

Invitation to the Symposium “Emerging Needle and Shoot Diseases of Conifers in Europe”

We warmly invite you to be a part of an exciting and informative event where we can all learn - organized by Jun.-Professor Dr. Kathrin Blumenstein and Dr. Funda Oskay, supported by the University of Freiburg, Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources and the Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation.

*Over the past decades, the incidence and severity of forest pathogens have risen, leading to increased impacts on forests, plantation forestry, and urban trees. The combined effects of climate change and globalization are exacerbating their impact, with potentially devastating consequences for both forests and the wider environment. *Diplodia sapinea*, *Lecanosticta acicola*, *Dothistroma pini*, and *Dothistroma septosporum* are among most significant (re)emerging foliage diseases of pines across Europe and in other continents.*

Forest pathogens are not constrained by country borders, their spread and impact can extend beyond individual countries or regions, and may even have transcontinental consequences. Moreover, these pathogens can be inadvertently transported across borders through the trade of live plants, further exacerbating the problem. Therefore, it is imperative that we address this issue through international cooperation and collective action.

Location: Freiburg, Germany (Chair of Pathology of Trees)

Time: July 3-4, 2023

Participation cost: free

Registration link: [Registration Symposium](#)

Our symposium aims to share the current situation of pine foliage diseases and their future in Europe, bring together experts in the field to share their knowledge and insights, and discuss opportunities and challenges for cooperation. We also aim to address risks raised by (re)emerging foliage diseases of pines, with a special focus on the needs of Europe.

Expert presentations will provide an overview of the current situation on needle and shoot blight pathogens in Europe, the areas where enhanced collaboration is required, as well as cooperation and capacity building opportunities. Our goal is to raise awareness among foresters, practitioners, and policy makers on emerging threats posed by pine foliage diseases.

We're excited to announce that alongside our Symposium on Emerging Needle and Shoot Diseases of Conifers in Europe, we will also be hosting a half-day follow-up event: "Strengthening Research on Conifer Diseases in Europe: A Workshop on Collaborative Research and Knowledge Exchange" and work together to better understand and address the critical challenges posed by emerging needle and shoot diseases of conifers in Europe.

By joining us, you'll have the opportunity to strengthen our collective knowledge and response to these challenges. We can't wait to hear your valuable contributions to our events! If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We're looking forward to your participation!

Best regards,

Jun.-Professor Dr. Kathrin Blumenstein and Dr. Funda Oskay

GENERAL PROGRAMME

Day 1

12:00 – 13:00 Welcoming with sandwiches and coffee

13:00 – 13:30 Start of the program: Opening Funda Oskay & Kathrin Blumenstein

13:30 – 15:30 Session 1

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break

16:30 – 8:00 Session 2

19:00 Dinner

Day 2

8:30 – 10:30 Session 3

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 13:00 Session 4

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 17:30 Discussions, group activity, networking session or excursion nearby

18:30 Dinner

Day 3 – workshop day – (satellite event)

Preparation of review paper