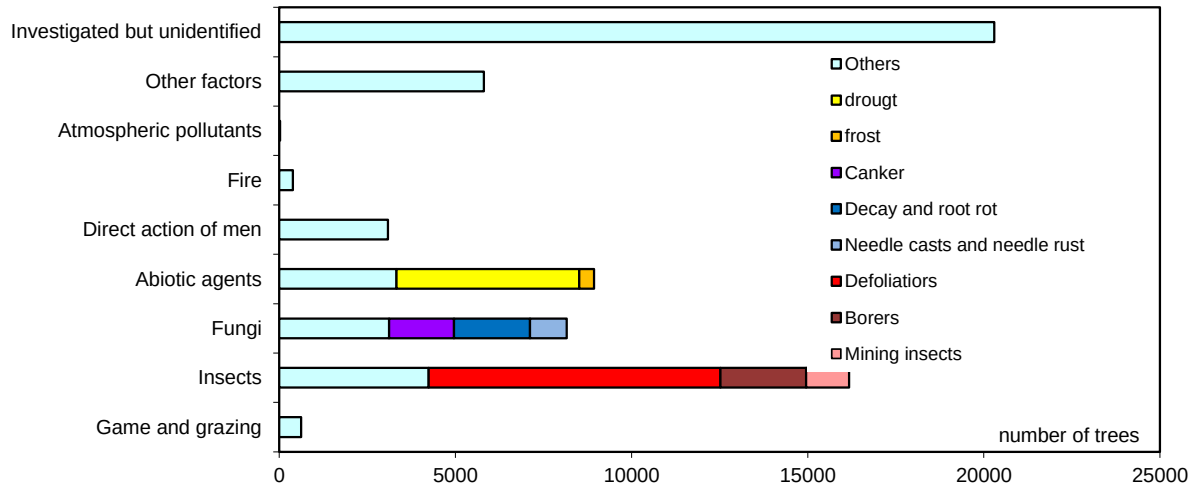
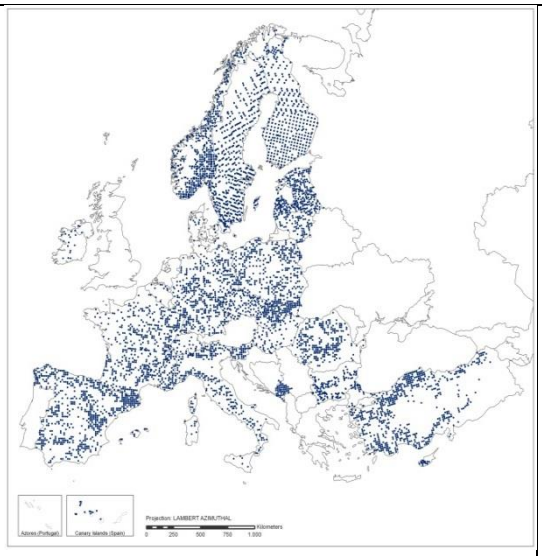
Damage causes

The assessment of damage causes is part of the visual assessment of crown condition, which is the most widely applied indicator for forest health and vitality in Europe. In order to interpret the crown condition accurately, it is necessary to assess all parameters that have an influence on tree vitality. In addition to defoliation, other parameters assessed include discolouration and damages caused by biotic and abiotic factors. Through the assessment of damage and its influence on the crown condition, it is possible to draw conclusions about cause-effect mechanisms.
Since 2005, all of the trees in the crown condition survey (Level I) have been examined on ICP Forest plots according to an amended method for damage assessment. This method allows access to more information on injury symptoms, possible causes of damage, and the extent of the injury. The aim of the damage cause assessment is to collect as much information as possible on the causal background of tree damages in order to enable a differential diagnosis and to better interpret tree vitality.

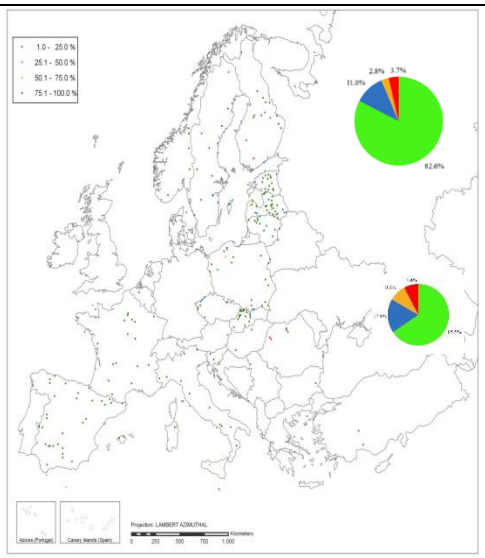
Further information and discussion of results are available in FutMon Scientific Report



