

INTERNATIONAL POPLAR COMMISSION

Executive Committee

Report of the Thirty-seventh Session

Sapança, Turkey, 5 October 1994

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Executive Committee and five subsidiary bodies of the International Poplar Commission (IPC) met in Sapança (Turkey) from 3 to 7 October 1994 at the kind invitation of the Government of Turkey. Participants were welcomed by Dr Osman Taskin, Deputy Under Secretary in the Ministry of Forestry, on behalf of his Minister. Dr Taskin stressed the importance of poplars to the Turkish rural economy, both in their productive and protective functions, the expanded plans being made for future development and the large contribution that has been made to poplar growing by the Poplar and Fast-Growing Trees Research Institute.

2. Mr Victor Steenackers, Chairman of the Executive Committee, thanked Dr Taskin for his welcome and the organizers for their hard work. He spoke of his pleasure at returning to Turkey for a meeting of the IPC. In reviewing the objectives of the IPC he stressed the importance of the deliberations of the subsidiary bodies both for their technical outputs and their contribution to the selection of the theme for the next Session.

3. Mr Jan Doorenbos, FAO Representative to Turkey, speaking on behalf of the Director-General of FAO, thanked those present for their participation and Dr Birler, Director of the Poplar and Fast-Growing Trees Research Institute and Mr Dönmez, Head of Foreign Relations and EC Coordination Department, Ministry of Forestry and others for the arrangements that had been made. He referred to the potentially important role played by poplars in bringing economic and environmental benefits to those most in need, and emphasised the necessity to attract more member countries to the IPC to exchange information and jointly implement agreed programmes.

4. The Thirty-seventh Session of the Executive Committee of the IPC was held on 5 October. The Session opened at 0900; it was chaired by Mr V. Steenackers (Belgium). It was attended by 10 members of the Executive Committee and 6 Chairmen or Secretaries of subsidiary bodies.

5. The agenda as shown in Annex 1 was approved. Mr Ball, Secretary of the IPC, was responsible for the work of the Secretariat.

II. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION SINCE ITS NINETEENTH SESSION (Zaragoza, Spain, 22-25 September 1992)

II-a: Working Party on Poplar Diseases

6. The latest session of the Working Party on Poplar Diseases was held in Sapança, Turkey from 3-4 October 1994. Delegates from seven countries (Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, France, Italy, Syria and Turkey) presented and discussed seven papers. One session was jointly held with the Working Parties on Breeding, Insect Pests, and Biomass Production Systems.

7. Discussions of the Working Party were summarised as follows:

. Specialists from Holland, France and Italy have recognized or expect to detect the existence of other physiological races of *Melampsora larici-populina* and *M. allii-populina*. The rapid evolution of these races requires more attention to the selection of clones for resistance to both pathogens.

. An Argentinian member drew attention to the presence of brown spot disease, observed for the first time in that country.

. A Turkish member underlined the importance of bark diseases caused by Discosporium populinum and Cytospora.

. The members of the Working Group propose the following theme for their next meeting: "Evolution of pathogens in relation to the clonal genotype, cultivation and the environment".

8. The following conclusions arose from the joint meeting with the Working Party on Insect Pests:

. the desirability of extending the Directory of Poplar and Willow Scientists with the names of pathologists specializing in willows;

. the need to call the next meeting of the Working Party on Diseases in 1996, on the occasion of the next Session of the IPC;

. the desirability of calling the meetings of the Working Party every four years; if there were specific items for discussion in between these times then an extraordinary meeting could be called.

9. Two joint projects were prepared with the Working Group on insect pests. The first would aim to acquire systematic knowledge on the natural resistance mechanisms of poplars and willows towards insects and diseases. The second would look for possible correlations between tree susceptibility to pests and soil characteristics or other ecological factors, in order to determine the risk of damage by insects or diseases to a particular poplar or willow for a given site.

II-b: Working Party on Poplar Insect Pests

10. The latest session of the Working Party on Poplar Insect Pests was held in Sapança, Turkey from 3-4 October 1994. Members presented and discussed three papers. One session was jointly held with the Working Parties on Breeding, Diseases, and Biomass Production Systems (see above).

11. An overview of internationally important insect pests of poplar was presented, the result of an enquiry conducted among member nations in 1993.

