

International Tree Experts in Moscow

29TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN ARBORICULTURAL COUNCIL

From 7 to 10 June 2019, the 29th Annual General Meeting of the European Arboricultural Council (EAC) was successfully held in Moscow in collaboration with the local partner, NPSA Zdorovy Les. More than 200 international professional arborists gathered at this grand event.

Followed by the opening remark from Jonathan Cocking, President of the EAC, the AGM began as usual with the European City of Trees (ECOT) Award Ceremony, sponsored by Patzer Verlag. Accompanied by some distinguished guests, such as Moscow Duma deputy Zoya Zotova, Chairwoman of the City Environmental Policy Commission, Vitaly Zverev, Head of the Department of Landscaping and Maintenance of Special Protected Natural Areas and of the State Environmental

Budgetary Institution MosPriroda and Mikhail Eremin, President of NPSA Zdorovy Les, the delegates celebrated this year's winner, the City of Moscow, in particular because of the extraordinary "My Street" project based on an innovative master plan integrating a higher proportion of trees and renewing the road profile, as well as the unique Zaryadye Park, where, among others, the vegetation diversity of Russia can be admired (for further information, please refer to the attached press release "Moscow is 'The European City of the Trees 2019' – 'My Street' brings thousands of trees to the Russian Metropolis").

The hundreds of audience were excited about the enthusiastic presentations of several international speakers: Professor Dirk Dujesiefken from Germany explained tree care according to

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More than two hundred European arborists gathered in Moscow for the EAC's 29th Annual General Meeting.

the new German FLL standard ZTV Baumpflege, while Sergey Palchikov from Russia illustrated the state of tree care in the Russian Federation. Frank Rinn from Germany introduced various theories and practices on tree safety assessment. Katharina Dujesiefken from Germany reviewed the avenues in Europe, followed by Caitlyn Pollihan from USA reporting about the activities of the International Society of Arboriculture.

The conference dinner with a toast of champagne under the glass dome of a rooftop restaurant cheered all honorary guests, speakers and delegates. With a fantastic panorama view of the green city of Moscow, lively conversations and passionate discussions continued until after sunset.

The agenda of the second day focused on the internal matters of the members and the committee, including the last year's report



The intensive discussions continued on the 2nd day of the AGM.



The excursion gave the delegates an opportunity to learn about the recent urban greening and tree plantings in Moscow.

from the national associations and the office, the confirmation of the Secretary, the introduction of the new Technical Officer and the annual financial report. Some Working Groups including Certification and Quality Management, ECOT Award, Social Media presented their updated activities whilst all participants congratulated the great achievement of the Question Bank WG to complete five hundred questions ready for translation; these questions form the basis of the ETW certification. The other highlight of the day was the official acceptance of two organisations to join the EAC and all current members expressed their warm welcome to Lithuanian Arborists Association and Sociedade de Ciências Agrárias de Portugal. Now EAC membership has reached out to 26 organisations with representatives from 23 countries.

The special evening function, the boat trip on the Moskva River, provided the perfect atmosphere for social gathering and networking, especially after the very intensive meeting day.

The AGM was finally concluded by a fascinating two-day excursion themed on greening and cultural heritage in Moscow. Under the special guidance of Sergey Palchikov, the European arborists were particularly impressed by some examples of the recent tree planting project in Moscow, "My Street" managed by NPSA Zdorovy Les, and the world renowned Zaryadye Park.

Many thanks to all for your participation and great contribution, to Patzer Verlag, our sponsor, and especially to NPSA Zdorovy Les, our Russian member for their wonderful hosting and assistance. We look forward to meeting you again at our next AGM in Vilnius, Lithuania, in 2020.

Abstract of the Presentation of the Speakers

Tree care according to the new German standard, the "ZTV-Baumpflege"

Prof. Dr. Dirk Dujesiefken, Institute of Arboriculture Hamburg, Germany

The "ZTV-Baumpflege" (Additional Technical Contractual Terms and Guidelines for Tree Care) was published by the German "Forschungsgesellschaft Landschaftsentwicklung Landschaftsbau (FLL)" (The Landscaping and Landscape Development Research Society). This organisation is producing technical guidelines as the result of voluntary based technical scientific teamwork. Those are to be regarded as a professional standard and to establish a benchmark for clear technical conduct whilst being relevant within the legal

framework. The standard was published in 2017.

"ZTV Baumpflege" has been in existence since 1980 and is the most important guideline for tree care in Germany. It can be used to describe tree care work very precisely. This is the special value of this work. Already the last edition was translated into English. The translation of the current "ZTV-Baumpflege" will be published this year and can be purchased from FLL.

Avenues in Europe: history, situation today, projects and future perspective

Katharina Dujesiefken, BUND – Mecklenburg Vorpommern, Schwerin, Germany

Throughout more than 400 years of their history, a variety of tree avenues have been planted around Europe for different purposes. Not only functionally, avenues are also seen as an important component aesthetically in European landscape and regarded as cultural and natural heritage in Europe.

Whilst the value of avenues has been reviewed and their contribution to biodiversity conservation, air cleaning and road safety has become increasingly recognised, the management and the maintenance of avenues have been often poorly practiced.

Following the golden age of tree-lined roads in the 19th and early 20th centuries, a significant proportion of the trees growing alongside Europe's roads and streets – as many as 90% in some regions – have disappeared.

Recently, both the political and the social movement to protect and promote European avenues has been seen in different countries across Europe. Our aim is no less than to restore the heritage to its full glory, which means protecting existing avenues and planting completely new ones.

Safety of mature urban trees: assessment and evaluation

Frank Rinn, RINNTECH e.K., Heidelberg, Germany

About 70% of urban tree-related accidents are caused by branches or limbs, 20% by uprooting trees and about 10% by breaking stems. Thus, tree-safety education should focus on a correspondingly good visual inspection. However, inspecting the stem is still important and can deliver early indications of potential root problems, too. For stem breakage evaluation, VTA and SIA are the most commonly known and applied methods – although an unbiased analysis of the literature written by the very few independent scientists in this field, clearly shows that the VTA -

- $t/R > 1/3!$ rule is inappropriate and not applicable at the typical mature urban tree to be inspected in terms of safety (because the cross-sections are not circular and the defects are located off-center);
- $H/D < 50!$ rule is not a valid safety threshold for intact trees (because H/D is an adaption to the local wind environment);

the SIA safety calculation is using the wrong math and inappropriate material property concept – in consequence, SIA

- strongly underestimates the breakage safety of young trees
- strongly overestimates the breakage safety of mature trees.

That means, both concepts are obviously either wrong or inappropriate and should thus not be used, not promoted and not lectured – not only, because corresponding decisions on trees and recommendations for risk mitigation are wrong, but furthermore because these methods lead to unnecessary costs and, at the same time, to an unnecessary loss of trees and habitats ahead of time. Instead, a self-referencing method, grounded on unbiased research by real scientists, allows experts to determine stem breakage safety without any need for external reference data. The practical application saves huge amounts of money in tree care (in consequence of less pruning/cabling), keeps trees much longer in healthy conditions and thus enhances benefits by urban green.

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The savings can be used for good planting of new/additional trees and early structural pruning.

Given the obvious falsity/inappropriateness of the VTA and SIA safety evaluation measures mentioned above, the quick success of these methods surprises.

A broad acceptance of such new theories seems to be achieved the easiest when being presented by allegedly neutral scientists, dominating professional associations, conference organizing committees and journal editorial boards. Marketing under the curtain of claimed science still seems to work well in the field of arboriculture.

In consequence, arborists and experts should always be very sceptical, especially when, for example, a tax paid professor of a public University always only presents the products of one company in his presentations and publications.

