

Tematic workshop 4.

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POSTER:

Sustainable management of natural resources: experimental study for increasing productivity of *Boletus edulis* s.l. in Italy

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Fungal biodiversity is threatened throughout much of Europe. Few protection measures for excessive harvesting (of edible species) exists, as primarily fungi are considered to have a little economic value. In the Northern hemisphere trade in edible forest fungi is in excess of 20 billion , using only a small number of species. Large quantities of mushrooms have been imported to Italy, mainly from eastern European countries and Asia.

Mount Amiata is an isolated outcrop of volcanic origin in southern Tuscany (Italy). Here, the culinary delicacy *Boletus edulis* s.l. is a major forest product. No estimation of the economic value of these mushrooms has yet been made. However, many woods in the Amiata area have recently shown a decline in carpophore production.

The aim of the study was to investigate some parameters in order to provide guidelines for adequate silvicultural manipulations to increase productivity of *B. edulis* minimizing environmental impact.