



The Forestry Training Situation in Austria

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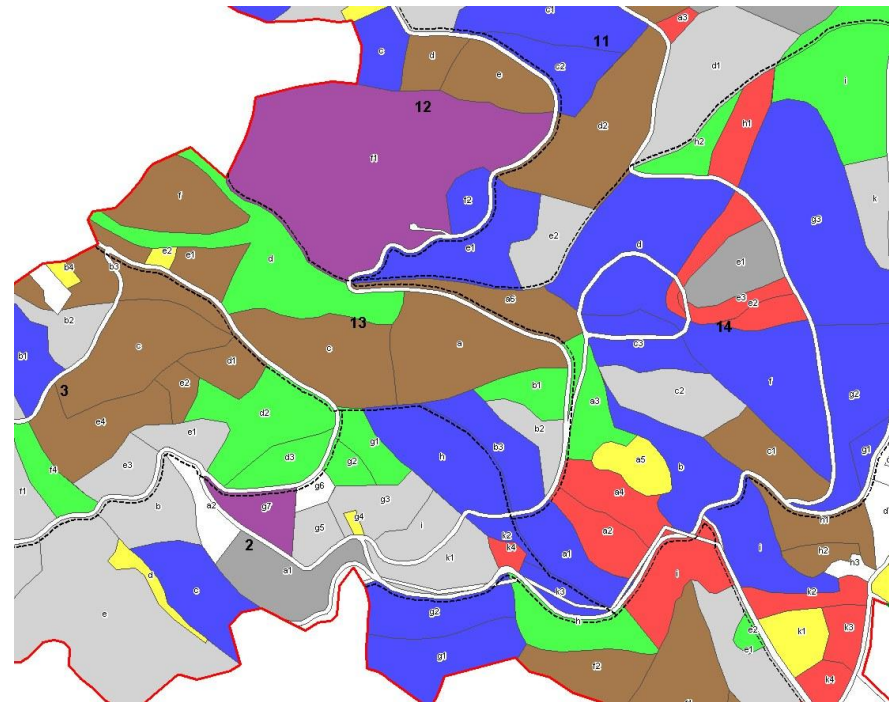


Pichl Forestry Training Centre



The Pichl Forestry Training Centre...

- ...is the only Forestry Training Center in Styria
- ...is owned by the Styrian Chamber of Agriculture & Forestry
- ...was established in 1947
- ...has its own forest teaching area measuring 350 ha



Staff

- Director: Martin Krondorfer
- Forestry Teaching Staff
 - 2 University Graduates in Forestry
 - 3 Foresters
 - 3 Forest Managers
- Board & Lodging
 - 1 Housekeeping Manager
 - 3 Kitchen Assistants
- and
 - 1 Secretary
 - 1 Facilities Manager
 - 1 Site Forester
 - numerous Assistant Teachers and External Speakers

The Pichl Forestry Training Centre

- 3,500 - 4.000 course participants each year
- 200 training events
- 2,500 overnight stays



Forestry vocational training in Austria

- Education: Skilled Forest Worker (legislation by the country)
 - different possibilities
- Education: Forest Manager (legislation by the country) (10 -12 weeks)
- *Skilled Biomass Worker Training*
- Forest ranger (legislation by the state) (2 years)
- Forester (legislation by the state) (5 years)
- Forestry graduates, BSc, Master



Skilled Forest Worker Training

The training to become a skilled forest worker takes five weeks.

Pre-requisites:

- Minimum age of 18 or post-school training following completion of studies at an Agricultural School
- Owner and/or manager of an agricultural and forest enterprise or labourer at a forest enterprise
- Completion of the preparatory course

Skilled forest worker certification will be awarded once course participants have reached 20 years of age and can prove three years of work experience

Skilled Forest Worker Training

Other possibility

Apprentice: 15 years, practical work at a forest enterprise or large forest owner for three years

each year one month professional school (located in Tirol)

In both ways the education ends with a commission examination and has the same level as ECC 4

Course Content: Skilled Forest Worker

Technical Section 1 (Duration: 3 weeks):

- Felling Methods
- Ground Skidding
- Silviculture and Forest Protection
- Bucking and Timber Marketing
- Forest Law
- General Subjects

Technical Section 2 (Duration: 2 weeks)

- Cable Logging
- Business Studies
- Exam

Practicalities

Theory vs Practice:

- 45% theory
- 55% practice

Exam Details:

Takes place on the last two days of the five-week course and will be

- Written
- Oral
- Practical



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Forest Manager Training

The training to become a forest manager takes eleven weeks and can be completed over the course of two or three winters.

