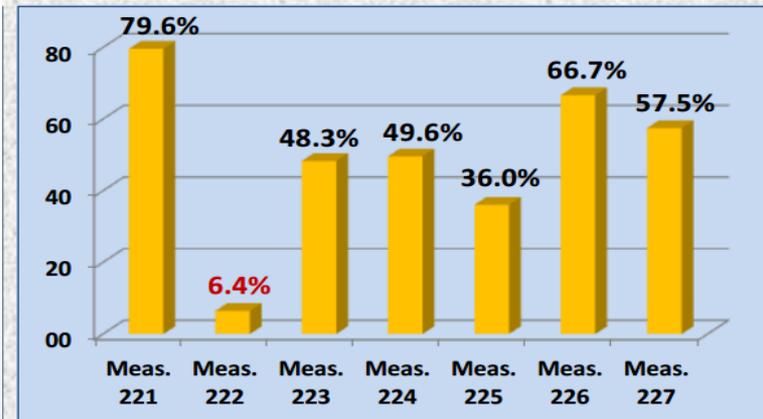
(around 7 Billion €)

- 221 First afforestation of agricultural land
- 222 **First establishment of agroforestry systems**
- 223 First afforestation of non agricultural land
- 224 Natura 2000 payments
- 225 Forest environment payments
- 226 Restoring forestry potential & prevention actions
- 227 Non-productive investments

% distribution among the forestry measures



Implementation rate of the forestry measures



BUT Implementation of Measure 222 was very poor ...

Last update Feb 2014

Beneficiary targets (achieved)

- Belgium 75 (7)
- France 610 (15)
- Hungary 300 (93)
- Italy 1032 (2)
- Portugal 575 (3)
- **Total 2592 (120) - 4.6%**

Area targets (ha) (achieved)

- Belgium 250 (7.55)
- France 3032 (92)
- Hungary 3000 (905.5)
- Italy 6729 (24)
- Portugal 15025 (183)
- **Total 28036 (1212) - 4.3%**

Financial Targets

Country	Region	Financial plan	Financial execution	Implementation rate (%)
Belgium	Flanders	500000	11752	
	Total	500000	11752	2.4
France	Hexagon	2852202	101138	
	Guadeloupe	326000	0	
	Guyana	50000	0	
	Total	3228202	101138	3.1
Hungary	Total	2813540	720574	25.6
Italy	Marche	1270000	0	
	Veneto	30000	9797	
	Total	1300000	9797	0.8
Portugal	Mainland	6644519	102827	
	Azores	160000	0	
	Total	6804519	102827	1.5
Total EU 27		14646261	946088	6.4

Are we learning the lessons?

	RDP 2007-13 (Measure 222)	RDP 2014-2020 (Measure 8b)
1	Lack of knowledge of AF by farmers, officers, consultants? Too much bureaucracy?	EURAF, AGFORWARD, AGROFE. Massive effort in France with ministerial support ("50% farmers using agroforestry by 2025" target). New agroforestry associations.
2	Limited range of AF systems supported - mainly silvopastoral?	Too early to tell, but still only silvopastoral in Hungary and Flanders and unclear if silvoarable allowed in all regions in Portugal.
3	No funding for maintenance costs ?	Maintenance costs now provided for 5 years. But are levels lower than forestry? Are payments for establishment also lower (if pro-rata per tree)?
4	Farmers worry about land is classified as permanent forest rather agricultural land?	LPIS rules consider that agroforestry is 'agricultural' IF evidence of farming is measurable AND tree canopy cover <50% (Annex 9) or density less than 100 trees/ha (Annex 10). Land classified as 'forest' will lose Basic Payments (after the 'commitment period' ends). Still great confusion over exemptions (q. v.)
5	Loss of Single Farm Payment with densities >50 trees/ha?	Exemption possible for 'immature parcels' but MS not applying this, Exemptions allowed for GAEC-7 trees, 'grazed trees' 'permanent crop trees', or if MS use the 2009 Healthcheck exemption for 'afforestation' on parcels getting direct payments in 2009.
6	Need to plant at final tree densities (not allowing scope for thinning and selection)	The first two RDPs to implement Measure 8b still talk about planting at the final density (e.g. 100-200 trees/ha). Is a role for "Simplified Agroforestry Management Plan"?

