Assessment of revegetation efforts: a suggestion for an evaluation scheme

Bio/orsk



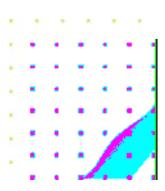
Christian Uhlig Berhard Krautzer, Wilhelm Grais & Albin Blaschka

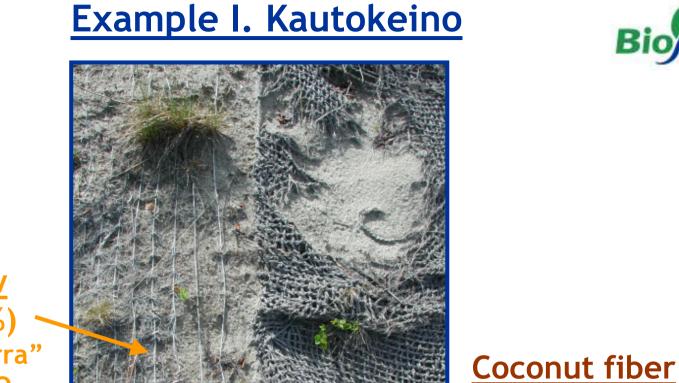
6th European Conference on ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION 8-12 SEPTEMBER 2008 Ghent (Belgium)



Why is it nessessary to assess revegetation efforts?

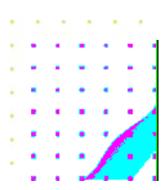






<u>straw</u> (100 %) ~ "Bon Terra" ENRECO





(100 %)

ENRECO



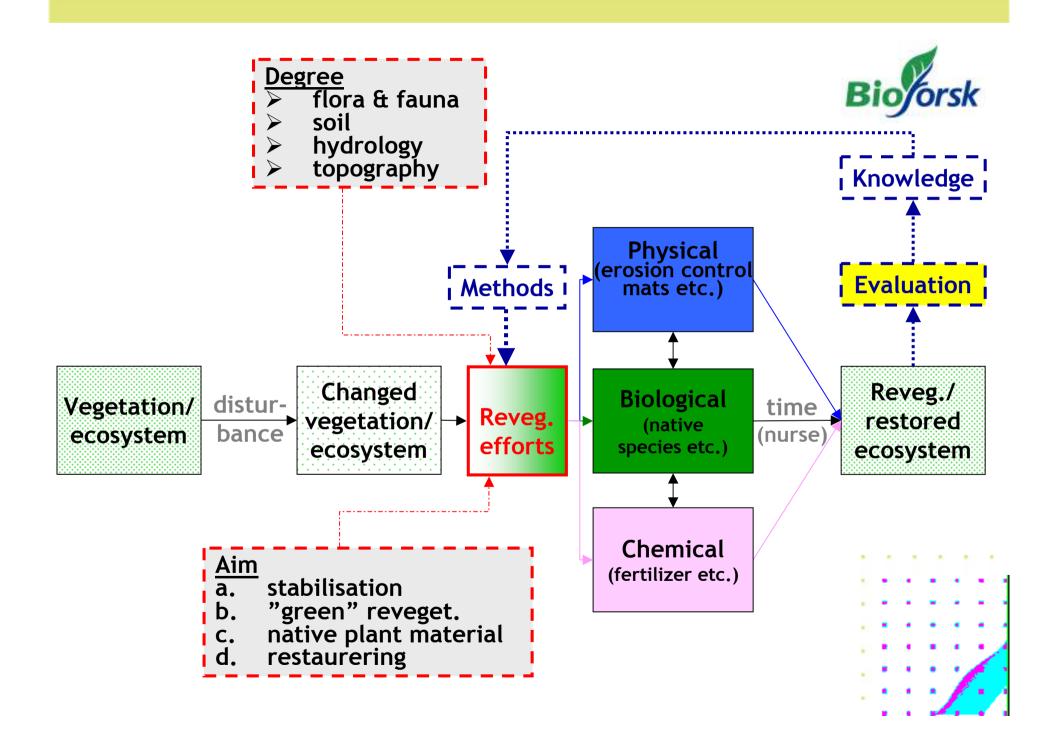
Example II. E6 Kværnangen



Roadside10 years after revegetation



Photos: Gunhild Rosenfeld, Norwegian Public Roads Administration





For a reasonable evaluation it is necessary with a:

a) adequate documentation of the key site specific physical and chemical conditions, like exposition, slope angle, soil texture, pH etc.