12. Members of the Working Party agreed that close contacts and joint meetings should be promoted between Working Parties, including opportunities to meet before the 20th Session of the IPC in 1996 to organise such joint meetings. The following recommendations arose from discussions of the Working Party:

. the choice of clones to be planted in a given environment has to be based not only on short-term economic considerations of fast growth but also on the need to satisfy other requirements such as the maintenance of genetic diversity, thus offering better protection against biotic or abiotic risks (weather, disease, insects, etc) and better adaptation to local variability of the site. Strict monocultures should therefore be avoided.

. chemical products are too often used for tree protection without respect for their impact on the environment or on human health. The Working Party on Insect Pests recommends that national and international bodies should encourage decision-makers to reduce such unwise applications, and to seek the development of more efficient methods of integrated pest management.

II-c: Working Party on Breeding and Selection of Poplars and Willows

13. The latest session of the Working Party on Breeding and Selection of Poplars and Willows was held in Sapança, Turkey from 3-4 October 1994. Participants presented and discussed 22 papers. One session was jointly held with the Working Parties on Diseases, Insect Pests, and Biomass Production Systems. Members of the EUFORGEN Populus nigra network participated in some sessions.

14. Reports were received from several countries on the situation regarding poplar and willow breeding and the conservation of natural populations in general and in relation to particular species. Several papers dealt with the situation regarding the conservation of Populus euphratica and P. nigra.

15. Members recommended meetings of the Working Party every four years, long notice of meetings and joint meetings with other Working Parties to promote better coordination of activities.

16. Members made the following recommendations to the Executive Committee of the IPC:

. to update the methodologies suitable for the conservation of the different poplar and willow genetic resources in danger of extinction;

. to prepare guidelines for the safe exchange of poplar genetic material between continents and countries;

. to promote molecular biology and its application in poplar and willow breeding programmes;

. to promote breeding of willow trees and shrubby willows;

. to prepare leaflets on different aspects of poplar and willow breeding, by specialized authors;

. to promote case studies on the conservation of poplar and willow genetic resources.

17. Members of the Working Party made the following recommendations to the Executive Committee of needs concerning Populus euphratica:

. the enlargement of fundamental knowledge of P. euphratica, particularly in the fields of its ecology, physiology and genetics;

. the conservation of natural stands in areas where they are diminishing seriously;

. the establishment of at least one Populetum euphraticum for in situ conservation;

. preparation of a monograph on the species.

18. Members proposed the following theme for the next meeting of the Working Party on Breeding and Selection of Poplars and Willows:

Methodology for the conservation of poplar and willow genetic resources and guidelines for safe exchanges of poplar and willow genetic material.

II-d: Working Party on Logging and Utilization of Poplar Wood

19. The latest session of the Working Party on Logging and Utilization of Poplar Wood was held in Sapança, Turkey from 3-4 October 1994. Twelve participants from eight countries (Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand and Turkey) reviewed presentations concerning poplar and willow utilization in those countries.

20. It was noted that Chile had achieved considerable success with the application of agro-forestry systems in the production of poplar wood, concentrating on the production of special and high value products. In North America, strong growth in poplar utilization is occurring in the production of oriented strand board (OSB). It was noted that the reduction in wood technology research had reduced the stimulus for industrial utilization of poplar wood in Turkey. It was reported that Argentina had considerable experience in the growing of willows for pulp production. Turkey had developed extensive information and a data base on the growth and yield of poplars, enabling the optimal spacing and rotation cycle to be identified for different clones. In Belgium wood quality research on different poplar clones is receiving priority. Information was exchanged on plantation subsidies, taxation, trade barriers, environmental concerns, global wood supply and technology.

21. The Working Party recommended that more joint sessions should be held between the working groups of the IPC in future, in order to achieve greater coordination of research, development and the transfer of technology. Two joint sessions were proposed for the 20th Session of the IPC on the following themes:

. Willow growing - an alternative for the future (involving all working parties);

. Wood quality - the link between breeding, production and utilization (involving the breeding, biomass and utilization working parties).

22. The Working Party on Logging and Utilization of Poplar Wood proposed to develop mechanisms for the greater involvement of the private sector in future activities of the group through the organization of a technical forum for industry experts from different countries to share knowledge on technologies for the processing and utilization of poplar and willow resources. One session of the forum would deal with the technology of manufacturing various products, another with the marketing and economics of poplar and willow products.

