

# Forests

## New book on sustainable forestry



Probos (which means ProForest) is a Dutch independent non-profit institute for forestry, and forest products and services, founded in 1965. "We strive for a sound balance between the different forest services and values and a sustainable financial basis for forest management," says Mark van Benthem of Probos. Based in Wageningen and with a permanent staff of 10, Probos has recently published a study of Cultural Heritage in Sustainable Forest Management, from a Dutch perspective.

The 88-page softback book attempts to draw attention to the historical artefacts and features that can be found in woodlands and forests across Europe, but which are so vulnerable to damage from routine forest management. This usually happens unintentionally due to lack of awareness. This guide intends to highlight traces of the past like boundary banks, saw pits, kilns, burial mounds and other features, as well as different types of forest management, like coppicing, pollarding, and wood pastures, and the production of acorns, fodder, tar, resins and other products.

Examples in the book include the Strubben Kniphorstbosch, which has been designated as an archaeological reserve. Oak circles are a feature of that forest, caused by grazing and the felling of trees on heathland, and the state forest service has devised three strategies to optimise what is there.

*For more details about the book email [mark.vanbenthem@probos.nl](mailto:mark.vanbenthem@probos.nl) or visit [www.probos.nl](http://www.probos.nl).*