

FOREST BIODIVERSITY

An assessment method

Biodiversity is assessed via a set of biotic indicators that are both effective and practical to use. These are measured using a predefined survey scheme that provides for sampling at least 20% of the area of reference through a variable number of circular survey plots and a 30-metre-wide band of varying length.



Structural indicators

1. Forest structure expression
2. Number of species making up the tree and shrub layer
3. Standing deadwood
4. Lying deadwood
5. Number of big-sized trees
6. Presence of clearings

Species and habitat indicators

7. Species of conservation concern
8. Animal breeding sites
9. Tree microhabitats
10. Morphology- and water-related habitats

Subtraction indicators

11. Biodiversity disturbance factors: renewal browsing, presence of non-indigenous species, artificial populations, strong anthropic impact.



Tree microhabitats



Stopover point for wild microfauna



Standing deadwood



Squirrel (Photo: F. Terrazzani)



Grazing animals

Enhancing forest biodiversity

To support and promote the wood product

A certification standard created by the BIOΔ4 project certifies that the timber comes from a biodiversity-rich forest under a conservation scheme.

To give value to the forest's ecosystem services

Various services that the forest provides to the community can be perceived as high-value services because within and derived from a biodiversity-rich forest. We all need to understand the value and appreciate the meaning of these services.