23. The Working Party also recommended that the Executive Committee should investigate ways of promoting student exchanges between member countries and student participation in technical and scientific meetings of the working parties.

II-e: Working Party on Biomass Production Systems for the Salicaceae

24. The latest session of the Working Party on Biomass Production Systems for the Salicaceae was held in Sapança, Turkey from 3-4 October 1994. Eighteen participants from nine countries reviewed country reports and seven papers presented to the meeting. One session was jointly held with the Working Parties on Diseases, Insect Pests, and Breeding.

25. The following conclusions and recommendations were presented to the joint session of the working parties:

- . there was need for the working parties to pay attention to environmental issues relating to poplar and willow cultivation and utilization;
- . in general, working parties considered only single aspects of growing or utilisation. Working parties should discuss such matters in a holistic sense, and more time should be spent on joint discussions;
- . conferences should be organized with invited speakers on topics of joint interest;
- . all working parties should deal with willow as well as with poplar, and should consider the role of poplars and willows as multi-purpose species;
- . poplar and willow breeders should work cooperatively with other disciplines towards meeting specific needs in planting stock for different growing systems and end products.

26. Members of the Working Party presented the following conclusions and recommendations to the Executive Committee:

- . a Working Party was required that dealt with poplar and willow production systems in an integrated manner. The Biomass Production Systems Working Party was already fulfilling this function, which was broader than its original mandate. It is recommended that the 20th Session of the IPC be asked to change the name of the Working Party to Production Systems for the Salicaceae;
- . it is recommended that a report be prepared on the modelling of production systems in the Salicaceae, for presentation at the 20th Session of the IPC;
- . a cost-benefit analysis of biomass production systems compared to other land uses has been initiated in Turkey; the results of this study will be of wider interest to Working Party members;
- . the importance of poplars and willows to social forestry in Turkey and other countries is recognized; member countries should investigate the opportunities for technical assistance to support such programmes;
- . activities of the working parties should include studies of the specific requirements for the growth of poplars and willows in the more northerly regions, including Scandinavia, and the northern parts of North America and China.

III. SELECTION OF THE THEME OF THE TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE IPC

27. Mr Ball informed the committee that he had received a total of 20 proposals for the theme of the 20th Session, and that some further proposals had been received during the course of the meeting. The titles of the proposals and the sponsors were circulated. After discussion the following was selected as the theme for the 20th Session of the IPC in 1996:

Environmental and social issues in poplar and willow cultivation and utilization.

IV. SELECTION OF THE PLACE OF THE TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE IPC

28. Mr Ball informed the Committee that three countries had offered to host the Twentieth Session of the IPC. One country had subsequently withdrawn, and it was not clear if one of the others was an official offer from the government. Whatever clarification of the latter was ultimately received, it was agreed to recommend to FAO acceptance of the offer of Hungary.

V. DIRECTORY OF POPLAR AND WILLOW SCIENTISTS

29. The 1994 Directory of Poplar and Willow Scientists had previously been distributed to member countries of the IPC. Grateful thanks were recorded to the Istituto di Sperimentazione per la Pioppicoltura (Casale Monferrato, Italy). It was suggested that future editions might be printed in a bold type face, and that it might be produced on diskette.

VI. REVISION OF "POPLARS AND WILLOWS"

30. It was recalled that the last edition of "Poplars and Willows in Wood Production and Land Use" had been published under the auspices of the IPC as FAO Forestry Series no. 10 in 1979. It was believed that there was still a need for a general book on poplars and willows but it was recognized that such a book would need to be a complete revision of the 1979 publication, not just a partial rewriting.

31. A proposal was made to establish an international periodic scientific review of poplars and willows, possibly supplemented by national reviews published by national poplar commissions. An alternative proposal was made to publish a series of leaflets on various topics associated with the growing and utilization of the Salicaceae, which could be collected together in a standard binder.

32. It was agreed to set up a small group to look into the options for a new edition of "Poplars and Willows" or the alternatives.

VII. OTHER MATTERS

33. The Chairman of the Sub-committee on Nomenclature, Mr Terrason, reported that he had collected the records from the previous Chairman and that he would circulate a questionnaire to update the register.