Note from EAC Office

VTA = Visual Tree Assessment

SIA = Static Integrated Assessment

t = thickness of the intact outer shell of a stem cross section with internal decay

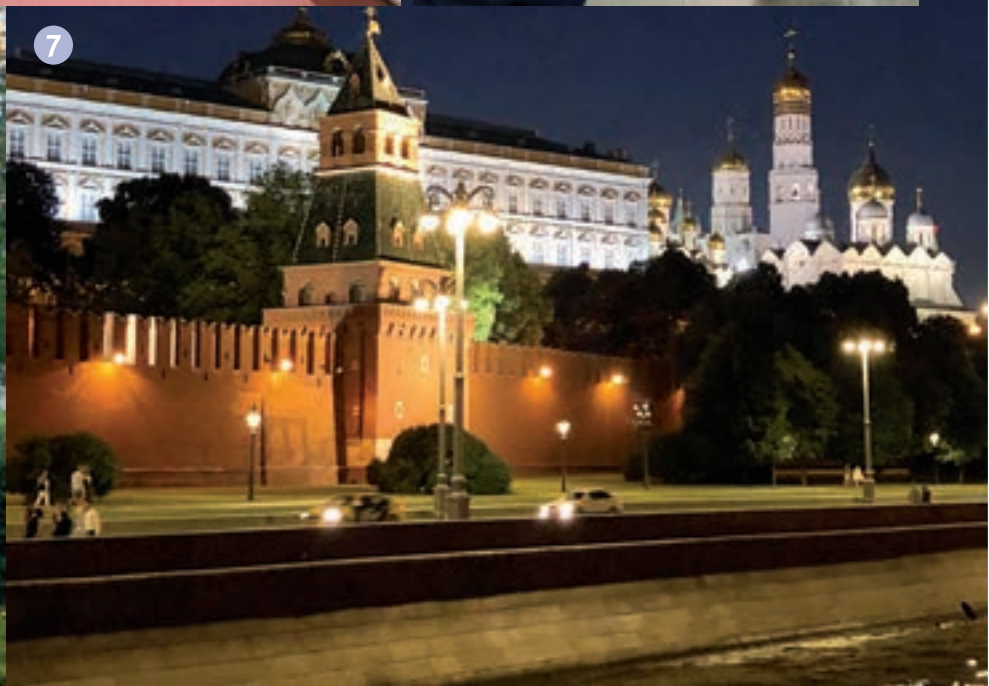
R = radius

H = height

D = trunk diameter

Pictures:

- 1) Moscow river trip; 2) AGM Giveaways; 3) EAC Executive Committee; 4) EAC members; 5) TV interview; 6) Ecological planting interpreting the Russia's vegetation in Zaryadye Park; 7) Night view of the Kremlin during the boat trip





Newly developed shopping street in the middle of the city

MOSCOW IS ENTITLED AS "EUROPEAN CITY OF THE TREES 2019"

On June 7, 2019, the European Arboricultural Council (EAC), an association of tree care experts across Europe, honored the capital of Russia with the title "European City of the Trees 2019". The award was handed over by the representative of the last year's winner, the Dutch city of Apeldoorn.

This prestigious award ceremony was held at the beginning of this year's EAC Annual General Meeting at Golden Ring Hotel in Moscow. It was organized in cooperation with the EAC's Russian member, Zdorovy Les (Healthy Forest) whose President, Mikhail Eremin, was honored to welcome the professional arborists in his hometown: "We want to seize this opportunity to give our Russian colleagues the chance to meet tree experts from all over Europe and the USA in order to encourage further professional exchanges and collaborations" said Eremin who was grateful to the EAC President, Jonathan Cocking for having chosen Moscow as the 2019's event venue.

For more than five years, the ECOT Award has been sponsored by Patzer Verlag, the publisher of some well-known publications such as European Tree Worker Handbook and New Landscape Journal.

Its Sales Manager, Lutz Beisert, was also pleased about increasing reports from Russia: "The City of Moscow has presented itself at the GaLaBau Trade Fair in Nuremberg for years. It is still a pity that we know so little about the progresses in their urban greening and tree care."

In October 2018, the ECOT jury was able to get some ideas about the urban green movements in Russia. Moscow renews its road profiles and follows a strict master plan containing a substantially high proportion of trees. Trees do not only function as visual axes, but render useful services because of their green performance. Trees filter dusts, regulate the temperature in the street canyons and reduce noise pollution. For the urban planning programme "My Street", launched in 2012, more than 2,000 million euros had been spent within five years. These measures aim at renovating road cross sections, in particular the extremely busy access roads into the city center of Moscow. From the beginning, large trees from Germany with stem girths of 30 cm or more were planted. The pits were made in appropriate size and became an integral part of the inner-city infrastructure.

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Moscow Duma deputy Zoya Zotova received the ECOT Award certificate, accompanied by Lutz Beisert of Patzer Verlag (left), Sergey Palchikov of NPSA Zdoroy Les and Jonathan Cocking, President of the EAC (right)

Further details of "My Street" are available in the Russian language on the internet (www.mos.ru/city/projects/my/). Here, its further progress and planning phases can be found out. Approximately 5600 trees were meanwhile additionally planted alongside the streets in the city.

Another highlight of Moscow's landscaping is Zaryadye Park, built in 2012 on the premises of the former Hotel Rossija, once the largest hotel in Europe (www.zaryadyepark.ru/en/). This area amidst the city centre, located between Red Square and Moskva, transformed into a green space with a concert hall and an amphitheatre, was opened in September 2017. Russia's most important vegetation zones with their typical plant communities attract thousands of



Moscow follows a strict master plan containing a substantially high proportion of trees

visitors. More than 700 trees have found their new home here alone. Time Magazine featured Zaryadye Park in the list of "The World's Greatest Places To Visit in 2018".

The EAC places particular importance on awarding Moscow in order to build professional bridges. The exchange of information, knowledge and experiences amongst expertise is the highlight of the EAC's objectives. Since 2014, the EAC's European Tree Worker certification scheme has been successfully running in Russia and 55 arborists have been certified as European Tree Worker. This trend is, and will be expanding further.



The world renowned Zaryadye Park



Fine example of "My Street" programme



More information, including
the standards, at:
www.vetcert.eu

A certification scheme for veteran tree management in Europe.

VETCERT IS LAUNCHED!

Managing veteran trees requires great skill and knowledge and there is now a way for the most skilled contractors to stand out from the crowd. The pan-European VETcert certification scheme has been developed for veteran tree professionals at two levels: practising and consulting.

The European Arboricultural Council (EAC) is the **managing body** for the VETcert scheme and is responsible for the central administration.

Each participating country has a **VETcert Certification Centre (VCC)**, which is responsible for local organisation of examinations.

The standards and delivery of VETcert is overseen by the **VETcert Steering Group (VSG)**.

To become a VETcert Certified Veteran Tree Specialist you need to have the prerequisite training and experience and you need to demonstrate that you meet the minimum standards of knowledge and skills as outlined in the VETcert standard document for the relevant level.

In order to prove the candidate's knowledge, skills and experience, which will have been gained by the candidate's training and work experience, the VCC will offer candidate examination at two levels,

Practising level and Consulting level. Each examination includes both written sections and a practical exercises section.

For either the Practising level or the Consulting level, the examination will be successfully completed when the candidate achieves an overall mark of at least 75% and no less than 50% in any one section.

Successful candidates may use the respective title:

"Veteran Tree Specialist – Practising Level"

"Veteran Tree Specialist – Consulting Level"

The certification is valid for three years. In order to maintain the certification, the holder must be able to demonstrate that he/she has maintained their knowledge and skills at the required level, including an awareness of developments in the scientific, technical and practical aspects of veteran tree management.

EAC will maintain the names of successful certification holders on the published list of Certified Veteran Tree Specialists, hosted on the VETcert website.

Vikki Bengtsson, representative of the VETcert Steering Group

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Project final meeting on 27th September 2019

THE PROJECT "ARBORIST: URBAN TREE CARE OF SUSTAINABLE CITIES IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION" COMPLETION

On 31 October 2019, the two-year project "ARBORIST: Urban Tree Care of Sustainable Cities in the Baltic Sea Region", co-funded by the Erasmus+, was ended.

