

Laboratory 8: Forest Stand Simulations with SIMANFOR

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In this computer lab we will learn how to:

- Use SIMANFOR Decisions Support System
- Simulate a silvicultural alternative

Organization

Instructor will split the class group in different teams that will be assigned to a computer (if the students can bring their own laptop then we will follow and BOD: bring your own device approach) Each group have to have a set of credentials to access SIMANFOR. Instructor should obtain in advance the credentials by writing a mail to to simanfor@pvs.uva.es sending the form available at SIMANFOR web page: <http://www.simanfor.es/Public/NotLoggedUsers/Regist.pdf>

Work phases

Pre-lab work

Students must be familiar with SIMANFOR so they must read at home this paper:

Bravo, F.; Rodríguez, F.; Ordóñez, C. 2012 A web-based application to simulate alternatives for sustainable forest management: SIMANFOR. Forest Systems 21(1):4-8, Available at: <http://revistas.inia.es/index.php/fs/article/view/1953>
doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.5424/fs/2112211-01953>

In the lab

Students will access SIMANFOR, upload a dataset (provided by professor) and simulate a silvicultural alternative. To do that, they will use the “SiManFor: User manual- Part II” that starts in page 13 of the document available at <http://www.simanfor.es/Public/NotLoggedUsers/ManualUserMultilanguage.2.pdf>

Students should focus of part 6 (Inventory management) and 7 (Scenario management)

When? During the first hour and a half of the computer lab.

Open discussion

After sharing their findings students will stablish an open discussion on the topic. Instructor will act as facilitator avoiding to influence with his/her own position while encouraging the participation of every student. At the end of the session instructor will summarized the main points addressed seeking for the student consensus about the findings.

When? During the last half hour of the lab.

Expected outcome

Student will learn how to access SIMANFOR, upload an inventory and simulate a silvicultural alternative. Additionally, students will acquire soft skills as (i) information search and selection, (ii) knowledge sharing and (iii) public discussion on controversial topics.