CAP 2014-2020 - Pillar II - Rural Development Measures

□ These need to be monitored in individual MS Rural Development Plans

1305/2013 Forest Block (Measures 8a to 8e)

- Afforestation and creation of woodland (Art 22)
- **Establishment of agroforestry systems (Art 23) - Measure 8b**
- Prevention and restoration of damage to forests from forest fires and natural disasters and catastrophic events (Art 24)
- Investments improving the resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems (Art 25)
- Investments in forestry technologies and in processing and marketing of forest products (Art 26)

1305/2013 Other Measures

- *Knowledge transfer and information actions (Art 14)*
- *Advisory services, farm management and farm relief services (Art 15)*
- *Investments in physical assets (Art 17)*
- *Farm and business development (Art 19) (includes non-agricultural activities and investments)*
- *Setting up of producer groups (Art 27)*
- *Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive payments (Art 30)*
- *Forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation (Art 34)*
- *Cooperation measure (Art 35) (for innovation and cooperation projects)*

Pillar I - Cross Compliance rules can be +ve and -ve

[Regulation 1306/2013](#), on financing, management and monitoring of the CAP:

- **Appendix II. GAEC7** “Retention of landscape features, including where appropriate, hedges, ponds, ditches, **trees in line, in groups or isolated**, field margins and terraces, and including a ban on cutting hedges and trees during the bird breeding and rearing season and, as an option, measures for avoiding invasive plant species”
- Note that throughout Europe GAEC7 “landscape trees” are exempt from the 100 tree rule (like ‘grazed’ trees or ‘permanent crop’ trees).
- In France **all hedges and hedge trees** have been declared GAEC7.
- In England GAEC7 includes **hedges and TPOs** and bans hedge/tree trimming from **1 March to 31 Aug.**
- In England must not cultivate closer cultivate or apply fertilizers/pesticides closer than than 2m to the centre of a hedge.
- In England GAEC4 (minimum soil cover) is met by **trees, coppice**, fruit crops, hops, nursery crops, vines.

The guide to cross compliance in England

2015

- Basic Payment Scheme
- Countryside Stewardship
- Entry Level Stewardship
- Higher Level Stewardship
- English Woodland Grant Scheme

Table 2 : When to prune National Forest Company

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
☑	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☑	☑	☑	☑	☒	☒

- ☑ **Optimum time to prune broadleaved trees**
 ■ **Mid-June → Mid-September**
 (Cherry, Walnut, Sycamore, Oak, Ash, Poplar, Cricket Bat Willow etc)
- ☑ Ash, Oak and Poplar can also be pruned in **Jan / Dec**
- ☒ **Avoid pruning trees in Spring and Autumn**

2014-2020 Pillar 1 - England bans tree-pruning between 1.3 & 31.8

Optimum pruning times - Hampton Roads Agric Extension Centre (Virginia)

(Green = best time to prune, Red = avoid pruning, white = timing not critical)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Note
Allianthus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ash	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Bald Cypress	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Beech	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,2
Buckeye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Catalpa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cherry, Flowering	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Chestnut, Chines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Crabapple	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Crape Myrtle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Dogwood	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Elm	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,2
Fringe Tree	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Ginko	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Goldenraintree	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Hackberry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Hawthorn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Hickory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Honeylocust	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Horsechestnut	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Katsura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Linden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Magnolia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,2
Mimosa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mountain Ash	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mulberry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nyssa, Black Gur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Oak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Peach, Flowering	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Pear, Flowering	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Plum, Flowering and Purple	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Poplar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Redbud	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,4
Serviceberry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Sophora	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Chromolaena	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Pruning in summer vital for some species - e.g. French Poplar Pruning Guidance

