

# **Aim of the questionnaire: To investigate the perception of foresters and the general public on the health status of European oak forests.**

A group of researchers in forestry from Austria, Belgium, Croatia, France, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, and UK is carrying out a public opinion survey on the health status of European oak forests.

The purpose of this is to understand your opinion on the measures related to forest health issues.

Responses are anonymous, results of the poll will be used for research purposes only and will not be shared with third persons.





1. Have you ever seen an oak forest that had discoloured foliage like the photos above during the vegetation season? \*

*Mark only one option.*

- Yes
- No
- I do not pay attention to such details

2. Do you see this discoloration as a problem? \*

*Mark only one option.*

- Yes
- No

3. Why do you think the trees and leaves look like this? \*

*Mark only one option.*

- I thought this was the normal colour of the foliage
- I thought such changes are normal due to seasonal changes
- Because of drying or dehydration (drought)
- Is affected by a foliar disease
- Is affected by an insect
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

The foliage of the forest is discoloured because it was attacked by this sucking insect



4. Have you seen this insect species? \*

Mark only one option.

- Yes  
 No

5. If yes, what did you think it was? \*

Mark only one option.

- One of the native insect species  
 An invasive alien species, *Corythucha arcuata* – oak lace bug  
 An invasive alien species, *Corythucha ciliata* – sycamore lace bug  
 An invasive alien species, *Cameraria ohridella* – horsechestnut leafminer  
 I do not know

The insect that causes chlorotic discoloration is an invasive species from North America, *Corythucha arcuata* – Oak Lace Bug.

*Corythucha arcuata* was reported for the first time in Europe in 2000, in Italy. Since then, the species has spread rapidly: 2002-Turkey and Switzerland; 2012-Bulgaria; 2013-Hungary, Croatia and Serbia; 2015-Russia and Romania; 2016-Slovenia; 2017-France and Ukraine; 2018-Greece and Slovakia; 2019-Austria.



6. Have you ever heard about this insect species? \*

Mark only one option.

- Yes  
 No

7. Have you ever heard about the term "invasive alien species"? \*

*Mark only one option.*

Yes

No

8. If yes, where have you heard about the term "invasive alien species"? \*

*Mark only one option.*

TV

Internet

Newspaper or journal article

School

Other people

I never heard about this term

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

9. What do you think the term invasive alien species means? \*

*Mark only one option.*

Invasive alien species are native species that spread rapidly in their natural distribution

Invasive alien species are foreign species

Invasive alien species are species whose introduction and/or spread outside their natural past or present distribution does not threaten biological diversity

Invasive alien species are species whose introduction and/or spread outside their natural past or present distribution threatens biological diversity

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

10. What are the effects of invasive alien species in general? \*

*Mark all applicable options.*

1. They revitalize degraded areas and/or enrich local biodiversity

2. Causes damage to the economy

3. Causes damage to the environment

4. Causes the loss of biodiversity

5. Affects people's health

6. I don't think invasive alien species have any significant effects

7. I do not know

8. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

11. What effects do you think oak lace bug (*Corythucha arcuata*) has on trees\*

Mark all applicable options.

- 1. Can cause the death of trees in time
- 2. Affects photosynthesis of the trees
- 3. Affects aesthetics of the trees
- 4. I don't think it has effects
- 5. I do not know
- 6. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

12. What effects do you think oak lace bug (*Corythucha arcuata*) has on society?\*

Mark all applicable options.

- 1. The value of the wood would decrease
- 2. The value of the wood would increase
- 3. Affects property value'
- 4. People would avoid entering the forest
- 5. Discomfort caused by the insect's stings/bites on the human skin
- 6. I don't think it has effects
- 7. I do not know
- 8. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

13. How strongly would you support different measures for controlling oak lace bug (*Corythucha arcuata*)? \*

Circle a number (level of support) for each category of control.

	I do not support	I partially support	I mostly support	I fully support
Mechanical removal (trapping)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Chemical removal (insecticides)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Biological removal (natural enemies)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. How strongly would you support complete removal of oak lace bug (*Corythucha arcuata*)? \*

(Circle a number for each category)

	I do not support	I partially support	I mostly support	I fully support
Partial removal (preventing further spread)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Complete removal (total eradication)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

15. Would you be willing to remove this invasive insect species if it was to appear on your land (e.g. garden)? \*

*Mark only one option.*

- Yes, complete removal
- Yes, but partial removal
- No

16. If yes, what control method would you choose? \*

*Mark only one option.*

- Mechanical removal (trapping)
- Chemical removal (insecticides)
- Biological control (natural enemies, predators, parasitoids)
- I do not support the removal

17. Would you agree with the removing of this invasive insect species from forest or parks if it causes damage? \*

*Mark only one option.*

- Yes, but only in forests
- Yes, but only in parks
- Yes, in both
- No

## Socio-demographic characteristics:

Country: \*

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County/Region: \*

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Are you forest manager/forester? \*

*Mark only one option.*

Yes

No

If yes, what is your position?

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Are you forest owner? \*

*Mark only one option.*

Yes

No

Are you connected to an environmental NGO? \*

*Mark only one option.*

Yes, actively

Yes, passively

No

How often do you spend time in the forest? \*

*Mark only one option.*

Once a day

Several times a week

Several times a month

Several times a year

Less often than that

**Gender: \***

*Mark only one option.*

- Female
- Male
- Prefer not to say
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Age category: \***

*Mark only one option.*

- 18-25 years
- 26-34 years
- 36-45 years
- 46-55 years
- 56-65 years
- More than 65 years
- Prefer not to say

**What is your level of achieved education? \***

*Mark only one option.*

- Less than elementary school
- Elementary school
- Vocational school
- Highschool
- Higher-school
- University graduate study
- Post-graduate study
- Prefer not to say

**What is your activity status? \***

*Mark only one option.*

- Student
- Employed
- Unemployed
- Retired
- Prefer not to say
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_