

Geobotany

Master Thesis

Functional traits of ash rejuvenation

– Evaluation of a reciprocal transplant experiment –

Background: One aspect of **global change** is the rapid spread of pathogens over long distances. This includes the **ash dieback disease** caused by the ascomycete *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*. Since 2019, FraDiv investigates the **mechanisms of ash rejuvenation**. A **reciprocal transplant experiment** was established in 10 forest sites.

Methods: In 2021, the experiment established will be harvested after final surveying. By means of further analyses (**above- and below-ground biomass, leaf and fine root traits**), insights into the variability of **functional traits** across different forest sites will be gained.

Begin: Sep. 2021 – max. Oct. 2021

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Reciprocal transplanted ash saplings