VIII. CLOSING OF THE SESSION

34. The agenda was completed at 1700 hours and the Chairman, Mr Steenackers, declared closed the Thirty-seventh Session of the Executive Committee of the International Poplar Commission.

Annex 1

INTERNATIONAL POPLAR COMMISSION

Thirty-seventh Session of the Executive Committee

Sapança, Turkey, 5 October 1994

AGENDA

1. Opening of the Session
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Activities of the Commission since its 19th Session held in Zaragoza, Spain, 22-25 September 1992
4. Selection of the Theme and Formulation of the Outline of Activities for the 20th Session of the Commission
5. Place of the Forthcoming Session of the Commission
6. Directory of Poplar and Willow Scientists
7. Revision of "Poplars and Willows"
8. Any Other Matters
9. Closing of the Session

Annex 2

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1.1 Members

Argentina: Arreghini, R.I.

Belgium: Steenackers, V. (Chairman)

Canada: Richardson, J.
China: Wang, Shiji
France: Terrasson, D.
Germany: Weisgerber, H.
Korea, Republic of: Shim, Chong Sup
New Zealand: Wilkinson, A.
Spain: Padró Simarro, A.
Turkey: Dönmez, R.E.

1.2 Chairmen or Secretaries of Subsidiary Bodies

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Chairman, Working Party on Poplar Diseases

Leclercq, A. (Belgium)
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Nef, L. (Belgium)
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Birler, A.S. (Turkey)
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Annex 3

LIST OF WORKING DOCUMENTS PRESENTED AT THE SESSIONS AND
TO THE WORKING PARTIES

POPLAR DISEASES

- | <u>Number</u> | <u>Title</u> |
|---------------|---|
| FO:CIP:D/90/1 | Disease situation of <u>Populus alba</u> and <u>P.tremula</u> in Italy - G.P. Cellerino |
| FO:CIP:D/90/2 | Observations on a poplar leaf infection occurring in north-east China: the grey spot disease - M. Morelet and P. Sigaud |
| FO:CIP:D/90/3 | A new virulence found among isolates of <u>Melampsora larici-populina</u> - J. Pinon and F. Lefèvre |
| FO:CIP:D/90/4 | Poplar disease situation in Italy - A. Giorcelli and L. Vietto |
| FO:CIP:D/90/5 | A new physiological race of <u>Melampsora larici-populina</u> in Belgium - M. Steenackers, V. Steenackers and T. Delporte |
| FO:CIP:D/90/6 | The influence of inoculum pressure, clonal susceptibility and leaf age on <u>Melampsora larici-populina</u> Kleb. E1 and E3 races infections - A. Giorcelli, L. Vietto, N. Anselmi and M. Gennaro |
| FO:CIP:D/90/7 | Presencia de la "Mancha Parda" del alamo en la Argentina - N. Anselmi, R. Arreghini, H. Lucero and A. Calderón |

POPLAR AND WILLOW BREEDING

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| FO:CIP:BR/90/1 | Status of <u>Populus euphratica</u> in China - Wang Shiji |
| FO:CIP:BR/90/2 | Information on natural range and conservation of gene resources of <u>Populus euphratica</u> Oliv. in Turkey - F. Toplu |
| FO:CIP:BR/90/3 | Situation du peuplier de l'Euphrate au Maroc: propositions d'actions - O. M'Hirit |
| FO:CIP:BR/90/4 | <u>Populus euphratica</u> in Spain - C. Maestro and A. Padró |
| FO:CIP:BR/90/5 | Ecological genetics of Italian natural populations of <u>Populus alba</u> - G. Scarascia Mugnozza, M. Sabatti and E. Kuzminsky |
| FO:CIP:BR/90/6 | Preservation and utilization of poplar resources in China; findings after ten years of Chinese-German cooperation - H. Weisgerber and Han Yifan |

