

7th EUCALAND Meeting, Prague, Czech Republic, 16–18th of March

EUCALAND Network is an expert network that deals with the agricultural landscapes of Europe (<http://www.eucalandnetwork.eu>).

The network's ongoing project is the description of European agricultural landscapes: one landscape type per year.

In 2012 wooded grasslands were described (final discussion on the Hungarian meeting), while in 2013 water meadows were described (final discussion on the meeting in The Netherlands).

The task in 2014 is to describe enclosed landscapes (Figure 1–2.). The host of the meeting was Zdenek Kucera (Czechia) with the help of Magdalena Kašková (Czechia). Participants were Alexandra Kruse (France), Salvador Villacreces (Spain), Georg Müller (Germany), Hans Renes (The Netherlands), Dagmar Štefunková, Jana Špulerová, Martina Slámová and Boris Beláček (Slovakia), Goran Andlar (Croatia) and Csaba Centeri (Hungary).

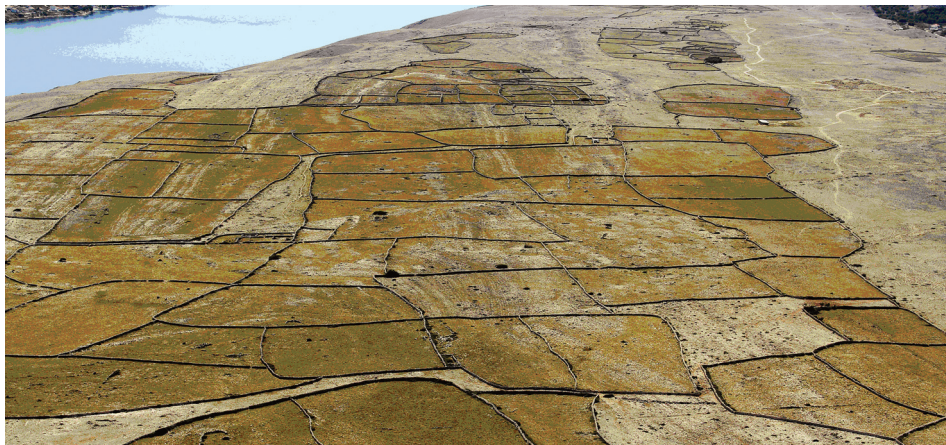


Figure 1. An example of enclosed landscape from Croatia (Photo: Andlar G.)



Figure 2. An example of enclosed landscape from Slovakia (Photo: Slámová, M. & Beláček, B.)

The members of the network already published an article about definitions (Kruse et al. 2010). In this article the definition of ‘enclosed landscape’ was cited from Meeus et al. (1990) as follows: “Enclosed landscape, small, rectangular strips of land, lumped piecemeal, some smaller than half a hectare, each enclosed by hedgerows or low stone walls in a gently sloping landscape. Ex.: Bretagne (F), Normandie (F), N-W Denmark, Wales, S-W Scotland, E-Ireland” (Figure 3.).



Figure 3. An example of enclosed landscape from Greece (Island of Hydra), 2013 (Photo: Centeri, Cs.)

The first results suggested some changes in the definition, e.g.

1. enclosed landscape is not necessarily small,
2. the rectangular shape is not obligatory,
3. they can be enclosed by more types of plants (even trees), a combination of plants and branches (not only hedges),
4. stone walls can be as high as 2 meters tall and
5. slopes are not necessarily gently sloping, they can be steep.

References

- KRUSE, A. (ED.), CENTERI, CS., RENES, H., ROTH, M., PRINTSMANN, A., PALANG, H. BENITO JORDÁ, L., VELARDE, M. D., KRUCKENBERG, H. 2010: Glossary on Agricultural Landscapes. *Tájökológiai Lapok (Journal of Landscape Ecology)* (Special Issue), 99–127.
- MEEUS, J. H. A., WIJERMANS, M. P., VROOM, M. J. 1990: Agricultural Landscapes in Europe and their Transformation. *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 18: 289–352.