

Evidence for Anthropogenic deforestation in W europe during the Neolithic

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.archaeology/2006-08/msg00657.html>

- *From:* prd <X_header@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 23 Aug 2006 19:55:54 GMT
-

<http://antiquity.ac.uk/Ant/078/0886/Ant0780886.pdf#search=%22Neolithic%20Arboreal%22>

<http://www.fettes.com/orkney/holocene%20vegetation.htm>

<http://www.ria.ie/publications/journals/ProcBI/2001/PB101I1-2/PDF/101B1209.pdf#search=%22Neolithic%20Arboreal%22>

http://www.le.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/eastmidsw/pdfs/e_midnba.pdf#search=%22Neolithic%20Arboreal%22

According to my theory, which Uwe disagrees with that anthropogenic disturbances in the post glacial slowly recovering Pinus species are both notable and result in decline in all species.

The premise to the argument is that these species invade slowly and at the pace of nutrient accumulations and soil preparation.

The conclusion I made is based on 2 key factors.

1. That removal of biomass is accompanied by above soil fixed nutrient removal (organic biomass and phototrophic associated materials in the canopy)

2. That burning liberates also biomass but retains some micronutrients at the surface, that are either consumed and redeposited (grazing animals) or harvested and removed

http://www.umr5059.univ-montp2.fr/~umr5059/pdf/carcaillet/26_Ali%20et%20al%20JFB.pdf

"

Results Supported by 40 14C datings, the fragments show that, over 2000 m a.s.l.,

P. cembra accounts for around 40% (mean value) of identified

Evidence for Anthropogenic deforestation in W Europe during the Neolithic

fragments. Data reveal that arolla pine once extended between 260 and 375 m above the presentday local tree lines. It was established in the southern and the northern French Alps from at least c. 9000 and 6000 cal yr bp, respectively. Main conclusions While present-day populations of *P. cembra* are very fragmented in the inner French Alps, charcoal records indicate large past occurrences of this tree since the early Holocene. Human disturbance since the Neolithic seems to be the main reason for the regression of the arolla pine woodlands. On the south-facing slopes of the study sites, currently deforested, this species extended up to 2800 m a.s.l. In the northern areas, charco