Pre-requisites:

- Minimum age of 21
- Completion of skilled forest worker training
- And at least 3 years job experience as a skilled forest worker
and completion of the forest manager preparatory course

Or:

- At least 7 years relevant practical experience
- and completion of the forest manager preparatory course

Forest Manager Training – Technical Section 1

- Forest Botany
- Market Analysis
- Silviculture
- Forest Management Plan
- Operational Records, Rateable Value Calculation, Forest Valuation
- Forest Climatology
- Market Analysis
- Hunting Law, Forest Law
- Forest Protection
- Site Ecology
- Excursions

Forest Manager Training – Technical Section 2

- Cable Logging
- Special Business Studies
- Life in the Workplace
- Applied Physiology
- First Aid in Forestry
- Timber Marketing
- Torrent & Avalanche Control
- Road Construction
- Practical Sessions & Excursions

Skilled Biomass Worker Training

The training to become a skilled biomass worker lasts 26 days.

Pre-requisites:

- As for skilled forest worker

Course Content: Skilled Biomass Worker

- 1 basic module (5 days)
- 7 technical modules (3 days each)
 - Agriculture
 - Agricultural Logistics
 - Business Studies & Marketing
 - Facility Systems I
 - Facility Systems II
 - Forestry
 - Forest Protection
 - Forestry Logistics

Continuing Professional Development in Forestry

Practical courses and seminars in forestry

- Certification Chainsaw Course Modules 1 & 2 (ECC level 4)
- Certification Timber Measurement and Sales
- Certification Cableway Course (Tower Yarder courses)
- Certification Forestry Trainer
- **New:** Certification Forest ecology and natural area management
- **New:** Certification Tree climbing and Tree care



Other courses

- Chainsaw Course for Firewood Sawyers (2-day course for hobby users)
- Chainsaw Maintenance
- Tree Climbing and Sectional Felling
- Cultivation of High-Grade Hardwood
- Girl Power in Forestry
- Forestry for Beginners
- Practical Days for Farmers & Foresters

Forestry Seminars

■ Forestry seminars on

- Biomass
- Silviculture
- Forestry Equipment
- Law, Economics, Management
- Hunting, Ecology
- Forest Pedagogics



Out-of-House Courses

Topics for 1-day courses:

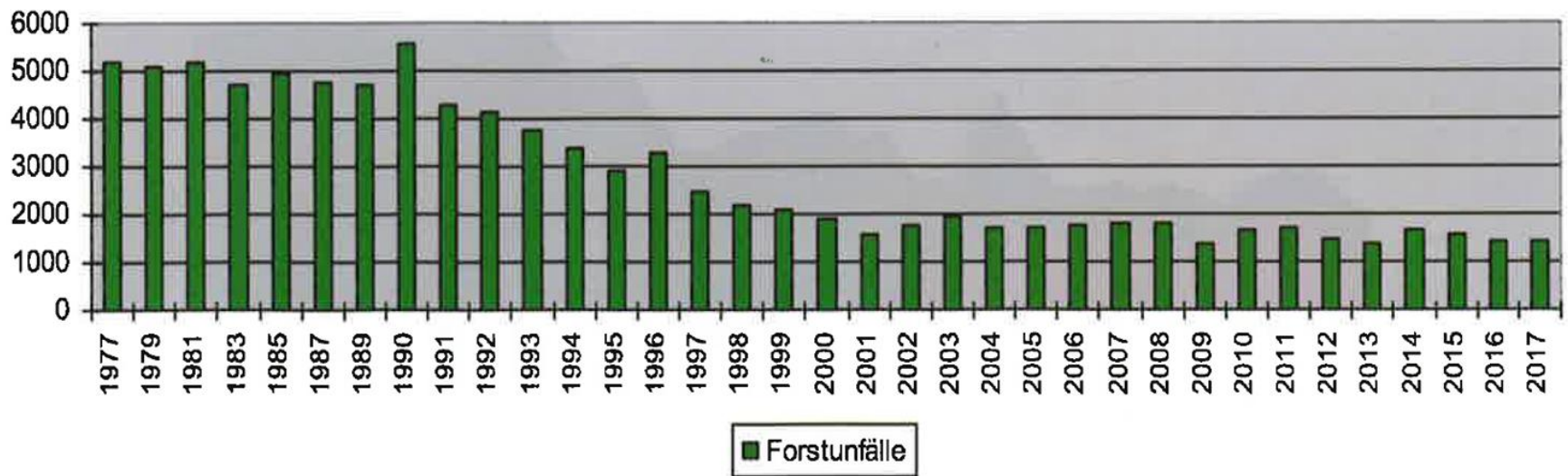
- Afforestation Techniques
- Protection against Bark Beetles
- Cultural Conservation
- Optimal Bucking
- Training on the job
- Felling
- Chainsaw Maintenance
- Girl Power in Forestry