The project has brought together 6 partners; five country representatives from the Netherlands, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and European Arboricultural Council. Additional five vocational training schools, that were already organizing trainings for arborists, or planning to start new arboricultural courses, have also taken part.

The project aimed to develop arborist training in the Baltic Sea region. In order to fulfil the gaps related to urban tree care in the Baltic Sea region, the project focused to create the following outputs:

- The Arborist qualification descriptions;
- Arborist training instruments for Trainers and trainees;
- Suggestions for the strategy on the urban tree care which will contribute to the sustainable and high quality performance in the Baltic States;
- To create the conditions and possibilities to gain relevant skills and competences to the workers of 3-4 EQF in the Arboriculture field.

On the 27th September in Vilnius, Lithuania during the final meeting

and the multiplier event, the project coordinator Vilnius Jeruzale Labour Market Training Centre (Lithuania) together with the project partners presented the project results, including;

- Expert guidelines for arborist training
- National/regional/city recommendations,
- Arborist trainer training instruments, and
- Arborist training instruments and Textbook.

This was followed by the first European Tree Worker (ETW) exam in the Baltic States, organized by IPC Groene Ruimte and EAC, and the joint meeting between the project partners and the EAC's Supervisors/Certification Centers were held.

The results generated by the project will have a significant impact on future changes in the arborist community and their work in the Baltic Sea region. The project coordinator is hoping to continue productive partnerships and to strengthen further the key competences of arborists in this region. New project ideas are being generated to ensure the continuity of the results achieved by this project and new internship opportunities for arborists in this region are planned.

Dalia Motėjūnaitė, Project Specialist

Further information: info@mokymas.eu • www.mokymas.eu



1st Baltic States European Tree Worker exam on 27th September 2019



Project final meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania

New Erasmus project kicked off in September 2019

TECHNICAL STANDARDS IN TREE WORK (TEST)

During the last two years, the European arboricultural community participated in a pilot project called "European Tree Pruning Standard" (ETPS). It originated in a working group of EAC with a one-year mandate, which had the intention to define the know-how on the basic arboricultural activity: pruning of ornamental trees. Apart from searching for common ground, differences between countries were listed. The result of this one-year pilot work of professional arborists from 12 countries was presented during the EAC Certification Centre meeting in 2018. At the same time, this successful pilot was used to support a grant application for funding under the Erasmus+ programme, which was granted by the National Grant Agency of the Czech Republic in June 2019. The aim of the project is to define good practice in arboriculture, acceptable and valid throughout Europe.

The current three-year project is called TeST, which stands for "Technical Standards in Tree Work". The main partners in this project are the Arboricultural Academy (certification centre of EAC in the Czech Republic), EAC (as a representative of European countries), Natuurinvest – Inverde (certification centre of EAC in Belgium) and Institut Drzewa (Poland). Other partners are:

- Silvatica s.a.s. (Italy),
- Doctor Arbol (Spain),
- Labie Koki Eksperti (Latvia),
- Lietuvos arboristikos centras (Lithuania),
- Boomtotaalzorg B (Netherlands),
- ISA Slovensko (Slovak Republic) and
- Croatia (Urbani šumari d.o.o.).

The project team is going to work on developing three arboricultural standards during the period 2019-2021:

- Tree Pruning
- Planting of Trees
- Trees Stabilisation Methods (cabling/bracing/propping).

For each standard, we will work towards a common European standard with descriptions of accepted techniques, guidelines and material specifications. On top of it, each partner will develop a national annex, consisting of national legislative specifications and aspects in which the nationally accepted arboricultural practice differs from the European consensus. This material will be a valuable resource for further research and will aid professionals wanting to work in a different country within the EU. We expect that these EU arboricultural standards will add substantial depth to the ETW and ETT certification schemes and will help to improve overall quality of performed arboricultural practices.

The kick off meeting was held in November 2019 in Brussels, with the agenda focussing on management issues and planning of future activities. The partners agreed on a time schedule for future meetings, on dissemination activities and training events for the next three years. At the same time, the rough framework of all three standards and accompanying materials was defined.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 2020 in Italy. We look forward to having time

and resources to continue working on the tree pruning standards and to unite our tree pruning know-how, with the kind support of our Italian partners and SIA (Società Italiana di Arboricoltura). Further, all necessary information can be found on the Facebook page of the project (<https://www.facebook.com/Technical-Standards-in-Tree-work-101973567937248>).

Jaroslav Kolařík

Note from EAC Office

This project calls on as many European parties and stakeholders to be involved in the process of developing the standards as possible and EAC will play a main role in the information dissemination to and the coordination of feedback and inputs from non-project partners. We are going to organize a multiplier event over the next three years, most likely in conjunction with our AGM, and planning to set up a structure for individuals to contribute more directly to the project. For further information, please contact EAC Technical Officer for International Arboricultural Affairs, Junko Oikawa-Radscheit (j.oikawa-radscheit@eac-arboriculture.com).



"PRO TREE" CORK OAK IN THE CITY OF DUBROVNIK, CROATIA

"PRO Tree", a new initiative of the Croatian Arboriculture Association, is the concept defined as an endangered high value tree that needs to be protected by integrating the latest care and/or remediation measures. Some examples are presented in the city of Dubrovnik as the first city in Croatia that applied those measures on one hackberry tree (*Celtis australis* L.) and one cork oak tree (*Quercus suber* L.) with the desire to preserve them. Both are the monumental trees with a high aesthetic, sociological, ecological and protective value.

This PRO Tree cork oak has a poor vitality, with dry branches in the canopy which, because of the high frequency below the canopy, has a serious risk of branch breakage. The dry periphery of the canopy and the sap bleeding on the roots and the trunk indicate a problem of normal functioning of the root system. The basic assessment of the tree was completed and the integrity of the intact woods was determined by resistograph. Below the tree canopy has become a



well-trodden ground as a "wild crossing" allowing a large number of pedestrians to walk from the park to the gas station. Since the path is located exactly in the area of projection of the canopy edge, which is in the area of the critical root zone, soil compaction in this zone has an extremely unfavourable effect on the root growth and development, and this is a probable cause of a decline in root vitality and function.

It is known that the root dies out if there is no more than 2.5 % of oxygen in the soil, for which adequate water-air conditions and soil looseness are required. In order to maintain the cork oak tree, three Croatian companies, Arbofield Ltd., Drezga Ltd. and Herbafarm-Magnolia Ltd., have performed for free the following interventions:

1. The soil was loosened in the critical root zone by an AirSpade device;
2. The canopy was reduced by 25% and sanitary pruned;
3. Herbafertil fertilization was incorporated.

It is our expectation and hope that this beautiful and unique cork oak will recover and gain new vitality of life.

Dr. Milan Pernek

5,000TH ETW SUCCESSFULLY CERTIFIED AT LVG HEIDELBERG

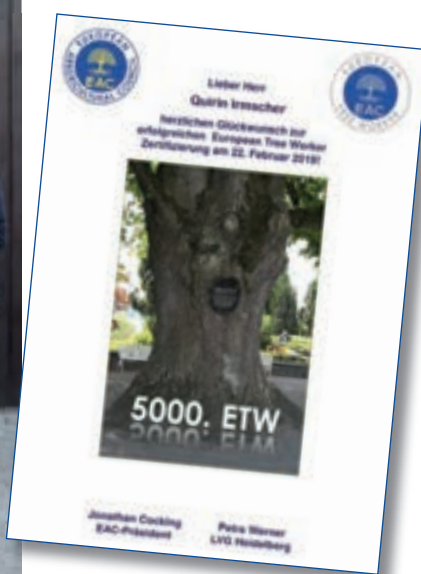
Mr Quirin Irmischer is the 5,000th certified European Tree Worker (ETW). On behalf of EAC President Jonathan Cocking, Petra Werner, head of the arboricultural department and one of the first examiners in Germany, handed over the certificate to him on Friday, 22nd February 2019.

