

GENERAL INFORMATION

author(s)	Van Den Meersschaut D, Van De Kerckhove P, Delbecque F, Durwael L
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MATERIALS & METHODS

study area	5 n (scientific zone) – plot n° 35 (oak beech) and 36 (ash sycamore)
time period	1998, 1999
goal	validation of the forest biodiversity index of the VLINA project based on the soil fauna plots classification of the soil fauna plots based on their vegetation
set-up	50+6 plots in Flanders: most plots are also part of other networks
data collection	cf. the methodology of the Flemish Forest Inventory <ul style="list-style-type: none">- forest structure: stand type, age class, canopy closure, vertical (number of layers) and horizontal (species mixture) structure- trees/shrubs: 4 concentric circles cf. Fig. 1 p 2- herb layer: Braun-Blanquet, 16 m x 16 m plot (also trees, shrubs, and dead wood)
remarks	data per plot are provided data collection for the Aelmoeseneie forest on 14/05/1999

RESULTS

The data for the Aelmoeseneie forest are shown on p 84–87. The ash plot was classified in a group with other plots in which spring ephemerals occur; the oak-beech plot was put into a class of *Quercus* plots in which *Pteridium aquilinum* and *Lonicera* are present while *Athyrium filix-femina* and *Dryopteris carthusiana* are absent.

The classification of the soil fauna plots was rather coarse, and the plots could not be assigned to the different phytosociological groups that occur in the literature. Too few plots that are too variable.