

Preface

Between October, 14th and 16th 2009 the Third Meeting of Forest Protection and Phytosanitary Experts was held in Vienna at the Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape (BFW).

On this occasion 66 participants from 16 countries out of Central and Northern Europe, and even two experts of the Asian part of Turkey, discussed current forest protection problems, unknown abiotic and biotic damages in different tree species, and the current situation of invasive pest species in their countries. Special emphasis was given on the ash dieback phenomenon, which has become a major disease in European forests. Furthermore, invasive alien species played a major role in presentations and discussions. Because of unforeseeable problems, it took nearly three years to publish the given presentations. Therefore, it has to be kept in mind that some conclusions, especially those dealing with ash dieback may no longer represent the current state of knowledge.

For February 2013, the Fourth Meeting of Forest Protection and Phytosanitary Experts is planned to be held in Vienna at the Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape.

Christian Tomiczek