



## Pro Silva Annual Meeting 2015

Czech Republic, Brno – Křtiny, 16-20 September 2015

### Preliminary program

#### INTRODUCTION

Czech forestry has a long tradition of using even-aged systems focused on the silviculture of spruce and Scots pine monocultures. There is no tradition of multi-aged forestry or irregular forestry in the Czech Republic. Only the ideas of some university professors and isolated practitioners has led to the establishment of a few examples where selection or irregular principles are applied, (sometimes intermittently).

The wave of new ideas that flowed into the country after our "Velvet revolution" in 1989 with the opening of borders and with new outside connections led to the establishment of Pro Silva Bohemica in 1995. However Pro Silva Principles are not accepted by the state forest sector and have not yet been integrated into forest policy. In the first ten years we were being criticised and we heard the argument that "*selection and irregular forestry is not widely used and it is not suitable in our conditions*". Now, after twenty years, we have several dozen members – practitioners – who can present the first results of conversion of coniferous even-aged monocultures to multi-aged mixed forests. We are also challenging our forestry legislation which is strictly defined on the basis of even-aged forestry and their argument that "*the multi-aged silviculture and forest management planning can use the even-age class legislation*". There is a big knowledge gap that we are seeking to narrow.

Pro Silva Bohemica are happy to welcome you in our country during this anniversary year. We have specially organized some events to raise the profile and to publicise multi-aged and irregular forestry including the publication of a commemorative book. We hope that the PS Annual Meeting in the Czech Republic will draw attention to Pro Silva ideas and help to reinforce Pro Silva Principles within the forest sector in our country.

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Arrival of participants

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

¾ day excursion – Training Forest Enterprise "Masaryk Forest" Křtiny

- Transformation of even-aged spruce and pine forest stands to multi-aged mixed forests after 45 years (two excursion sites)
- Dauerwald – new project presentation in the field

Late afternoon, evening – annual board meeting of Pro Silva Europa in Conference room of Chateau Křtiny

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

¾ day excursion – Jihlava municipality forests

- Conversion of spruce even-aged monocultures and the way to selection forests (since 1995)

Evening session – presentation of the key questions of Czech Forestry (see Introduction) and discussion – "*How to change the actual state*" – experiences and suggestions from other countries  
Should we organize some international lobbying?

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

Full day excursion – Podyji National Park

- Buffer zone - conversion of former pine dominated even-aged forests into the multifunctional and multi-aged mixed broadleaved forests after 20 years
- Core zone (unmanaged) and hotspots of biodiversity in Podyji National Park

Social evening in local winery

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

Departure to home

### **TRAVEL INFORMATION**

If you come by car: - no problem to arrive direct to Křtiny Chateau **49.297144 N, 16.742125 E**

Accessible international airports – Wien Schwechat, Vaclav Havel Airport Prague, M.R. Stefanik Airport Bratislava, Brno-Tuřany Airport

Train connection from Wien to Brno central railway station: direct express train every two hours (travel duration: 1:32 hrs)

Train connection from Prague to Brno central railway station: direct express train every hour (travel duration: 2:42 hrs)

Train connection from Bratislava to Brno central railway station: direct express train every two hours (travel duration: 1:29 hrs)

Transport of participants from Brno central Railway station and Brno bus station to Chateau Křtiny will be organized by Pro Silva Bohemica members by cars according to your arrivals.

### **ACCOMMODATION AND ANNUAL BOARD MEETING LOCATION**

Chateau Křtiny – <http://www.zamek-krtiny.cz/en/> which is the division of Training Forest Enterprise "Masaryk Forest" Křtiny - <http://www.slpkrtiny.cz/en/slp-krtiny/about-us/> - here is booked the full capacity (50 beds) only for us.

**Application form incl. budget, excursion details, PSE minutes, documents etc. will be distributed in May 2015.**

On behalf of Pro Silva Bohemica



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