Common Agroforestry Systems in Artvin, Turkey

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Abstract:

Agroforestry is a collective name for land-use systems and technologies where woody perennials (trees, shrubs, etc.) are deliberately used on the same form of spatial arrangement or temporal sequence. Agroforestry systems can be classified in different ways using structural and functional considerations. A common classification of agroforestry includes agrosilvopastoral, silvopastoral or agrosilviculture systems, which can be further sub-divided depending on specific arrangements and/or functions. The most common systems are the agrisilviculture (trees + crops), boundary plantation (tree on boundary + crops), agri-horticulture (fruit trees + crops), silvipasture (trees + pasture/animals), wind-breaks (trees + crops), live fence (shrubs and under- trees on boundary) and homestead (multiple combinations of trees, fruit trees, vegetable etc) in Artvin. A common interpretation of homegardens is that it is a system for the production of subsistence crops for the gardener and his family in this region. It can be immediately surrounding the home as slightly further away, but still near the residential area in Artvin. Also small block plantings of multipurpose trees have been established in the region. Alder is the most widely preferred species in the multipurpose tree systems. Unfortunately, there are no many scientists who have conducted detailed investigations of agroforestry systems, most importantly on homegardens as well as silvipastoral practices and who appreciate the value of the systems.

Key words: Agroforestry, homegardens, silvipasture