



# Agroforestry – an Environmental and Production Alternative in Agriculture

**Thursday 18. 4. 2019** | Czech Academy of Sciences,  
Národní 3, Prague, hall 206

Conference is organized by the Czech Association for Agroforestry under the auspices of the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Commission for the Environment of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

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**Agroforestry systems (AFS)** are a group of farming methods that combine the cultivation of woody plants with one or more forms of agricultural production, be it crop or livestock farming.

Their greatest benefits reside in their **anti-erosion functions**, more favourable nutrient balance (limiting the need for external inputs), positive effects on **biodiversity**, elimination of nitrate leaching and improvement of **carbon sequestration in soil**. AFS are also effective in water protection (by balancing the water equilibrium in the landscape and modifying water chemistry). Last but not least, AFS contribute significantly to **mitigating climatic extremes and their repercussions** (e.g. long droughts and torrential rains) by improving microclimates, cooling the landscape and supporting the so-called 'small water cycle', enhancing water infiltration, etc. Moreover, modern agroforestry systems on arable land are compatible with current agro-technical processes using existing machinery, they **diversify risks** and are promising even from the points of view of production and economy. This is the reason why these systems are increasingly being seen as **alternatives** to conventional agriculture in many European countries and the world. In the territory of Czechia, farming with trees was common until the beginning of the 20th century, so it is by no means a new idea. The introduction of modern agroforestry systems with significant non-productive functions would increase the competitiveness and sustainability of Czech agriculture.

The Czech Agroforestry Association, in cooperation with other organizations, has held a series of seminars and conferences related to this topic. Now, partner institutions and platforms are organizing a follow-up **conference** at which **new experience, best practices and results of recent scientific research will be presented alongside policies in different European countries** where agroforestry has been an integral part of agricultural management for years and decades. Almost all speakers, who include farmers, representatives of the European Agroforestry Association (EURAF) and scientists with long-term experience with agroforestry, are from abroad.

**The main objective of the conference:** to present existing best practices, research results and policy in countries where agroforestry systems are already in place and subject of research.

**Target group:** representatives of farmers, especially Agrarian Chamber, Agricultural Association, Czech-Moravian Association of Farmers, Association of Private Farming of the Czech Republic; representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, other interested specialists, farmers or academics.

**To register,** use the form at <https://goo.gl/forms/JChBsYhnuORG59SB3> by 10 April 2019 at the latest.

## Schedule

### 10:00–10:15 opening of conference:

minister Richard Brabec /  
vice-minister Vladimír Dolejský, Ph.D.,  
the chairman of Czech Association for Agroforestry  
Prof. Assoc. Bohdan Lojka

### 10:15–10:45

Patrick Worms (*president of EURAF*):  
**Why Do We Need Agroforestry in CAP EU**

### 10:45–11:30

Christian Dupraz, Ph. D. (*INRA, France*):  
**Main Scientific Results in Agroforestry in France**

### 11:30–12:15

Fabien Balaguer (*French Agroforestry Association, Francie*):  
**Agroforestry development in practice: the example of France.** Experience from the field, and the National Plan for Agroforestry.

### 12:15 Lunch

### 13:15–14:15

Jo Smith, Ph.D. / Stephen Briggs (*Great Britain*):  
**Agroforestry in UK – Scientific Results, Policy of Agroforestry / Best Practices with Economic Balances**

### 14:15–15:00

Prof. Dr. Dirk Freese (*Brandenburg University, Germany*):  
**Agroforestry in Germany – Scientific Results, Policy, Best Practices**

### 15:00–15:30

Pavel Sekáč, Ph.D. (*Ministry of Agriculture*):  
**Preparation of Support for Agroforestry within European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development Program for the Next Programming Period.**

### 15:30–16:15 Discussion

### 16:15–16:45 The final word

V. Dolejský, Ph.D.  
P. Worms  
P. Petřík, Ph.D. (*Commission for the Environment of the Czech Academy of Sciences*)  
Prof. Assoc. Bohdan Lojka

### 16:45–17:30 Banquet

For more information, please contact: [jakub.houska@vukoz.cz](mailto:jakub.houska@vukoz.cz) or [lojka@ftz.czu.cz](mailto:lojka@ftz.czu.cz).



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