

## Description of best practice

Best practice	
Title	Caisse Phyto Forêt (Forest protection and provident fund) / Traitment against fomes
Picture	
Domain	Silvilculture, risks management
Source of wood	Stemwood
Location	Forest massif of Landes de Gascogne mainly (Aquitaine)
Implementers	forest owner of maritime pine, forest manager, forest contractors
Actual status	Running
Approach	<p>The Caisse Phyto Forêt, a South-West France forest protection and provident fund, was created at the initiative of the South-West France Forestry Syndicate in 2013 to provide concrete phytosanitary solutions for the Landes de Gascogne massif. The purpose of this association (law 1901) is to act in matters of uninsurable phytosanitary risks. The Caisse Phyto Forêt is working on the development of a method to prevent the contamination of stumps and healthy trees by the fomes, a root fungus that causes significant damage to conifers by reducing the quality of the wood and causing mortality in stands.</p>
Main results	<p>In order to avoid contamination of the stands, the treatment against fomes is applied to each cut of wood (depressing, thinning, and clearcutting). The product to be used is a powder to be diluted in water containing spores and mycelia of a fungus endemic to the massif, the <i>Phlebiopsis gigantea</i> natural strain VRA-1835, with an antagonistic action to the development of the resinous fomes. The only one approved in France is the Rotstop, manufactured and sold by AROLE. As the mixture is colourless, a blue dye should be added to check the correct spray on the stumps.</p> <p>Application must be made within 3 hours after cutting, either by manual painting or mechanical spraying by adapting systems at the harvester head: using a guide spraying the product through holes distributed along the guide, or with a nozzle that sprays the product in a single outlet. The solution is then spread over the stumps when the trees are cut.</p> <p>Loggers need to equip their machines with one of two systems to automate processing.</p> <p>Treatment can take place throughout the year and to be effective, 80% of stumps must be treated.</p>
Lessons learned	Currently, the dosage of the blue dye recommended by the manufacturer does not allow, in certain cases, to sufficiently color



	<p>the product and to verify the correct application of the product. It would be necessary to multiply by 3 or 4 the dose of dye necessary, meaning an additional cost for the operator and thus the forest owner.</p> <p>Operators and contractors must undergo training to obtain a plant protection product certificate (CERTI-PHYTO).</p> <p>It is now necessary to communicate more widely with the foresters of the massif in order to encourage them to treat the strains and stem the spread of contaminations.</p>
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Link to website	<a href="http://www.maisondelaforet-sudouest.com/tag/caisse-phyto-foret/">http://www.maisondelaforet-sudouest.com/tag/caisse-phyto-foret/</a>
Code	BP_FR_08

### Best practice assessment

Region	Landes de Gascogne massif
Time scale	Since 2013
Mobilization Potential	NA
Kind of wood concerned	Stemwood
Sustainability Potential	Positive
Impact on environment & biodiversity	protection of healthy trees contamination by fomes with registered products
Ease of implementation	Medium: need to adapt harvesting machines with new product dispersion systems
Economic impact	Implies an additional cost for forest owners
Job effect	NA
Income effect	NA
Specific knowledge needed	For users : training in the use of plant protection products
Costs of implementation	Additional cost for the contractor to adapt the machines, and store the products
Technical readiness level	Applicable
Key information for adoption	NA