

## Agrisilviculture and Agrosilvopasture

- Agrosilviculture is a type of agroforestry practice that involves the combination of woody perennials either trees or shrubs with crops as understory.
- Silvopasture is mainly supported by the Pillar I CAP in agricultural lands but not by Pillar II.
- Agrosilviculture represents around 1% of the arable lands use in Europe providing a huge potential to be extended.

### Defining agrisilviculture

Agrisilviculture is a type of agroforestry practice that involves the combination of woody perennials either trees or shrubs with crops. Agrisilviculture can be implemented in agricultural or forestry lands. In **agricultural lands**, and therefore in areas where CAP Pillar I direct payments can be fully get by farmers agrisilviculture is linked to: (i) **Arable crops**: where crops or mechanically harvested temporary grasslands usually surrounded by hedgerows or spare tree stands to allow crop growth with minimum light interception by the woody perennials (iii) **permanent crops** where different crops such as cereals or dicots are produced as cover crops that can be sold as part of agroecological practices and as a technique for weed management. In **forest lands**, a lack of knowledge on the extent of agrisilviculture happens as no records of forest farming activities are available.

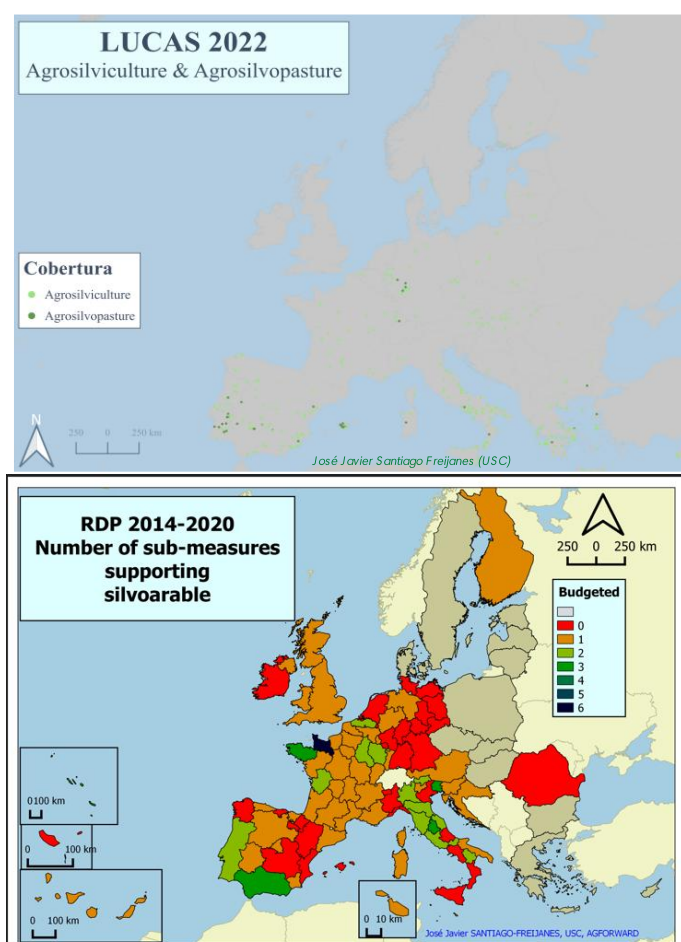


FIGURE 1. Agrosilviculture and Agrosilvopasture cobertura in EU-27. Santiago-Freijanes, J.J.

### Silvopasture extent and CAP contribution

Agrisilviculture represents less than 0.01% of the total agricultural agrisilviculture extent in Europe. The CAP agrisilviculture promotion is mostly associating to the promotion of cereals with trees, if the silvoarable practice is considered (Figure 2).

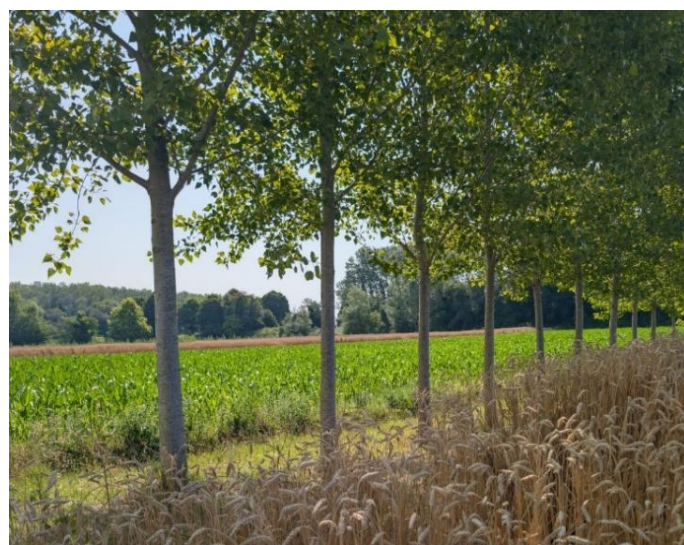
# Agrisilviculture promotion by the CAP across Europe

- Agrosilviculture monitoring is needed from croplands to forestlands to make payments associated to agroforestry proved biodiversity, ecosystem services delivery and carbon mitigation promotion as well as forest resilience increase
- Agrosilviculture should be fully paid by Pillar I linked to temporary (mixed with hedgerows) and permanent grasslands (linked to tree linear formation)
- Agrosilviculture should be promoted in Pillar II linked to the establishment and initial maintenance of silvorable practices
- Agrosilviculture promotion should be fostered by cooperation measures recognized at landscape and short value chain level
- Agrosilviculture promotion should be fostered by the CAP considering the type and quality of products it deliver usually linked to multiple value chains considering the global agri-food system and linked to circular economy
- Agrosilviculture promotion should be fostered by the CAP linked to excellent well-trained and independent extension service providers
- Agrosilviculture promotion should be linked to the CAP-Network extension services, knowledge co-creation linked to the promotion of operational groups
- Agrosilviculture should be promoted based on the development of the European

Agroforestry strategy that should include monitoring, promotion, education, advisory, innovation and research at European and National level

## MAIN CONCLUSION

- Agrosilviculture integrates woody perennials with croplands that should be promoted by the CAP
- The agrosilviculture promotion is broadly extended as part of the CAP at EU level
- Agrosilviculture should be fostered by the Pillar I and II of the CAP and the promotion should include both the agroecosystem and the agrifood system perspective.



**FIGURE 2. Agrosilviculture management with corn, *Populus* and wheat combined in a single plot in Pisa (Tuscany, Italy). Couso, A.**

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## References

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