b) detailed documentation of applied material & methods, as type and amounts of seed mixtures, fertilizer etc.

c) Frequent documentation of ecosystem dynamics after for example 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15 and 20 years



Overall requirements for an evaluation scheme:

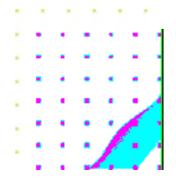
- a) registrations should be reasonable simple to accomplish, also for persons without scientifically background
- b) registration should not take "too long time"
- c) at the same time, results should give sufficient information on the overall state and dynamic of the restored site
- d) Possible application for different vegetation types and climatic zones

Suggestion for an evaluation scheme



| Soil erosion due to/ initiated by¤ | Ī× | Ш× | Ш× | IVa | \mathbf{V} e |
|---|----|----|----|-----|----------------|
| Water | × | ä | X | × | × |
| Winds | ¤ | ä | ü | ä | X |
| Gravity (land slides) | × | ä | x | × | × |
| Human activities (hiking, vehicles, etc.) | x | ä | x | × | × |
| Animal activities (grazing, digging etc.) | | ä | X | × | × |
| Others¤ | Ø | a | X | × | × |
| Overall-estimation-of-soil-erosion- | | | × | | |

Soil erosion: I. not observed; II. < 5% of total area; III. <u>5-10% of total area; IV</u>. 10-25%; V. >. 25%; **Overall-estimation**: A. none; B. insignificant; C. moderate; D. severe; E. critical.¶



| 8 | I¤ | IIa | Ш× | IV≈ | V× |
|---|----|-----|----|-----|----|
| Organically-based-materials:# | ¤ | ä | Ø | ¤ | × |
| Resilience of key material | × | Ø | ¤ | ¤ | × |
| Resilience of merging fibres | × | × | ¤ | × | × |
| Degree of integration into the soil | × | ä | ¤ | Ø | × |
| Impacts on plants establishment and growth- | × | ä | ¤ | Ø | × |
| others | ä | ä | ü | Ø | ¤ |
| | × | ä | ũ | Ø | × |
| Inorganically-based-materials:# | × | Ø | ¤ | × | × |
| Overall resilience of material | × | ä | ¤ | Ø | × |
| Degree of integration into the soil | × | ä | ¤ | Ø | × |
| Impacts on plants establishment and growth- | ä | a | ä | Ø | × |
| Others¤ | × | ä | ¤ | ¤ | × |
| Overall-estimation-of-erosion-control-mats: | | | × | | |

• 2. Erosion-control-mats-and/or-mulching-material.¶

<u>Resilience</u>: I. physical and the mical composition of the applied material basic ally not changed; II. <u>minor</u> changes in the physical and themical composition (10-30%); III. moderate changes in the physical and themical composition (30-50%); IV. large changes in the physical and themical composition (30-50%); IV. large changes in the physical and themical composition (30-50%); IV. large changes in the physical and themical composition (30-50%); IV. large changes in the physical and themical composition (50-70%); V. Specific identification of applied material only in fragments or not at all possible. <u>Integration</u>: I. fully integrated; III. <u>moderate</u>; V. none.¶ <u>Impacts on plants establishment and growth</u>: I. favourable; III. <u>neutral</u>, V. negative.¶ <u>Overall estimation</u>: A. essential; B. advantageous; C. neutral; D. hinder; E. negative.¶



| X . | I¤ | I | Ш× | IV≈ | ٧¤ | |
|--|----|---|----|-----|----|--|
| Soil-moisture¤ | ä | ¤ | × | × | Ø | |
| Soil-surface-litter-accumulation-(cm)¤ | ä | × | × | × | Ø | |
| Litter integration into mineral subsoil® | ä | × | X | × | Ø | |
| Organic horizon (cm)¤ | ä | a | × | × | X | |
| Mineral soil humus content (%)¤ | ä | a | X | × | x | |
| Average rooting depth (cm)¤ | ä | a | X | × | × | |
| Root development¤ | ä | Ø | × | × | × | |
| Substrate stability¤ | ä | a | x | × | x | |
| Others¤ | ä | a | x | × | x | |
| Overall-estimation-of-soil-properties-on- plant-establishment-&-growth- | | | | | | |