In autumn 2018 he started to take the preparatory course with 23 other candidates at State Horticultural College and Research Institute (Staatliche Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt für den Gartenbau: (LVG)), Heidelberg, and now has achieved to pass the exam successfully, being awarded as the 5,000th certified ETW. "The European Tree Worker and the European Tree Technician (ETT) certifications have become a true model of success over the last 20 years. The EAC has only been able to implement these certifications thanks to the Leonardo da Vinci projects in 1996 and 2004 and many teaching facilities – such as LVG Heidelberg," explains EAC Secretary Wolfgang Groß.

Since 2002, LVG Heidelberg has held 18 ETW examinations with 407 candidates. Besides, it is the leading educational institution for advanced arboricultural training in Germany. Moreover, it has been offering the "Fachagrarwirt Baumpflege und Baumsanierung" (Specialist in Arboriculture and Tree Maintenance) certification since 1993, often combined with the ETT exam, to give candidates the chance to obtain both a German and a European certificate by taking one final examination.



5000th certified European Tree Worker, Quirin Irmischer (middle) with Henk van Scherpenzeel, Supervisor of the exam (left), and Petra Werner of LVG Heidelberg (right)



Advance notice

Additional Requirement for ETW recertification

From 1st January 2020 onwards, ETW recertification requires an additional proof, therefore the following four documents should be submitted to the EAC exam provider or certification centre:

1. proof of practical tree care work in 24 of the previous 36 months,
2. proof of a valid First Aid qualification
3. proof of physical and mental ability to carry out tree work at height, with a current medical certificate,

and, NEW

4. proof of 30 hours of extended vocational training, such as seminars, workshops, courses, within the past 3 years.



Please save the date!

AGM 2020 in Vilnius, Lithuania

The AGM will take place from
26–28 June 2020!

Hotel:

ARTIS CENTRUM HOTELS
Totorių str. 23, LT-01120, Vilnius,
Lithuania

Phone: (370 5) 266 0366,

Fax: (370 5) 266 0377

E-mail: artis@centrumhotels.com

Rooms can already be booked.

Reservation deadline is 25 May 2020.

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NEWS FROM THE EAC OFFICE



Thank you and Congratulations! In celebration of 25 Years of service: Wolfgang Gross, EAC Secretary

I have known Wolfgang since I first became the UK Arboricultural Association representative on the EAC, back in 2010. I was immediately impressed by how closely he manages the EAC "machine" and how such a group of people from all over Europe could all get along so well. Wolfgang's part in this is crucial. We do not all agree on everything however, he always manages to get us to reach a happy equilibrium and his diligence, hard work and focus on detail is a wonder to behold. I would like to thank him, on behalf of all EAC members for dedicating such a large portion of his life to arboriculture and the EAC.

Jonathan Cocking, President of the European Arboricultural Council (EAC) e.V.

*Wolfgang Gross, Secretary of
European Arboricultural Council e.V.*



EAC Office Team

Wolfgang Gross, Secretary (2nd left), is overall responsible for the administration and the activities of the Office.

Marion Köster, (2nd right) is assisting the administration of certificates.

Susanne Minne, (1st left), is the main contact for the EAC certificates, communicating with certification centres and supervisors, and issuing certificates.

Junko Oikawa-Radscheit, Technical Officer for International Arboricultural Affairs (1st middle), is responsible for the project activities, international affairs and technical matters.

Irene Schliefer, (1st right), is looking after the general office administration and supporting the whole aspects of EAC.

Junko Oikawa-Radscheit: New Face in the EAC Office

Junko Oikawa-Radscheit, was appointed as Technical Officer for International Arboricultural Affairs in January 2019. Junko is the European Arboricultural Council's first full-time member of staff. Junko studied biology, horticulture and landscape management in Japan and in the U.K. She also benefitted from various hands-on training modules, including tree climbing, handling chainsaws and in practical horticulture.

During her time working at Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (www.kew.org), the University of Reading and Botanic Gardens Conservation International (www.bgci.org), Junko gained rich experiences on managing diverse international projects on public education,

capacity building and policy development. Besides this, she has also experience in being an Examiner for vocational horticultural qualifications, and organising study tours on various themes including remarkable trees.

"I will be taking a part of various projects, whilst strengthening our partnership and collaboration with our Members, Certification Centres and Supervisors, but also with new partners and potential supporters at both European and international level. My efforts will also go into promoting the arboricultural profession and the value of trees to our society," stated Oikawa-Radscheit.

EAC STATISTICS 2019

European Tree Workers

A total of 37 ETW exams were conducted in 12 European countries in 2019.

- 756 candidates registered.
- 441 passed the exam and were certified as European Tree Workers.

European Tree Technicians

A total of 14 ETT exams were conducted in 6 European countries in 2019.

- 190 candidates registered.
- 102 passed the exam and were certified as European Tree Technicians.

EAC Certification Centres

- 37 Certification Centres from 16 countries have been officially listed.

Supervisors

- 34 Supervisors from 13 different countries have been working to ensure the high quality of ETT and ETW certifications throughout Europe.
- 3 co-supervisors have been appointed by the Working Group Certification and Quality Management and are currently striving for active service.

HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome New EAC Members!

- Lithuanian Arborists Association (LARA) from Lithuania
- Sociedade de Ciencias Agrarias de Portugal (SCAP) from Portugal
- In total, 26 organisations from 23 countries are currently EAC members.

EAC Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/European-Arboricultural-Council-1627862794124104/>

During one week from 26 May and 1 June 2019, 64,236 reached, 177 hit "likes", and 426 directly clicked the EAC's Facebook page.

Currently 4,297 like (indicate "likes") the EAC's Facebook page (updated on 05.12 2019). This number has been growing from 1,400 on 8 June 2018 up to 2,329 on 8 June 2019.

Compared to other arbour pages, these figures show that the EAC's Facebook page is the most active and progressive.

A quick look back

Wolfgang Gross was invited to the **Myplant & Garden – International Green Expo**, the most important international trade fair for horticulture, landscape and garden in Italy, and gave a presentation about EAC in **Milano, Italy** on **20th February 2019**.

EAC presented at the Arboricultural Association's 53rd **Annual Amenity Conference** held in **Exeter, U.K.** from **8th–11th September 2019** and promoted the certification schemes and the activities at its advertisement stand for the first time.



Stefania Gasperini, 1st Vice-President (conference's invited speaker), **Junko Oikawa-Radscheit** and **Jonathan Cocking**, EAC President (left to right)



As representative of EAC, **Stefania Gasperini**, EAC's 1st Vice-President, attended the **Urban Tree Management Seminar**, organised by the Greek National Union of Landscape Industry (PEEGEP) in **Athens, Greece**. She gave a two-hour oral presentation followed by a two-hour workshop on **20 October 2019**.

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EAC BOOKS AND GUIDES

Please fax or email this sheet back to the EAC

Fax: 0049 22 24 77 07 77 | office@eac-arboriculture.com

After your order you will receive a proforma invoice and after paying we will deliver the book/guide directly.

We would like to order:



European Tree Worker Handbook

English–German–Polish hardcover
186 pages four–colour printing
€56/copy

_____ copies



EAC European Tree Pruning Guide

2005
20 pages four–colour printing
€15/copy

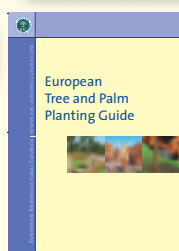
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European Tree Worker Handbook

English–Swedish–Russian hardcover
186 pages four–colour printing
€56/copy

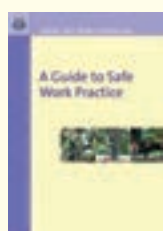
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European Tree and Palm Planting Guide

2009
36 pages four–colour printing
€25/copy

_____ copies



EAC Guide to Safe Work Practice

2008
12 pages four–colour printing
free

_____ copies



Jubilee publication: 20 Years EAC

2012
32 pages four–colour printing
€0/copy

_____ copies

Name: _____

Address: _____

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NATIONAL REPORTS 2018/2019

Report from Austria

ISA Chapter Austria has 125 members.

