



Comparison of silvopastoral systems in Greece and Albania

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A common practice in Greece and Albania is grazing in silvopastoral systems, which combine the presence of trees with a canopy cover less than 40 % and pastures/animals in the same piece of land. These systems constitute a great amount of the total rangeland area in both countries and they usually occur in mountainous areas. They are valuable systems for local economies because they provide various products and services in both countries. In order to explore their productive and ecological role, a survey of silvopastoral areas was conducted during 2006-2007 at Florina Prefecture (northern Greece) and Korca District (southern Albania) and found 20 and 16 silvopastoral systems respectively that described with a special work sheet. According to overstory trees, five main types of silvopastoral systems were selected (oak, poplar, willow, almond and walnut systems) in Florina and three main types (oak, black pine and birch) in Korca. The main characteristics, management practices, structure and function of the selected systems will be compared and discussed for each country.