



## SIBLARCH

### Decay Resistant Timber: Siberian larch compared to Scots pine in forestry and products

Impregnation of timber is one of the biggest sources of heavy metal pollution in Europe. SIBLARCH aims to develop Siberian larch as an environmentally sound alternative to impregnated timber in the Northern Periphery and thereby reduce some of this heavy metal pollution. The three main issues under investigation in the project are:

1. Develop Siberian larch timber in wooden products for outdoor use
2. Develop methods for establishment of Siberian larch forest stands
3. Evaluate Siberian larch family tests in Scandinavia, Finland, Russia and Iceland



### Objectives

The project will consist of four main work tasks:

1. Timber quality and wood processing of Siberian larch. The biological reasons for wood quality and wood growth will be analysed from genetic and environmental points of view. Techniques for sawing and drying timber will be developed and recommendations for end use of different qualities of wood worked out.
2. Developing applied methods for regeneration and management of Siberian larch forest stands, aimed at cheap, efficient and close-to-nature methods for the establishment and management of larch stands.

3. Evaluation of established family tests of Siberian larch on seven localities in Scandinavia. Three similar family tests established in Arkhangelsk (Pinega and Emtsa) and Komi (Syktyvkar) will be evaluated.

4. Dissemination of information on larch for forestry and raw material for wood production.

## Project activities

The main activities to be carried out in the project will be:

- A comparative analysis of the use and properties of Siberian larch and Scots pine wood
- Develop methods for management of Siberian larch, especially stand establishment and thinning regimes in northern Scandinavia and NW Russia
- Evaluation of the established family tests of Siberian larch in Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland and NW Russia

## Expected results

The project aims to lead to higher value uses of the natural resource of larch and enhance the economic value of products created from larch as a natural substitute to impregnated wood. This should solve part of the heavy metal pollution problem in Europe. The project involves partners from Iceland, Norway, Finland and NW Russia and supports the exchange of know-how within an established and extended international network. The project will result in an increased commercialisation of product ideas, developed in co-operation with research institutes. The project also aims to promote timber business between Scandinavia and NW Russia.

## Partners

TRÄTEK, Skellefteå - Sweden

Fylkesmannen Nordland Landbruksavdelningen, Mosjøen -Norway

Høgskolen i Nord Trøndelag, Steinkjer - Norway

Helgeland Forest Society, Mosjøen - Norway

Iceland Forest Service, Egilstadir - Iceland

YTI Research Centre of Mikkeli Polytechnic, Mikkeli - Finland

Metsäntutkimuslaitos, Punkaharju - Finland

Associated Partner: Northern Research Institute of Forestry, Arkhangelsk - Russia

Associated Partner: Institute of Biology, Syktyvkar - Russia

Associated Partner: Arkhangelsk State Technical University

Network of communities; Umeå, Skellefteå,

Arvika, Östersund, Ragunda, Trondheim

Network of Enterprises; Sveaskog, Statens

Fastighetsverk, Skogsstyrelsen, Skogsvårdsstyrelsen

i Norrbotten, Vägverket Region Mitt,

Tirsén & Aili Arkitekter HB, Hugos Trä AB, Eco Timber AS,

Ansgarius Svensson AB, Slottsbro AB, Högbrons Såg AB,

MLG Byggimport AB, SSC Trätrappor, Ljungan Trä AB,

Wasawood

## Project website

<http://www.siblarch.net>

## Measure

1.2

## Total Budget

1 273 111

## NPP Award

593 200

## Project Period

01/07/2004 - 30/06/2007

## Countries Involved

Sweden, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Russia

## Lead Partner

### Organisation

Jamtland County Council

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## Project leader

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