[Peuplier de France - le portail de la filière peuplier](#)

- The objective is to suppress basal branches to obtain a trunk free of knots.
- Depending on the poplar's growth, thinning should start in the 2nd or 3rd year, taking at most two branch whorls, starting when the branches are 2cm in diameter.
- Pruning should be progressive and moderate. Too often poplars are like feathers after a vigorous pruning, and many epicormic shoots are produced the following year. The pruned height should not exceed one third of the tree height at the first pruning, half the height thereafter.
- The higher the pruning the more expensive it is, but pruning is possible to 6m using saws with extension arms. Above this a ladder or bucket are needed to go to 8m.
- **The most favourable period to do this work is between the 15th of July and the 15th of September (to obtain good closure of the pruning wounds).**
- Branches should be cut close to the trunk, but preserving the branch collar. Pruning which leaves branch 'pegs' must be avoided because these cause 'black knots' which are even worse than the knots caused by live branches.

2014-2020 Pillar 1: - BPS and Greening (England)

Ecological Focus Areas (England): implementation of Delegated Regulation 639/2014.

IN: buffer strips, catch crops, cover crops, fallow land, hedge (wooded strip?), nitrogen-fixing crop.

OUT: isolated trees, copses, trees in lines, ponds, ditches, stone walls, agroforestry, forest edges, SRC, afforestation

BPS eligibility

Land with trees on is eligible if the trees:

- are scattered within an agricultural land parcel
- allow agricultural activity to be carried out in the same way as in parcels without **trees** in them

Not eligible if they prevent the growth of vegetative under-storey (plants growing beneath the canopy of the trees) that is suitable for grazing.

Farmers don't need to reduce the area of land they claim for if they have eligible trees on it (they don't need to deduct the area taken up by tree trunks or tree cover).

Under cross compliance there is a no cutting period on eligible trees from 1 March to 31 August 2015.

EFA hedges

A hedge can only be used as part of an ecological focus area if it is growing on or next to arable land which forms part of the holding. In accordance with cross compliance rules, it must have:

- a continuous length of at least 20 metres, or is part of any such length
or
- a continuous length of less than 20 metres where it meets (at an intersection or junction) another hedgerow at each end

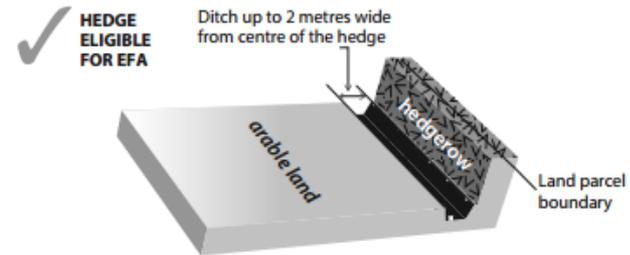
These hedges can be any width, or any height. They must be maintained for the whole scheme year (in line with cross compliance rules), however newly planted hedges can count for EFA if they are in the ground when a BPS application is made.

Hedges can include gaps. There is no limit on how many gaps a hedge can have – as long as each individual gap is not more than 20 metres.

Hedges not protected under cross compliance which are wider than 2 metres from the centre are not eligible. This applies for BPS and greening.

To count as an EFA, a hedge:

- must be on arable land or next to arable land along its longest edge (it's ok if there is an eligible feature in between, for example a ditch that is up to 2 metres wide from the centre of a hedge)



- ✓ ditch is on eligible land and not large enough to be ineligible
- ✓ hedgerow is adjacent to arable land

- must be at a farmer's disposal
- doesn't have to contain trees, but any trees that are in it do form part of the hedge
- is eligible if it's on a bank

2014-2020 Pillar II - Rural Development (England)

English RDP adopted by the Commission on 13.2.15

€4,056 million of public money that is available from 2014-2020 (€3 471 million from the EU budget)

The five biggest RDP measures in budgetary terms (public allocation) are:

- **€2,900m Measure 10: Agri-Environment Climate (Art 28)** *“Tree planting around point sources could help capture ammonia aerosols, The planting of individual or small groups of trees for parkland, hedgerows, orchards, Riparian and floodplain woodland can protect river morphology and moderate stream temperatures.”*
- €323m Measure 4: Productive and nonproductive investments
- **€218m Measure 8: Forestry (Art 22-26)** (14m ha to be planted, 10.5m ha native, 3.5 non-native)
- €174m Measure 19: Leader
- €107m Measure 6: Farm and business development
-
- **€27m Measure 15: Forest Environment and Climate services (Art 34)** *“The distinct character of wood pasture and parkland sets them apart from the surrounding landscape, creating a recognisable sense of space and often providing public access. Carbon sequestration through forest and woodland management”*

French Minister of Agriculture backs agroforestry

Visite de Stéphane Le Foll sur une parcelle agroforestière.

Mercredi 1er août 2012

A l'invitation de l'Association Française d'Agroforesterie et de ses partenaires, Stéphane Le Foll, Ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Agroalimentaire et de la Forêt, est venu visiter une parcelle agroforestière dans le Gers (Ricourt) chez l'agriculteur François Coutant, à l'occasion de **PAYSAGES IN MARCIAC**.

Enthousiaste et convaincu du bien-fondé de l'agroforesterie, Stéphane Le Foll a été très clair : une formidable dynamique de terrain autour de l'arbre et des pratiques de couverture permanente des sols est déjà à l'œuvre pour donner à l'agriculture un nouvel élan.

« Si je suis ici, c'est pour regarder ce qui se fait d'innovant avec l'agroforesterie et les techniques de couverture des sols. Je souhaite favoriser pleinement le développement de ces systèmes agronomiques d'avenir. » Le ministre a également félicité François Coutant pour son engagement et ses résultats.

Latest news [HERE](#) on the CAP and Agroforestry in France



Document de présentation de la parcelle visitée

Agroforestry is coming ...

Agroforestry is no longer a 'niche' land use

- At the [National Agroforestry Day](#) (12/12/14) the French Ministry of Agriculture announced a target of '50% of farmers using agroforestry by 2025'.
- The EU [Climate and Energy Framework](#) (24/10/14) encourages both afforestation and agricultural intensification - **which exactly describes agroforestry:**

*The European Council invites the Commission to examine the best means of encouraging the **sustainable intensification of food production, while optimising the sector's contribution to greenhouse gas mitigation and sequestration, including through afforestation.** Policy on how to include Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry into the 2030 greenhouse gas mitigation framework will be established as soon as technical conditions allow and in any case before 2020.*

Further Information

EU Agroforestry Federation

- www.agroforestry.eu
- www.eurafwiki.eu

Projects

- Agforward - www.agforward.eu
- Agrofe - www.agrofe.eu
- SAFE - www1.montpellier.inra.fr/safe/

Discover the latest updates in our **Country section**, e.g. read about [Finland](#) or [Albania](#).

Agroforestry events online agenda: **Farm Woodland Forum** Annual Meeting in May.

Latest **EURAF Newsletter**: Learn about agroforestry husbandry, an agroforestry event in Hungary, the French SMART project, the Italian AIAP's new website,...



About EURAF

The European Agroforestry Federation (EURAF) aims at promoting the use of trees on farms as well as any kind of silvopastoralism throughout the different environmental regions of Europe. EURAF has about 280 members from 20 different European countries.

[Read more](#)

Agroforestry in Europe

Agroforestry is the integration of woody vegetation, crops and/or livestock on the same area of land. Trees can be inside parcels or on the boundaries (hedges). Agroforestry can be applied to all agricultural systems, in all parts of Europe.

[Read more](#)

Contact Us

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact EURAF's [Executive Committee](#).

You are invited to [subscribe](#) to our monthly newsletter and to [join](#) the discussion forum.

Support EURAF's work with a [donation](#).