Activities of the association in the last year:

- Advisory Board to standardization committees.
- Exam preparation course and exam to become an ISA Certified Arborist.
- Exhibitor at the LA Tree Day fair, Baden near Vienna.
- ANTCC (Austrian National Tree Climbing Championship), Linz.

ISA Austria activities:

- The AUVA (Allgemeine Unfallversicherungsanstalt – the Austrian Workers' Compensation Board) has released the new publication "M.plus 520 Arbeiten auf Bäumen" ("Working in trees") that outlines the minimum requirements for personnel working in trees and helps us, as a school, to set and enforce standards.
- A new association for climbers and riggers was founded in 2018 that aims at creating standards for all climbing and rigging personnel in Austria: OHRV Österreichischer Höhenfachkräfte- und Riggingverein <http://www.oehrv.at/>
- Oak processionary caterpillars have caused significant problems especially in Viennese parks.
- Extensive tree clearing caused by Ash dieback.
- Tree liability: Change of the burden of proof in the case of an accident.

ETW Exam:

2018:

- March with 20 candidates
- Exam June (retakers): 4 candidates

2019:

- March with 15 candidates
- June (retakers): 4 candidates

ETT Exams:

2019: February with 15 candidates

Our three wishes for the future of arboriculture:

- Avoidance of media hysteria against tree pests through good scientific education
- The end of tree topping and unprofessional tree care
- Recognize the importance of trees for urban life.

Michael Bazant-Hegemark

Report from Croatia

On 7th and 8th November 2019, the Croatian Arboriculture Association organised the International meeting on arboriculture in Dubrovnik. The meeting was held together and in collaboration with the PU Lokrum Reserve (Public Institution "Special Reserve of Forest Vegetation Island Lokrum") as part of the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the reserve.

In the Hall of the University of Dubrovnik 160 participants and experts from various fields gathered and participated in the morning lectures about results of scientific research conducted on the island and undersea world of Lokrum Island. In the afternoon, lectures from the field of arboriculture began with a lecture by Dane Karcher, a representative of the Steering committee of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) with a presentation about arboriculture in the USA and the world. In total, Eleven talks including the issue of affirmation of arboriculture as a profession in Croatia and the concept of "PRO Tree", a new initiative of the Croatian Arboriculture Association were presented (Further information on "PRO Tree" can be found on page 10).

On the second day, accompanied by the city-owned company Vrtlar Ltd., the delegates visited the port of Gruž and learnt about one of PRO Trees, *Quercus suber*. Vrtlar has been providing the necessary permits and a part of the material resources for the operation to be successfully carried out. This made the City of Dubrovnik the first city in Croatia where PRO Tree initiative was established.

In addition to the PRO Tree, the key issue of the Dubrovnik meeting was to raise awareness of the new arboriculture profession in Croatia, and it was a pleasure to see young entrepreneurs who came up with ideas and innovations to improve tree care in urban and peri-urban areas. Their presentations showed a clear shift in this new profession in Croatia. The presentations from our neighbours Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia also showed a clear connection between the professions in the region and the need for deeper and more intensive interactions. This gathering has confirmed that we have knowledge and our experts will advance the Croatian arboriculture profession. In this respect the event was very successful and laid the groundwork for further development in arboriculture in Croatia. With the aim of raising awareness of the importance of tree care in urban and semi-urban areas for ultimately improving and preserving the vitality, general health condition and static stability of trees in parks, alleys and other urbanized areas, the Croatian Arboriculture Association can and should have a key role on this future progress, as a hub for the gathering of all stakeholders.

Dr. sc Milan Pernek

EAC-NEWSLETTER



Report from Greece

Hellenic Association for Arboriculture has 36 members.

Activities of the association in 2018: Completion of translation and printing of the European Tree Pruning Guide in Greek. The project was sponsored by PANTELIS PAPADOPOULOS SA/HUSQVARNA HELLAS

in 2019: Preparing the presentation of the European Tree Pruning Guide in Greek which will be combined with our first seminar about the subject "Pruning in Urban Trees".

Our wishes for the future of arboriculture:

Recognition by the government, the tree professionals and the citizens in Greece of the necessity and the importance of professional tree care for society and the environment to ensure a high quality of living.

Minas Tsakiridis

Report from Italy

SIA – Società Italiana di Arboricoltura and ISA Italy Chapter have 323 members.

Activities of the association in the last year:

- The Members' Annual General Meeting took place in Scandicci near Florence on 14th April 2018. In the morning, a conference was held about partnerships between associations.
- SIA organized the Italian Tree Climbing Championship in Faenza (near Ravenna): in May 2018.
- Since 2017 the Association has been improving and investing resources on regional delegations. This means training local members in many activities that, up to now, were managed and organised at a national level, such as workshops, educational activities in schools, participation in trade shows and Trees Day events. Many of our members were used to participate as

volunteers at SIA stands or SIA Junior stands in fairs and plant trade shows or during special events, especially organised for 21st November, which is the National Trees Day! In 2018 more than 20 local events were organized by SIA associates for the National Trees Day.

- The Italian city of Mantova hosted the World Forum on Urban Trees from 27th November –1st December 2018. SIA was there, with a booth, both as the Italian Society of Arboriculture and as ISA Italy Chapter. The Forum was a great international success and a lot of speakers were also SIA members. The SIA Junior working group organized in Piazza Virgiliana Park educational workshops for school kids and set up tree climbing activities for children (and adults!). In addition to the main programme, the World Forum envisaged the possibility of organizing a series of collateral activities, so SIA and other associations organised a full day conference on trees and urban forest.
- Our magazine, Arbor, is published online three times a year, and it is accessible via web to members only.

Items and themes under discussion in Italy during last year:

- The SIA working group on tree stability assessment has continued its works with commitment, the group is also dedicated to educational activities with children and young people.
- At the beginning of 2018, the National Certification Board was born, composed by SIA and representatives of the two certification centres currently active in Italy. This board has the task of standardizing the procedures between the two centres, starting with the creation of a single national list of examiners, from which both centres can draw, to form the body of assessors at each exam session. The National Certification Board met several times with excellent results.
- One of the most important themes of the year was the state of the "green bonus", that is the possibility for citizens to have a tax relief in the case of creating new gardens, supply and planting new plants, restoration of historical parks and garden design.

ETW exams

In 2018 we had 54 candidates, 35 succeeded. 44 individuals renewed their ETW certification.

In 2019 (until April) we had 15 candidates, 5 succeeded. For the first time, three ETW certified climbers decided to pass the ETW platform exam too, and they did it successfully!

ETT exams

- In 2018 we had 4 candidates, 2 succeeded.
- In 2019 (until April) we had 3 candidates, 2 succeeded.

Our aspiration for the future of Italian arboriculture is to greatly increase the number of ETW and ETT certified arborists.

Stefania Gasperini

Report from Latvia

Latvijas Kokkopju – Arboristu biedrība – LKAB (Latvian Arboriculture Society, En.) has 53 members.

Activities of the association in the last year:

1. In January we started to develop the tree evaluation methodology guidelines for common use in Latvia.
2. We organized our members' participation in the national tree worker and tree technician modular training programme which was developed together with landscape technicians and initiated by the Ministry of Education and Science.
3. In February started the tree experts' approval that was established by commission of LKAB. Two experts were approved and four are still in the process.
4. In February 2019 the Latvian Arboriculture Society's AGM was held. The annual report was made about 2018 and further operational directions and tasks for 2019 were defined. There was a discussion about employment in the sector, economic aspects of businesses and service handling.
5. In July we organized the Baltic States tree Climbing Championship (BSTCC) with the support of all members and companies of LKAB. 37 competitors from 8 countries participated in the event..
6. In November we created the organization's Facebook profile.
7. In November we submitted a project about training organization in 2018 to the Ministry of Agriculture which was approved. The main topics focus on large diameter tree cultivation, plant protection, rare tree species cultivation in Latvia, river banks management by trees, shaping ornamental trees and tree protection on construction sites.
8. During all seasons seminars/training courses for arborists were available: Healthy Trees in a City; My topped tree (January); My Green Municipality (February); Plant Protection (in spring) and Soil Fertility (March); Master Class for Forming Fruit Trees (April); Highlights of Garden Care during the Summer Season (May); News about Garden and Urban Tree Care Instruments/Tools (September); Plant Protection (in autumn) and The Latest Developments in Fertilizing, Use of Plants in Public places (November). Courses were offered by the company "Lābie Koki".

