

Are short rotation coppice a solution in future regional biorafineries?

OG TCR, France, Occitanie

From 2008 to 2010, as part of the CULIEXA project, short rotation coppices (TCR) with different species and at different densities were installed on four experimental plots in the Occitanie region: in Alenya (eucalyptus, black locust and willow), in Alzone (eucalyptus and black locust), in Narbonne (eucalyptus, black locust, willow, poplar and polownia) and in Ferrals (eucalyptus and black locust). Intended to be monitored over the long term (9 to 10 years), these plots aimed in particular to assess the possibilities for developing these crops at the local level.

Evaluate the economic potential of TCR under mediterranean climate

The aim of the project was to compensate for the absence of an agronomic framework on the feasibility, yield and quality of short-rotation coppices in a Mediterranean climate as well as on abandoned land.

The partners wanted to answer two main questions:

- 1) under what conditions (density, soil, etc.) are short-rotation coppices productive enough in Occitania?
- 2) What is the economic profitability of TCR for a wood-energy outlet, but also in green chemistry?

At the same time, greenhouse growers also wanted to study the feasibility of using

greenhouse effluent to produce wood for the wood chips used to heat their greenhouses.

The objectives of the project were to:

- Obtain knowledge on the productivity of certain rotations in short coppices which could be interesting in French Mediterranean conditions.
- Develop fact sheets on species: agronomy, yield, quality, economy.
- Create a network of tests covering the Occitanie region with varied climatic and soil conditions.
- Produce agronomic and economic references on the production potential of these species in the Mediterranean context.
- Study the feasibility of producing wafers in an ultra-short circuit for greenhouse growers.

Visits to TCR harvesting sites took place in November 2016 on the experimental sites. Videos and photos concretely illustrating the harvesting of whole trees with shears as well as the grinding on the plot of whole trees for the manufacture of forest chips were produced. Species sheets have been produced for black locust (Acacia) and eucalyptus. These sheets contain botanical and historical elements of the species treated.

They also present the agronomic and economic interests, the usable plant material as well as elements of cultivation management, harvesting and economic assessment. Plot sheets present simplified test results on the project's various experimental sites: Alenya, Bram-Bonanza, Ferrals and Narbonne.

Further information

[Information from Operational Group's database](#)

Contacts

lucie.poline@occitanie.chambagri.fr
jbaltacs@gmail.com

FOREST4EU partners:



Funded by the European Union (Grant n. 101086216). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or REA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



forest4eu.eu



FOREST4EU Project
FOREST4EU Project
info@forest4eu.eu

FOREST4EU