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Seminar on
AFFORESTATION IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

in conjunction with the 24th session of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on
Forest Technology, Management and Training

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The Czech Republic: Current Situation and Experiences in the Field of Afforestation

Basic paper by Mrs. Andrea Pondelickova and Mrs. Katerina Trejbalova

Summary

The afforestation of agricultural land and the protection of young stands in the Czech Republic have been the subject of state subsidies and aids for a number of years. These supports are direct and non-returnable. Approximately 3,750 hectares were afforested during the period 1994-2000. Over 170 million CZK were paid for the afforestation of agricultural land and the protection of young plantations. Support rules (2002) for the afforestation of agricultural land were laid down in Government Regulation No. 505/2000 Coll. on aids and assistance amended by Government Regulation No. 500/2001. Current support covers direct costs and some overhead costs.

Aids and assistance for the afforestation of agricultural land in the Czech Republic during the period 1994 to 2000 were as follows.

Ownership	1994		1995		1996		1997		1998		1999		2000	
	ha	1 000 CZK	ha	1 000 CZK	ha	1 000 CZK	ha	1 000 CZK	ha	1 000 CZK	ha	1 000 CZK	ha	1 000 CZK
Private	287	12 907	507	21 448	519	20 946	306	11 843	283	13 402	324	15 669	616	28 810
Communal	12	461	57	3 018	107	5 304	88	4 086	116	6 315	161	9 006	283	16 345
Other	0	0	3	169	24	1 042	39	1 203	4	266	8	530	9	808
Total	299	13 368	567	24 635	650	27 292	433	17 132	403	19 983	493	25 205	908	45 963

According to Government Regulation No. 505/2000 Coll. (as amended by later acts), state subsidies are currently granted for:

- first afforestation;
- repair planting (up to a maximum of 30% of plants used during initial afforestation);
- the installation of exclusion fences; and
- the protection of plantations against vegetation competition and animals.

Two new afforestation measures are currently being prepared which will apply after the planned accession of the Czech Republic to the European Union. The first focuses on the afforestation of agricultural land and is based on Article 31 of Council Regulation No. 1257/1999. This objective is included in the Czech Rural Development Plan. The second focuses on the afforestation of non-farm land and is a part of the Czech rural development components of Structural Funds programmes.