The further operational directions of arboriculture:

- National tree care standards,
- Development together with training institutions: Tree technician training,
- Assessment of methodology of tree evaluation and certification of tree inspectors/experts by Latvian Arboriculture Society.
- ETW certification (one).

Andris Spaiļe

Report from Lithuania

Lithuanian Arboricultural Center (LAC) has 4 members and 16 associated members. LAC is a full member of EAC and Associate Organization (AO) of ISA (International Society of Arboriculture).

Our members took part in several seminars, conference and projects.

Most important:

- 17.–21.09.2018: the second arborist profession teachers training and meeting of partners in the Erasmus+ project ARBORISTS: Urban Tree Care for Sustainable Cities in the Baltic Sea Region Nr. 2017-1-LT01-KA202-035253", Riga, Latvia;
- 01.10.2018 – until now: the pilot informal training of arborist workers in the Erasmus + project ARBORISTS, Vilnius, Lithuania;
- 05.10.2018: International Conference "Legal regulation, maintenance and renewal of historical parks. Experience of France and Lithuania", Plungė, Lithuania.
- 12.–14.10.2018: European Tree Pruning Standard Group Meeting in Riga, Latvia;
- 15.–19.10.2018: The third arborist profession teachers training and meeting of partners in the Erasmus+ project ARBORISTS, Tartu, Estonia;
- 27.02/03.04.2019: Erasmus+ project ARBORISTS, pilot training of municipal employees: "Basics of Arboristics – Pruning, Formation and Maintenance of Woody Plants" Vilnius, Lithuania ;
- 08.–12.04.2019: The fourth arborist profession teachers training and meeting of partners in the Erasmus+ project ARBORISTS, Vilnius, Lithuania;
- 24.–26.04.2019: 10th International Conference on Biodiversity Research, Daugavpils, Latvia (Algis Davenis et al., presentations "Further Research and new data on *Osmoderma barnabita* Motschulsky, 1845 (Coleoptera) in Lithuania" and "The survey on beetles in botanical garden of Vilnius University");
- 02.–04.05.2019: International Conference „Smart Bio“, Kaunas, Lithuania (Algis Davenis et al., presentation "Inhabitants of Hollow Veteran Trees").
- 22.05.2019: Pilot informal arborists profession course exam.

In 2018 LAC organised the Lithuanian Tree of the Year contest whose aim was not only to nominate a national tree to the European Tree of the Year contest, but also to honour other valued trees in the country and to share information about them as being the region's unique attractions. In 2018 the Raudonė Castle Lime (Raudonės pilies liepa) was voted on as the Lithuanian Tree of the Year and was presented to take part in the European Tree of the Year contest with award ceremony on 19.03.2019 in Brussels at the European Parliament. In 2018 the National Tree of the Year contest was organised for the third time.



LAC initiated and took active part in presenting changes to the National Greenery law and its supporting regulations.

In co-operation with Vilnius Labour Market Training Center (VJLMT) LAC prepared and presented to Erasmus+ in 2016–2019: Cooperation for Innovation and the Exchange of Good Practices, Strategic Partnerships for vocational education and training). There are noticeable skill gaps in techniques and knowledge among the workers of European Qualification Framework level 3 and 4 who do tree care in cities.

Project execution period: 11.11.2017–31.10.2019.

The project results will allow to create new opportunities to train arborist in Lithuanian training centers that have not provided arborist training before. Thus, these training centers assume an important role as arborist examination centers. VJLMT is expected to become the first arborist training and examination centre in Lithuania.

ARBORIST project partners are European Arboricultural Council, IPC Groene Ruimte (Netherlands), Jyväskylän koulutuskuntayhtymä (Finland), Priekuļu tehnikums (Latvia), Luua Metsanduskool (Estonia).

The further operational directions of arboriculture:

- National arboricultural standards and rules
- International co-operation in the field of arboriculture
- Sharing information and mutual understanding of local issues.

Algis Davenis

Report from The Netherlands

ISA-KPB (www.KPB-ISA.nl)

The Dutch chapter of the ISA is still doing very well with more than 950 members at this moment. As every year they organise the Dutch climbing competition and six workshop/study meetings on Saturdays throughout the year.

VHG (www.vhg.org)

The "VHG- Boomspecialisten" (Dutch organisation for companies of tree care and specialists) is a member of the very large association of gardeners and green keepers. They are one of the five interest groups of the VHG. The "VHG- Vakgroep Boomspecialisten" manages the whole range of tree care in the Netherlands and is the Dutch EAC member. They have a focus on the quality level of companies and their services, the required education level and politics.

NVTB (www.boomtaxateur.nl)

The Dutch Association of Tree Appraisal and Valuation has made a big step forward in the systematic approach towards the monetary value of trees and their damages. They have 50 active members.

Dutch Tree-Professor!

After working for almost ten years on this subject we installed a "Professor

of the Trees" His name is Rene van der Velden, he was born in Australia. The Technical University of Delft hosts his chair (beside the chairs of city development and cityengineering. He will be paid for two days a week for at least five years by the Dutch National Organisation. We really look forward to working together – the first "signs" are very promising.

Education, Recertification and Training

This year we certificated another 70 European Tree Workers which results in a total of 1,300 ETWs in the Netherlands. Also there are 25 new ETTs, which means that currently 275 ETTs have a valid certificate.

A third group in education and examination is the even faster growing group of certified Tree-risk Assessors. These 2,500 people are trained and examined in assessing and registering safety problems with trees. It's widely accepted now that this group is legally competent in tree risk assessment.

Impression of the Industry:

The market is improving: prices for pruning and tree assessment are still stable, maybe even a little less. There is a lot of work for consultants.

The demand for qualified staff (including ETWs and ETTs) continues to grow, particularly for young adults (16 – 20 year old, female and Non-Caucasian). The question remains how we can make our profession "sexy" enough: job availability is a great, but not working with one's own hands.

Pest and diseases

Ash dieback (*Chalara fraxinea*) causes problems, because it has spread throughout the Netherlands. Research from a Leonardo project will help (researcher Jitze Kopinga is involved) and puts our hopes on finding species that can survive.

The growing number of procession caterpillars covering the whole country can be controlled with a good management system and biological treatments.

A lot of new diseases will reach us in the next years. This includes the Agripillus coming into Europe by transport from Asian countries such as China. We believe that a European system to monitor pests and diseases should be set up. In our opinion, this is the EAC's opportunity to take over the lead!

Harold Schoenmakers

Report from Norway

Norsk Trepleieforum (NTF) has 204 members.

Activities of the association in 2018

- Annual conference in Oslo in March
- Rescue workshop in Oslo in May
- National Championship in Tree Climbing in Horten in June
- Arbor camp in Borre in August
- Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) in Oslo in October

A topic which we discussed was NS 4400 (the nursery standard).

ETW Exams

- One exam with 31 participants in total
- 18 retaking parts
- One completed ETW

Three wishes for the future of arboriculture:

- Better legal protection of trees
- Better regulations, also below ground to allow space for roots and soil
- More knowledge on trees, and digging

Glen Read

Report from Russia

NPSA ZDOROVY LES is the Russian EAC Member.

Activities of the association in the last year:

16.02.2018: Participation in the session of the Public Forest Council of the Moscow Region organized by Moscow Region Forest Committee, venue: Moscow Regional Government Hall.

26.02.2018: Participation in the round table session devoted to the 7th anniversary of the National Project "Trees as Natural Heritage Monuments", organized by: NPSA ZDOROVY LES, Committee for Agricultural and Food Policy and Environment Management of the Russian Federal Assembly, venue: Russian Federal Assembly, Moscow.

