

Collaboration Agreement on establishment and management of Scots pine and Norway spruce progeny trials

1-18/779

“**Skogforsk**”, The Forestry Research Institute of Sweden, Uppsala Science Park, 751 83 Uppsala, Sweden;

”**RMK**”, State Forest Management Centre, Toompuiestee 24, 10149 Tallinn, Estonia;

”**EMU**”, Estonian University of Life Sciences, Kreutzwaldi 1, Tartu, 51014, Estonia

have agreed to work together on establishment and management of Scots pine and Norway spruce progeny trials. This agreement describes their understandings and commitments to this collaborative effort.

Background

In forest tree breeding one key activity is to test the breeding material in field tests under different climatic conditions. Field testing are aiming at testing the breeding material to be suitable for a specific target area (described by temperature climate (i.e. temperature sum, length of growing season) and photoperiodic climate (i.e. day/night length at a latitude)). To prepare the breeding material to adapt to the ongoing climate change, field testing across large temperature gradients while keeping the photoperiodic climate constant are necessary. One way to expand the temperature gradient between field tests without changing the photoperiodic climate at the test sites is to expand the distance between test sites at the same latitude. Swedish breeders of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and Norway spruce (*Picea abies*) are therefore interested in establishing field tests in Estonia for parts of the Swedish breeding population. In addition, these field tests will include material from Estonia and other countries they will create genetic connectivity between national breeding programs and valuable for research on how forest regeneration material react on climate change.

Skogforsk has agreed to establish Scots pine and Norway spruce field trials according to table 1 in Estonia on a non-forest land area owned by the Estonian Republic and managed by **RMK**.

Skogforsk will have the full responsibility for financing the trial establishment. The number of trials and the size of each trial will be dependent on the propagation success of the materials to be tested.

Table1. Trials that are planned to be established in Estonia during the period 2019, 2021 – 2024.

Tree species	Material	Approx. no. seedlings	Approx. area (ha)	Approx. planting year
Scots pine	Tpop18	4 500	2 – 2,5	2019
Scots pine	Tpop16	4 500	2 – 2,5	2021 – 2022
Scots pine	Tpop18	4 000	2 – 2,5	2022 – 2023
Scots pine	Tpop17	7 000	3 – 3,5	2023 – 2024
Norway spruce	Gpop12	7 200	3 – 3,5	2021 – 2022
Norway spruce	Gpop13	5 500	2 – 2,5	2023 – 2024
Norway spruce	Gpop14	6 000	2 – 2,5	2023 – 2024

Fencing will be decided on for each trial. The fencing is a part of the trial establishment and thus financed by **Skogforsk**. The fences are considered to be the property of **RMK** and **RMK** is thus responsible for the removal of the fences after they have served their purpose. Supervision of the fences during the test period is responsibility of **EMU**.

Skogforsk, RMK and EMU have agreed upon the following terms and conditions (Articles 1 to 7):

Article 1

Co-operation within the limits of this agreement shall be carried out in accordance with common legislation and regulations in Sweden and Estonia.

RMK contributes to joint activities with the part (22 ha) of the state immovable (immovable register number 11371950) in order to establish Scots pine and Norway spruce field trials. The immovable property located in Väike-Maarja municipality of Lääne-Virumaa county, the short address is Triigi metskond 78 (cadastral code 92703:001:0080, intended use is profit yield land 100%, total area of parcel 1612,6 ha, immovable number in state's register of immovable property KV12762).

Article 3

The Annex 1 to the contract is the map of the immovable property where the area and boundaries of commonly used plot are indicated.

Article 4

- **Skogforsk** is the owner of the genotypes included in the Swedish tree breeding programme. Nibio (Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research) and Luke (Natural Resources Institute Finland) are the owners of the genotypes included in the Norwegian and Finnish tree breeding programs, respectively. Clones originating from Estonian seed material is owned by **RMK**;
- Any commercial use of the above described genetic material can only be done through written consent of the owner in each specific case;
- **RMK** and **EMU** undertakes to use any data originating from the field trials only in Research purposes, without commercial purpose;
- **RMK** and **EMU** acknowledges that all genetic and performance information obtained from the field trials will be the property of **Skogforsk**. **EMU** have the right to use the obtained performance information only in cooperation with **Skogforsk**;
- **EMU** will act as local field trial supervisor on behalf of **Skogforsk**;
- Field work staff for trial establishment and management will be supplied by **EMU** and the cost for the work will be paid by **Skogforsk**.

Article 5

RMK are the owner of the trees/biomass produced in the field trials. **Skogforsk** has the right to utilize trees for research purposes and will offer to reimburse **RMK**.

Article 6

This agreement shall take effect the same date that it is signed by all three parties in three copies. It is to be valid until latest 2049-12-31 (25 years after the last trial is established).

Article 7

Any disagreements and disputes related to the agreement shall first and foremost be resolved by the Parties by way of negotiations. If the disputes arising from the agreement cannot be resolved by way of negotiations between the Parties, the dispute shall be resolved in accordance with the procedure established by Estonian legislation.

Article 8

The agreement can be cancelled by letter of either part with three months' notice. Through mutual consent the parties may change the agreement. If so, an updated agreement should be written and signed.

Article 9

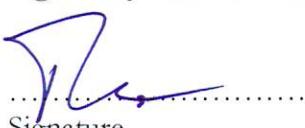
Contact persons of this agreement are the following persons or their successors:

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Tiit Maaten, Researcher (Institute of Forestry and Rural Engineering of the Estonian University of Life Sciences, Kreutzwaldi 5, Tartu 51014, Estonia; tiit.maaten@emu.ee; +372 58552585).

Signed by the Estonian University of Life Sciences



Signature



Date

Mait Klaassen
Name

Rector
Position/Title

Signed by State Forest Management Centre


Signature

Date

Aigar Kallas
Name

Chairman of the Management Board
Position/Title

Signed by Skogforsk


Signature

Date

Bo Karlsson
Name

Program manager
Position/Title