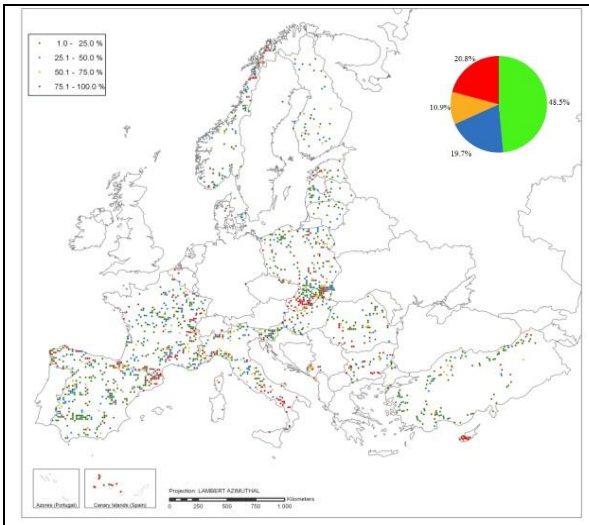
Frequency of agent group



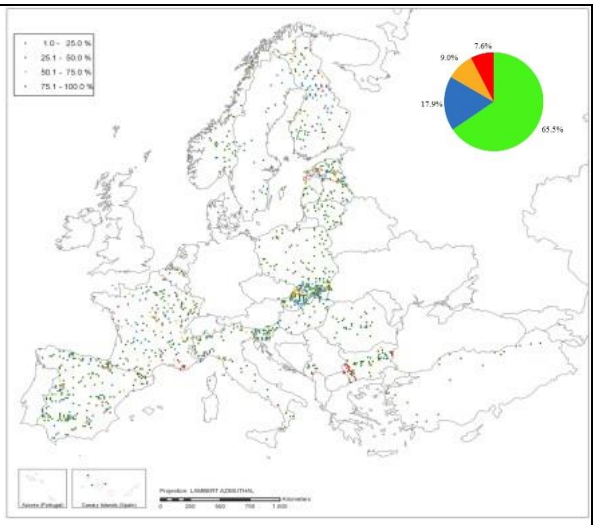
Plots with damage cause assessment in 2012



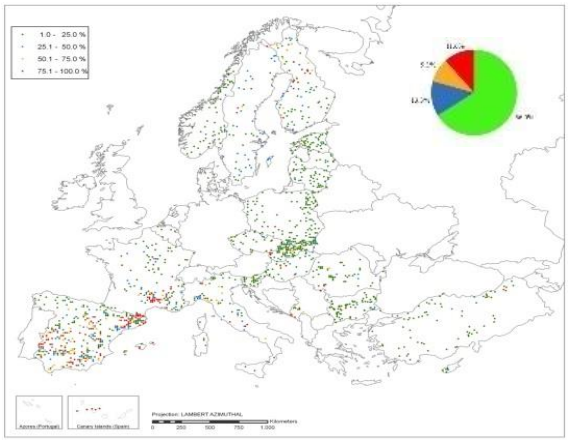
Shares of trees per plot with recorded agent group ‘game and gazing’ in 2012



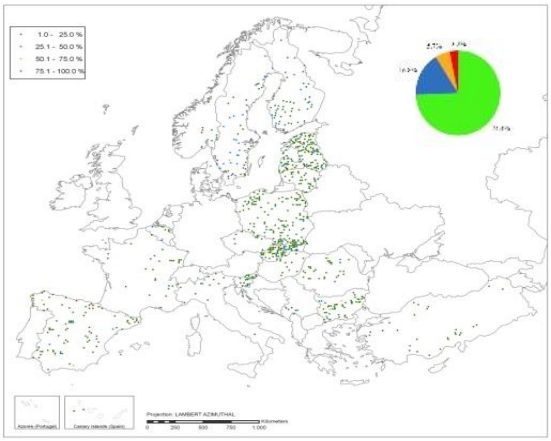
Shares of trees per plot with recorded agent group ‘insects’ 2012



Shares of trees per plot with recorded agent group ‘fungi’ 2012



Shares of trees per plot with recorded agent group ‘abiotic agent’ 2012



Shares of trees per plot with recorded agent group ‘direct action of men’, 2012