- FO:CIP:BR/90/7 Poplar genetic resources and breeding in New Zealand, 1993-1994 - A.G. Wilkinson
- FO:CIP:BR/90/8 Population biology of Populus nigra L. in France: a study of the ways of propagation and of the structure of genetic variation based on isozyme markers - A. Legionnet, F. Lefèvre and M. Villar
- FO:CIP:BR/90/9 Variability of juvenile traits within the Italian collection of Populus nigra and selection of superior clones - L. Cagelli and S. Bisoffi
- FO:CIP:BR/90/10 Fluorescent in situ hybridization (FISH): a new technique for genetic and molecular studies in poplar - E. Prado-Vivant, P. Faivre Rampant, F. Lefèvre and M. Darmency
- FO:CIP:BR/90/11 The conservation of Populus nigra L. and gene flow with cultivated poplars in Europe - L. Cagelli and F. Lefèvre
- FO:CIP:BR/90/12 Poplar pollen and seed storage for the establishment of strategic reserves - L. Cagelli
- FO:CIP:BR/90/13 Conservation of poplar and arborescent willow genetic resources in Croatia - A. Krstini_ and D. Kajba
- FO:CIP:BR/90/14 Preservation strategies for the natural river bank groves of the middle Ebro valley area in Spain - A. Padró
- FO:CIP:BR/90/15 Conservation of forest genetic resources of Populus in Spain - N. Alba
- FO:CIP:BR/90/16 FAO activities in the conservation of poplars - J.B. Ball
- FO:CIP:BR/90/17 Follow-up of the Strasbourg Resolutions: the EUFORGEN programme; the role of FAO, IPGRI and partner countries - E. Frison
- FO:CIP:BR/90/18 EUFORGEN: the Populus nigra network - F. Lefèvre
- FO:CIP:BR/90/19 Populus nigra in Germany: a case study - R. Schulzke
- FO:CIP:BR/90/20 Broad sense heritability and genetic gain estimation for height of Populus davidiana Dode - Eui Rae Noh, Soung Kyu Lee and Jung Oh Hyun
- FO:CIP:BR/90/21 Study on the poplar resources and excellent clones of subsect. Tripidae Dode from Henan - Zhou Tienbang Fu Dali Chen Zhixiu
- FO:CIP:BR/90/22 Genetic variation detected with RAPD markers among southern and northern Populus alba genotypes - M. Sabatti, G. Scarascia Mugnozza and R. D'Ovidio

POPLAR INSECT PESTS

- FO:CIP:I/90/1 Sanitary situation of Italian poplar culture in the years 1992-93 - G. Allegro

FO:CIP:I/90/2 Susceptibility of different poplar species to the Fall Webworm (Hyphantria cunea Drury) - G. Allegro

FO:CIP:I/90/3 Internationally important damaging poplar insects: results of an enquiry among members of the International Poplar Commission - L. Nef and J.F. Menu

LOGGING AND UTILIZATION OF POPLAR WOOD

FO:CIP:N/90/1 Variability of poplar wood quality, in particular wood density - J. Steenackers, V. Steenackers and M. Stevens

FO:CIP:N/90/2 Oriented strand board (OSB) - a major poplar using industry in North America - J.J. Balatinecz

BIOMASS PRODUCTION SYSTEMS FOR THE SALICACEAE

FO:CIP:BS/90/1 Energy forestry in Turkiye - N. Saraçoğlu

FO:CIP:BS/90/2 Highly productive poplars in Sweden - S. Elowson

FO:CIP:BS/90/3 Implications of self-thinning in coppice systems - T. Verwijst

FO:CIP:BS/90/4 Influence of rust on poplar productivity and wood quality - J. Steenackers, M. Steenackers and V. Steenackers

FO:CIP:BS/90/5 Quantitative modelling of spatial relationships in hybrid poplar bioenergy plantations - L.B. Szendrödi, L.P. Abrahamson and E.H. White

FO:CIP:BS/90/6 The determination of the unit times of some mechanisation techniques based on the new techniques in the co-project of poplar development in Turkey - T. Zoralioğlu and S. Koçer

FO:CIP:BS/90/7 Some volume, yields and economic results from poplar plantations and poplar nurseries [in Turkey] - A.S. Birler

MISCELLANEOUS

FO:CIP:MISC/90/1 Conservation and utilization of the Salicaceae in Turkey - E. Dönmez, K. Tunçtaner and U. Tolay

FO:CIP:MISC/90/2 Las Salicaceas en la Argentina: actividades 1990-1994 (also available as: The Salicaceae in Argentine: activities 1990-1994)

FO:CIP:MISC/90/3 Report of Italian poplar cultivation in 1993 - G. Lapietra, D. Coaloa and P.M. Chiarabaglio