

natural + cultivated landscapes

... an overview



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fruit orchards

Orchards for production of fruits are today mainly used as a production area. Organic egg farmers has started mixing egg production with fruit production, since the hens instinctively are less stressed in a sheltered environment, and at the same time the fruit production benefit from the hens, because they eat insects.

Fruit orchard are typically planted in long rows, and the trees are not too high. Fruit trees like plums and cherries blossom in the spring, and is a very beautiful sight, and the beginning of spring and warmer and longer days.



willow

The willow is one of the fastest developing energy crop in Denmark. Willow is extremely fast growing and the crop also absorb large amounts of nitrates, which prevents wash out of excess nitrates to the ground water. The willow grows on all types of soil, and is tolerant of very wet and poorly drained soil.

Willow is typically 2-5 meter high, and is planted in rows that quickly grows very dense. Larger rows are maintained for harvest, creating long corridors through the landscape.

Due to the qualities of absorbing nitrates, tests of keeping pigs in energy willow plantations are in process, and with positive results.



berry orchards

The berry plantation varies in appearance with the type of berry. The strawberry is small plant planted in rows. Other species like raspberry, black current and gooseberry are larger bushes, also planted in rows. The berry plantation has a large potential as a destination in relation to an existing farm, since "pick your own berries" are getting more and more popular.



fields

Most of the danish farmed land consist of fields with crops like rape seed, oak, wheat, barley and sugar beet. Since most of farmed land in Denmark are fields with crops, fields are what makes the danish map a mosaic of colours, and an important part of the understanding of the danish countryside and landscape.

The field on the picture is a rape seed field in spring. The different crops growing on fields have similar spatial qualities, about 1 meter high and not easy accessible.



christmas tree plantation

Christmas tree plantations are usually planted in rows that get more narrow over time. The plantations often have sections with trees of different ages, and the paths between the rows vary as well as the height and width of the trees. In the conventional christmas tree production is large amount of pesticides used, but there is a growing market for organic christmas trees.



kitchen garden

Kitchen gardens are typically of smaller and private character, though some farmers, specializing in niche products of high qualities have larger kitchen gardens. The gardens typically have small paths and a large variation of produce. The kitchen garden changes character over the season, but possibly there will always be some crops visible.



grassland

Grasslands is a dry, poor and often hilly nature type. The grasslands are typically occurred after years of extensive exhaustion of the land and, and the quality of the soil is often with stones and sand.

Near the coast you also see grasslands. The grasslands has a few trees and bushes, including hawthorn, juniper, blackthorn and oak. The nature type is rich in plant species, animals and fungi.

Grasslands are easily accesible for humans. The variation of plants can be large and shrubs, open land and trees give the grassland a character of changeability. Grazing is often seen on grasslands, which makes the area more accesible.



Særløse Overdrev

marsh

Marshes are moist areas where the groundwater is high. Important nature type for birds, salamanders and amphibians. There is different types of marshes depending on the conditions of the soil and water level.

Marshes are not easy accesible for humans, but if interested in wild life it is an excellent nature type to explore.



Holmegaard Højmose near Næstved

waterholes

Water holes are an important habitat for both animals and plants. The amount of waterholes has decreased dramatically the latest fifty years due to the structural changes of the agricultural industry. Water holes increase the bio diversity in the area and can also be suitable for recreational purposes.



waterstreams

Water streams differs in size from small drainage canals to national creeks. The stream has over the season changing levels of water and is dependant on the way of land use next to it. Many streams are piped to optimize the production of the fields. The water stream can be rich in species depending on the size, water and soil conditions.

The stream can be used as a guide in the landscape, leading toward the sea. Small streams are very present in the danish landscape, since it is draining the production land.

Due to possible wash out of pesticides, nitrogen and phosphorus there has been a buffer zone around the creeks and streams, though it is no longer protected.

Depending on the size of the creek this can be a popular area for recreational purposes. The smaller streams divides the landscape though also adding more variation.



meadow

The meadow is open wood and moist; often in proximity to water streams, marsh and creeks. This type of nature is very rich in plant species. The meadow is one of the most productive nature types and 1-2 cattle can grass pr. hectare. There is two kinds of meadow; the natural and the cultural. The cultural has a smaller variety of plant species and is grazed harder. The natural meadow has been an important buffer zone between the ploughed fields and water streams. Typical species Rod Pods, Crested Dogs-tail, Moor grass, may orchid and globe flower.

The meadow is very accesible for humans, and though it's monotone character the meadow has a variation of plant species that make the type more varying. The meadow is often used for grassing, adding a variation in the recreational value.



beach meadow

The beach meadow is found as a belt on the danish coast, creating a transition from the sea to the land. The beach meadow is low land, dominated by Poaceae and Reed that are salt tolerant. The beach meadow has small streams and the appearance of the nature type is dependant on the tide.

