

CHARCOAL PRODUCTION AND TRADE IN BULGARIA

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HISTORY OF CHARCOAL PRODUCTION IN BULGARIA

- Very long traditions
- Living for many families
 - wood comes from private forests and illegal from public forests
 - pit of 0.5 m³ - 50 kg per night
- Using
 - heating of homes and shops (charcoal-pan)
 - cooking
 - gunpowder
 - in smithies

HISTORY OF CHARCOAL PRODUCTION IN BULGARIA

- Production before 1990 (socialist period)
 - Total production - 3 000 tons/year
 - one industrial installation - Cocherinowo. Closed 1990.
 - Family business

CURENN SITUATION

- Total volume - 45 000 tons/year
- Internal market - 22 000 tons/year
 - about 50% is illegal
- Export - 23 000 tons/year
- Main export streams
 - Greece
 - Germany and other EC members
 - Turkey

TRADE

- Rapidly increasing of internal market
 - Supermarket chains
 - Gas stations chains
 - Restaurants

PRODUCERS

- Total number -162 companies
 - Big producers (> 100 tons/month) -14 (~ 40% of production)
 - Small producers (up to 20 tons/month) - 102
- Branch Union Wood Charcoals
 - established - January 2007
 - members (at present moment) - 34 companies
 - the Union is open for new members

USED TECHNOLOGIES

- Old traditional technologies
 - in open area - pits from 10 m³ up to 200 m³
 - brick kilns (very rear)
- One new installation - 1000 tons/year (Murs Oven Bay b.v.?)
 - low density charcoal
 - Carbon - less then 80%
- several small pilot installations

PROBLEMS

- New legal requirements - amendment of Air protection act (29.12.2006)
 - from 01.04.2008 diffusion emissions by charcoal production are not allowed (stop the traditional technologies)
 - for new and existing production
 - without any consultations with producers
- What is the legal obligations in other EU member states?

OBSTACLES

- Short period to set in compliance
- Lack of information and financial resources
- Wood in different regions is not enough for big installations
 - maximum 15-20 installation > 1000 tons/year
 - insufficiency of forest roads

WE ARE LOOKING FOR

- Information for new advanced technologies
- Partnership with other organizations and institutions
 - preparation of projects
 - access to EU funds to change the technologies
 - other activities
- Commercial proposals for:
 - big installations
 - mobile installations

Thank you for your attention!

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