• 3. Soil properties

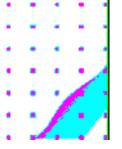
Soil-moisture: I. wet; III. mesic; V. dry; <u>Litter accumulation</u>: I. >3 cm; II. <u>2-3 cm; III. 1-2 cm</u>; IV. <1,0 cm; V.; <0,5 cm; <u>Litter integration</u>: I. very good; III. moderate; V. none; Mineral soil-humus content I. <0,5%; II. <1,0%, III. <u>1-2%; IV.</u> 2-3%; V. >3%; <u>Root development</u>: I. root-carpet, III. good; V. poor; <u>Stability</u>: I. High; III. moderate; V. high; ¶

• **Overall-estimation**: A. advantageous; B. uncertain; C. hinder.¶

| ^o | J≈ | Ш× | Ш× | IV≈ | Va | | | |
|--|----|----|----|-----|----|--|--|--|
| Total plant cover (%)¤ | × | × | × | × | × | | | |
| lignoses > 30 cm | × | × | × | Ø | × | | | |
| lignoses < 30 cm | × | × | × | × | × | | | |
| graminoids (grasses) | X | a | ä | x | × | | | |
| herbs ^a | X | x | × | X | × | | | |
| leguminoses | X | x | × | 8 | × | | | |
| crypogames (lichen & mosses) | × | x | × | 8 | × | | | |
| Cover-target-vegetation (%)¤ | | × | × | 8 | 8 | | | |
| vegetative reproduction | × | × | × | X | ä | | | |
| generative reproduction | | × | × | 8 | × | | | |
| Cover target invading plant species [®] | X | × | Ø | ä | Ø | | | |
| Non-target invading plant species (weeds)¤ | × | x | × | 8 | × | | | |
| Transplantscover-(%)¤ | × | x | ä | 8 | a | | | |
| General appearance of plant growth, vitality¤ | × | x | × | 8 | × | | | |
| Biomass production [®] | × | x | a | X | a | | | |
| Usage by animals (grazing, digging etc.)¤ | × | × | × | X | 8 | | | |
| Others¤ | a | x | 0 | X | ä | | | |
| Overall-estimation of vegetation- | x | | | | | | | |

• 4. Plantestablishment and growth ¶

 $\label{eq:plant-cover} \begin{array}{l} \underline{Plant-cover}(\%): I_{*} < 5; H_{*} < 5; H_{*} < 20; HI_{*} < 20; 40; HV_{*} < 40, 70; V_{*} > 70; \underline{Reproduction}(I_{*}most); H_{*} \\ frequent; HI_{*} several; HV_{*} few; V_{*} none; \underline{Vitality}: I_{*} extraordinary; H_{*} good; HI_{*} average; HV_{*} \\ reduced; V_{*} poor; \underline{Biomass-production}(I_{*}high, HI_{*} medium, V_{*} low; \underline{Usage by animals}; I_{*} \\ Favoured; HI_{*} frequently; V_{*} none; \underline{Overall-estimation}; A_{*} excellent; B_{*} good; C_{*} acceptable; \\ D_{*} insufficient; E_{*} critical poor. \end{array}$

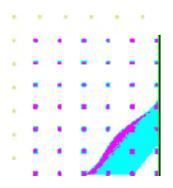




| 3 | Ja | IIa | Ш¤ | IV¤ | V≈ | |
|---|--------------|--------|----|-----|----|-----|
| Labour (in hours)¤ | X | × | × | × | X | 27 |
| Supplementary-materials¶ Seeds/-plants¶ Fertilizer¶ Watering¶ others¤ | | | X | × | × | |
| Cutting and/or removal of bio mass¤ | а. Ж | × | × | × | X | II. |
| Overall expenses a | े छ े | i Xi 🗌 | X | × | X | II. |
| Others¤ | े छ े | × | × | × | X | I. |
| Overall-estimation-on-after-management | ä | X | X | × | X | Ĩ |

•5. After management efforts per year and m²¶

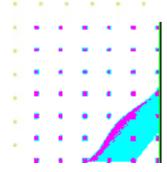
 $\underline{\textbf{Overall-estimation:}} A. none; B. few; C. some; D. many; E. a large number. \P$



We are looking forward to a common evaluation and a further development of the evaluation scheme







Thank you very much for your attention!