04.03.2018: A team of Russian ETWs took part in an international workshop and trainings in Germany organized by: NPSA ZDOROVY LES and Nürnberger Baumpflege.GmbH, venue: Nuremberg.

06.03.2018: Organization of a kids drawing contest "Belgorod Oak – the 2017 Russian Tree of the Year" and holding a winner award ceremony, organized by NPSA ZDOROVY LES and the Forest Agency of Belgorod Oblast, venue: Cultural Centre of the Dubovoe Village, Belgorod Oblast.

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13.03.2018: The ZDOROVY LES team performed pruning of tall tropical trees growing in the greenhouses of the Tsytin Main Moscow Botanical Garden of Academy of Sciences.

The project was developed and completed by NPSA ZDOROVY LES and the Tsytin Main Moscow Botanical Garden of Academy of Sciences.

21.03.2018: Participation in the 2018 European Tree of the Year Award Ceremony organized by EAC, Environmental Partnership Association together with the European Landowners' Organization and Tetra Pak, venue: Brussels.

22.03.2018. Holding urban tree care trainings for the team of the Moscow City Green Office, organized and hosted by: NPSA ZDOROVY LES and the Moscow City Department for Natural Resource Management and Environment Protection.

29.03.2018: Holding trainings on operating the Arbotom impulse tomography unit, organized by: Moscow Tree Care School of ZDOROVY LES, venue: Science and Education Center for Wood Investigation, Analysis and Expertise of the Mytischki Branch of Bauman Moscow State Technical University.

20.04.2018: Participation in the meeting of the Expert Council of the Committee for Agricultural and Food Policy and Environment Management of the Russian Federal Assembly, organized and hosted by: Russian Federal Assembly, Moscow.

12.05.2018: Participation in the annual ecological and patriotic campaign "Forest of the Victory" (a national day for planting trees), organized by: Moscow Region Forest Committee, venue: Zhilino village of Solnechnogorsk municipality.

10.06.2018: The EAC Annual General Meeting and ECOT Award Ceremony organized by: EAC and hosted by VHG Vakgroep Boomverzorging in the Netherlands.

14.06.2018: Participation in the round table session on the current state and development trends of the forest industry transport and technical infrastructure, organized and hosted by Committee for Agricultural and Food Policy and Environment Management of the Russian Federal Assembly, Moscow.

26.06.2018: Participation in the session on defining the term

"brushwood" for implementation of the Federal Law on amending Article 32 of the Forest Code of the Russian Federation, organized and hosted by: Committee for Agricultural and Food Policy and Environment Management of the Russian Federal Assembly, Moscow.

04.07.2018: The NPSA ZDOROVY LES team arranged a meeting with first-year students of the Mytischki Branch of Bauman Moscow State Technical University during their summer internship. Venue: Schelkovo experimental forest farm, Kamshilovka training facilities, City of Schelkovo.

06.07.2018: Awarding winners of the Best Term Project Contest arranged for students of the Mytischki Branch of Bauman Moscow State Technical University. The main contest objective was to encourage students to do research work as well as to raise awareness about current threats to urban green areas and to promote advanced technical knowledge for the tree care industry.

12.07.2018: Session of the Moscow Region Public Forest Council. The agenda included a discussion of the key document defining a forest development plan for the Moscow region. Venue: Poretskoye forest district, Moscow Region.

26.07.2018: Organization of and participation in the 5th Research and Practice Conference on "Natural and Cultural Heritage Preservation: Existing Challenges and Possible Solutions", venue: Sergey Esenin's Open Air Museum, village of Konstantinovo, Ryazan Oblast.

30.08.2018: Participation in the 2nd International Research and Practice Conference "Green Urban Infrastructure: Current Status and Development Trends". Organizer and Host: Department of Natural Resources and Environment of Voronezh Oblast, city of Voronezh.

13.09.2018: Participation in the National Research and Practice Conference (with international speakers) on "Current Tasks and Issues of Silviculture, Dendrology, Park and Landscape Architecture." Organized by: Nikitsky Botanic Garden and National Scientific Centre of Academy of Sciences; Forest Research Institute of Academy of Sciences; V.I. Vernadsky's Tavricheskaya Academy of Crimean Federal University; Central Botanic Garden; National Academy of Sciences of Belarus. Venue: the Crimea.

22.09.2018. Participation in the project "Our Forest", organized by the Governor of Moscow Oblast (Region). Venue: Tomilinsky recreational forest, Ramensky district, Moscow Oblast (Region).

24.09.2018: The team of NPSA ZDOROVY LES carried out a detailed inspection of the trees growing in the garden surrounding the Putevoy Palace Museum. Implemented by: Centre for Wood Analysis of NPSA ZDOROVY LES. Venue: St. Petersburg.

02.10.2018. Holding the first Arboriculture Championship, organized by NPSA ZDOROVY LES, venue: Tsytin Main Moscow Botanical Garden of Academy of Sciences, Moscow

08.10.2018–23.10.2018: European Tree Worker Certification organized by NPSA ZDOROVY LES at Tsytin Main Moscow Botanical

Garden of Academy of Sciences, Moscow and Mytischki Branch of Bauman Moscow State Technical University, City of Mytischki

25.10.2018–20.12.2018: Arranging a drawing contest "Abramstevko Oak as an Inspiration for Painters and Poets – Russian Tree of the Year 2018" for school students and members of school forest clubs of Moscow Oblast, organized by Moscow Region Forest Committee and NPSA ZDOROVY LES, venue: schools and school forest clubs of Moscow oblast.

Last year the team of the Centre for Wood Analysis of NPSA ZDOROVY LES regularly traveled to various Russian regions to perform detailed on-site inspections, take measurements and assess health of the following trees involved in the Russian National Project "Trees as Natural Heritage Monuments":

Veteran oak growing on the Sarpinsky isle in the city of Vologda, Wild pear growing in the Dzheyrazhsky district, Republic of Ingushetia, Veteran plane tree growing in the Suleyman-Stalsky district, Republic of Dagestan, English oak (Inventory No 633), European ash (Inventory No 637) and Small-leaved lime (Inventory No 628) growing in Tambov Oblast, English oak (Inventory No 613) growing in the village of Vindrey, Torbeevsky district, Republic of Mordovia, Historical larch tree growing in the reserved area of Pushkin's State Literature and Nature Museum "Boldino", Nizhny Novgorod Oblast, Scots Pine (Inventory No 603), Scots Pine (Inventory No 648), European white birch (Inventory No 595), Olkhon Isle, Irkutsk Oblast, Historical veteran oak growing in the Khvalevskaya Estate, Borisovo-Sudskoye selo, Babaevsky district, Vologda Oblast, Historical veteran oak growing in Ufa, Republic of Bashkortostan, Elm tree (Inventory No 516), Pine (Inventory No 517) and Lime tree (Inventory No 436), Kirov Oblast (Slobodskoy and Zuevsky districts), White willow (Inventory No 203) growing in the village of Utyazhino, English oak (Inventory No 465) growing in the Pavlovsky district of the Nikolaevsky forest area and English oak (Inventory No 529) from the Novospassky district of Ulianovsk Oblast, Oak (Inventory No 597) and oak (Inventory No 598) growing in the Kuskovo Estate, Moscow; Scots Pine (Inventory No 635)



growing in the Alferievo village, Teykovsky district, Ivanov Oblast; Veteran oak (Inventory No 661) growing in the garden of the Ostafievo Estate, Moscow.

Last year we also held two official ceremonies to award new trees as Natural Monuments under the national project "Trees as Natural Heritage Monuments". These trees were Liriodendron tulipifera or tulip tree (Inventory No 189) in Sochi, Krasnodar Krai and Tilia cordata (Inventory No 61) in Yaroslavl Oblast. An educational tour "Secrets of a Living Tree" was arranged by NPSA ZDOROVY LES and the Science and Education Centre for Wood Investigation, Analysis and Expertise of the Mytischki Branch of Bauman Moscow State Technical University for students of Schelkovo College, Moscow Oblast.

