

Management of Iberian Pine Forest Areas for Gum Resin Production

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INTRODUCTION

Pine oleoresin is an important natural raw material, highly demanded in the EU. In just a few years, the Spanish Region Castilla y León managed to increase the sum of the collected resin, from a residual amount, to near 12 000 tons in 2014. This was mainly achieved through the implementation of the Management plans for the flood plain of Segovia and Valladolid, some of them dating from the 19th century. The experience acquired during a STSM may improve research and knowledge exchange and bring benefits to the Portuguese resin sector.

AIMS

- To highlight the importance of management tools, plans and other administrative instruments for pine resin harvesting in Spain;
- To learn from their practical implementation on wide areas;
- To infer its applicability in other regions.



Pinus pinaster tree with a straight stem at Avila



General view of the *Pinus pinaster* stands (Coca, Segovia)



Innovation for collecting system (Valladolid)

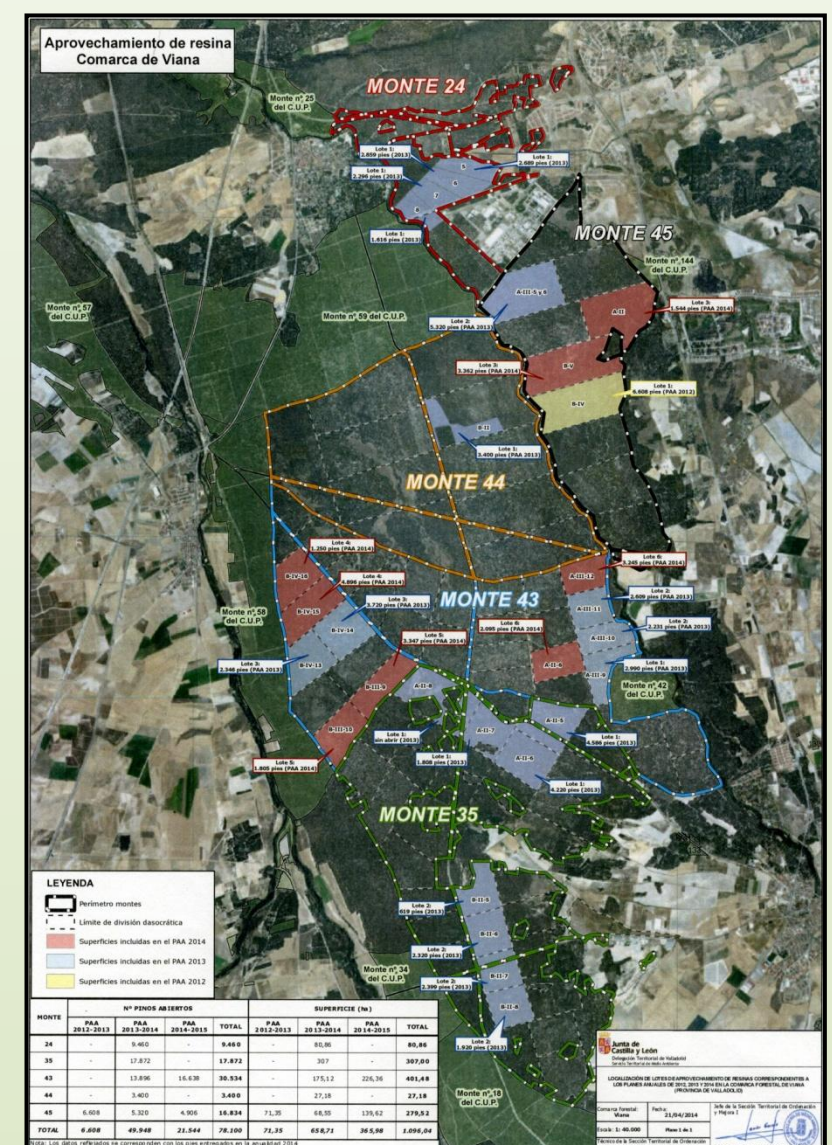


Resin tapping demonstration (Coca, Segovia)

STSM DEVELOPMENT

The host Institution was the Environmental Department of Castilla y León Government. The mission consisted mainly in:

- consulting basic information regarding: land planning and organization; silvicultural and management plans and guidelines; administrative and field procedures concerning resin tapping activities;
- visiting areas under resin tapping (Avila, Segovia, Valladolid)
- visiting research Institutions with recent scientific work focusing resin production and exploitation.



Plan for resin tapping exploitation (Valladolid)

OUTCOMES

- The STSM highlighted the importance of the regional improvement fund (gathering 15% of all the forest profits), which reverts mandatorily for the enhancement of forest stands and forest areas.
- The interdependence of resin tapping activity, forest management and fire prevention was clearly evidenced.
- Future perspectives and existing constraints about this important economical resource were identified.

FUTURE COLLABORATION

Prospective collaboration with Junta de Castilla y León may include the establishment of a network focusing resin production in the Iberian Peninsula, management tools for improving resin yield, resin tapping methods, trade and prices and other relevant aspects for the yield improvement of this important non-wood forest product.