FAST Pichl Projects

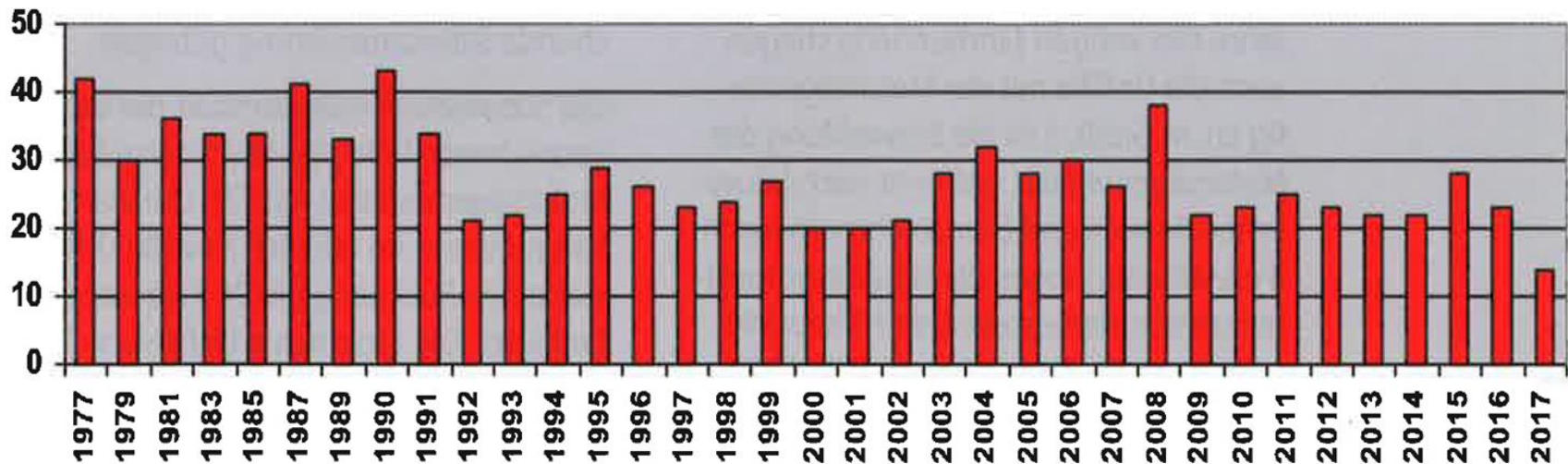
- **WETnet (WoodEnergyTrainingNetwork) = completed**
- **Sobio – A Social and Sustainable Biomass Centre = completed**
- **Working group forestry**
- **The Forest in Women's Hands**
 - A project run by the Waldverband Steiermark GmbH and the Association of Styrian Forest Owners (Land&Forst Betriebe Steiermark) to mobilise female forest owners
- **Forestry technology for Japan**
- **Project forest ecology and natural space management**
- **Erasmus +: “Forestry Operators – Reflecting on Equivalence of Skills and Training“, (Italy, Croatia, Slovenia, Romania)**

Forest accidents in Austria



Grafik 1: Historische Entwicklung der Forstunfälle (Forstarbeiter und Bauern)

Deadly Forest accidents in Austria



Grafik 3: Historische Entwicklung der tödlichen Forstunfälle (Forstarbeiter und Bauern)

International Contacts

Japan: Prefecture of Tottori, Nagano

Slovenia

Estonia

Russia (University of Krasnojarsk, Sibiria)

Hungary

France

Turkey

Scotland

In the pipeline with this project: Italy, Croatia, Romania, Slovenia

USA (University of Idaho and Oregon)

Our Success

- Efficient and effective programme planning
 - Wide range of topics
 - Consideration
 - of client feedback
 - of feedback and the needs of the forestry industry
 - Cooperation with relevant institutions
 - Innovation
 - TARGET: Proportion of new courses in our course programme – 10%
 - RESULTS for 2019: 17%
 - Keeping up to date with the latest industry trends
- Flexibility
 - Out-of-House Courses etc.

Our Success

- Quality management in accordance with ISO 9001:2015 on continual further development
 - New target audiences
 - Risk management and competitor analysis
 - Evaluation of all training events
 - Documentation
 - Inclusion of elements of ISO 29990 (Certification for learning service providers)
- Public Relations
 - Course programme (20154: 12,750 copies)
 - Target audience-specific communication
 - Website, Facebook
 - Training event database

Contact

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