Items under discussion:

- Amendments to the Federal and Regional Regulations for Establishment, Maintenance and Protection of Urban Tree Areas in Russia
- Annual European Tree Worker certification; activities to promote certification for tree care experts in Russian regions; promotion of the tree care industry
- Organization of the annual Russian National Arboriculture Championship (tree climbing)
- Arrangements for pest control in urban trees
- Discussions of issues to ensure improvement of the Russian Forest Management Regulations
- Searching for trees of great age and importance in Russia and updating the Russian Veteran Tree Register
- Promoting the Russian National Project "Trees as Natural Heritage Monuments"
- Organization of the Russian Tree of the Year annual national contest
- Raising public (adults and children) awareness of issues related to planting, protection and appropriate maintenance of urban trees in Russia
- Awareness building and promotion of advanced technologies in tree care and maintenance to ensure safe and comfortable environment for people
- Developing and holding advanced trainings for senior managers, professionals, experts and employees dealing with forest management, urban tree care and public utilities
- Discussion of issues related to legal regulation of recreational activities, tourism development, forest recreation promotion and public forest use provision

ETW Exams

One ETW exam was held in 2018.

Venue: Mytischki Branch of Bauman Moscow State Technical

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University, 1st Institutskaya ulitsa, 1, Mytischki-5; Tsytin Main Moscow Botanical Garden of Academy of Sciences, Moscow. 20 candidates took the corresponding training and succeeded in the exam.

6 ETWs trained and certified in 2019, 15 were recertified in 2018.

Three wishes for the future of arboriculture:

- Efficient development
- Continuous sharing of experience between EAC members.
- Commitment to ensure that qualified professionals are engaged in arboriculture.

Mikhail Eremin

Report from United Kingdom

The Arboricultural Association (AA) is the largest institution in the UK and has been supporting arborists since 1964. It has 3200 members in a variety of roles. The AA is a registered charity; all profits generated are reinvested to projects and services which benefit members and the industry.

Among others, the AA is involved in these activities:

- Student Membership – Free for the duration of studies (PT/FT)
- We help shape guidance and legislation.
- The ARB Magazine & Arboricultural Journal
- Technical Help & Advice
- ARB Show
- Offer discounts from Suppliers & Retailers
- Branch Network covering the whole of the UK
- Free events and Training Discounts
- AA Conference & Student Conference
- Offer relevant Publications – many free or discounted
- Our accreditation schemes – Amenity, Utility and Consultancy

The 2018 Arb Show had 8362 visitors (1528 more than in 2017) and 105 exhibitors (among them 15 first-time exhibitors) and 41 ATC entrants (the Arboricultural Association Arborists' Tree Challenge (3ATC) tests the mettle of climbers over 3 different skill categories). The 53rd Arboricultural Association National Amenity Conference "Crown & Canopy Management – Working with Nature" took place at the University of Exeter from 8th – 11th September 2019. The schedule for the UK's biggest Arboriculture Conference included 13 prominent international speakers who, alongside UK based experts, focussed on the science of crown management, a topic having impacts on all professionals involved in the tree care industry,

from those dealing with policy at local, regional, national or global levels, or working on individual trees as a climbing arborist, to consultants, specifiers and practitioners. Among the speakers were AA President Keith Sacre and EAC Vice-President Stefania Gasperini and her husband Giovanni Morelli from Italy. Besides, new perspectives were presented that will challenge current working practices and take arboricultural knowledge and understanding to new levels. The event culminated with four in-depth practical workshop sessions on the final day.

The Arboricultural Association works alongside many leading industry bodies. For instance a Biosecurity Policy was developed to prevent spread on pests and diseases in UK tree stock. Biosecurity is the single most important subject in terms of safeguarding the future of trees. The AA aims to both give a clear best practice framework to those within the industry and also to help those with special interests around trees to be able to spot potential hazards and enable them to pass that information on to the relevant authorities.

Furthermore, the Arboricultural Association strives to raise greater awareness and campaign politicians to recognise the value of amenity trees and professional arboriculture. Over the past few years we have been working through the All-Party Parliamentary Gardening and Horticulture Group to make the industry and our members heard in Government. Great strides have been made in educating MPs on the value of amenity trees and the urban forest and the issues tree experts face. Alongside raising awareness amongst the public of the importance of professional tree work, political engagement is an essential avenue for cultivating wider recognition for arboriculture.

Keith Sacre



VISITORS ARE WARMLY WELCOME IN THE EAC OFFICE



Surprise, surprise

Another regular call, thought Irene Schliefer when her phone began to ring and the number hailing from a mobile phone appeared on the display shortly before noon on 9 August 2019. She was holding the fort while her colleagues from the EAC Office were enjoying their well-earned summer holidays. "Hi Irene, this is Christian Seibert from Austria. Do you remember me? We met in Moscow during the AGM," a voice could be heard on the other end of the line. And it turned out that Christian and his wife Margit were on their way to visit friends in Germany and ready to make a stopover in Bad Honnef. What a nice surprise and a happy reunion in the early afternoon! The three had coffee together and a friendly chat before the two Austrians continued their journey. As a matter of fact, they wanted to drive up to Norway, their final holiday destination. Christian's supervisor application has lately been accepted, so he is about to start his co-supervision period.

Friendship renewed

Already for some time it had been Dr. Milan Pernek's wish to meet Wolfgang Gross and the EAC Office staff. Finally on 12 November 2019 the opportunity arose for a personal meeting when he and Mr Nikola Lackovic were travelling through Germany. Both are responsible for and very much involved in the organization of activities within Hrvatska udruga za Arborikulturu (HUA), the Croatian EAC Member. Hence there was a lot to talk about – particularly how both sides can collaborate more closely and support each other. Milan saw Wolfgang last during the 2008 AGM in Zagreb. In spite of all those years passing by without personal encounter, the visit was a happy and inspiring one. All EAC members, friends and guests will be given the occasion to meet Milan at the 2020 AGM in Vilnius, because he has agreed to deliver a speech during the open part.



Friendship renewed: Already for some time it had been Dr. Milan Pernek's wish to meet Wolfgang Gross and the EAC Office staff.

A quick look back



Wolfgang Gross and Junko Oikawa-Radsch organised the **VEtCert Multiplier Event during the German Tree Care Conference (27 Deutsche Baumpflegetage), Augsburg, Germany on 8th May 2019.**



Certified Veteran Tree Specialist

Infoveranstaltung
8. Mai 2019

Für die Pflege und den Unterhalt von Baum-
veteranen werden große Sachkenntnis und
Fachwissen benötigt. Dessen gibt es für Fach-
kräfte keine Möglichkeit, um sich von der
internationalen Szene abzuheben. Auszubildenden
Stellen (tätig als oftmals schwerer, Fachwissen zu
erwerben. Das VETCERT-Projekt hat im Rah-
men eines Erasmus-Projektes ein partnerschaft-

liches Zertifizierungssystem für die Pflege und
den Unterhalt von Baumveteranen entwickelt.
VETCERT basiert auf dem EU-Vorgangs-Projekt
VETree auf. Informieren Sie sich über den Hin-
tergrund, die Standards, Trainings- und Lehr-
material und über den Prüfungsablauf.
Infos unter: www.vetcert.eu

Infoveranstaltung
8. Mai 2019
Konferenz Raum 2.102/11 (1. Stock), Messe Augsburg, 86199 Augsburg

11:00	Registration
12:00	Welcome and Introduction (JO, English)
12:15	VEtCert Project – overview (WG, German)
	• Background
	• Standard (IO2)
	• Training Materials (IO3)
	• Examination Procedure (IO5)
	• Certification Procedure (IO4)
13:00	Questions and Discussion (JO, English)
13:30	Lunch
14:30	Group Discussions: Veteran Tree Management – examples in Germany (WG and JO, German and English)
15:00	Overall Questions, Discussions and Future Recommendations – How can we make the VETcert certification adopted and widespread in Germany? (WG and JO, German and English)
16:00	Close of the Event

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