The beach meadow is accessible for humans, but the accessibility also changes with the presence of water.



beach grassland

The beach grassland is found on high ground, often sloping areas. The nature type consist of the same types of plants as other grasslands though with salt tolerant species. Here is plants as Hawthorn, Rose and buckthorn.



moor

The moor is found in poor, sandy and dry land. The nature type has a small variation of species, but is home for species that are not seen other places in Denmark, such as the viper and the fritillary. The moor is mostly seen in Jutland, due to the soil conditions. Moors has been declining for years, and today 10 % of the worlds dune moors are on the danish west coast, and Denmark is obligated to preserve these areas.

The moor are mostly accisible for humans, though the heathers that are characteristic of the moor can grow large and make the land inaccessible.



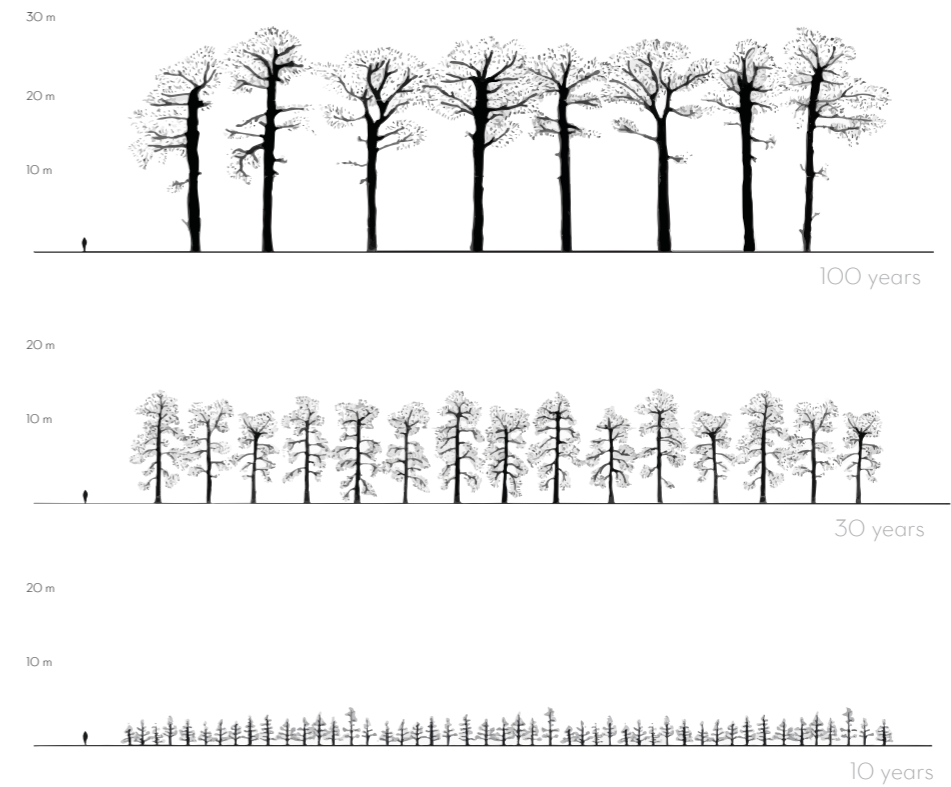
Moor near Ikast

evergreen monoculture

Pine (*Pinus Sylvestris*)

Evergreen pine tree that is seen all over Denmark. Grows well even in poor soil, thrives under very different climatic conditions and do not require much water. Life expectancy up to 300 years. The young trees are cone-shaped and resemble Christmas trees, while the elderly have a high-placed crown with scattered branches and is about 30 meters high. Noble and furrowed bark, which in older trees are orange, almost reddish, on the upper part of the trunk. Pioneer wood, which means that it can easily spread to non-vegetated areas.

The evergreen forest can have a quit rich under forest, and bears foliage all year, which makes the forest beautiful all year.



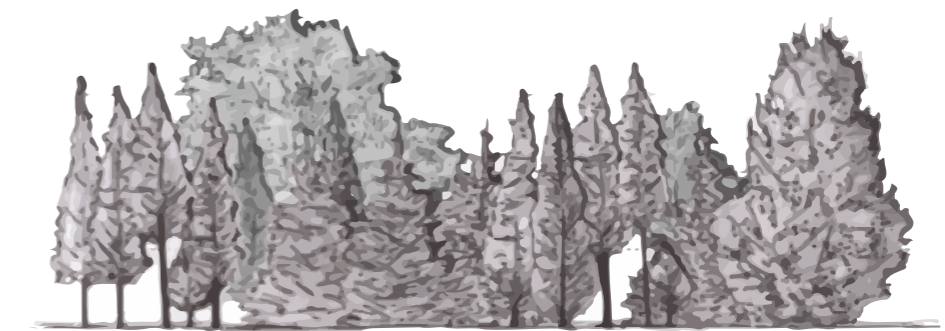
evergreen mixed forest

Sitka-gran (*Picea sitchensis*)

The evergreen mixed forest is typically stronger than the mono culture forest due to the variation of species.

The forest can typically have sitka pine, scotch pine and other evergreen trees. The Sitka pine is fast growing, and can be used as a nurse tree for slower growing trees. The type of forest can vary in height but normally about 25-30 meter high.

This type has a larger spatial variation than the mono culture, and as the mono-culture evergreen forest the trees bear the foliage all year.



100 years



30 years



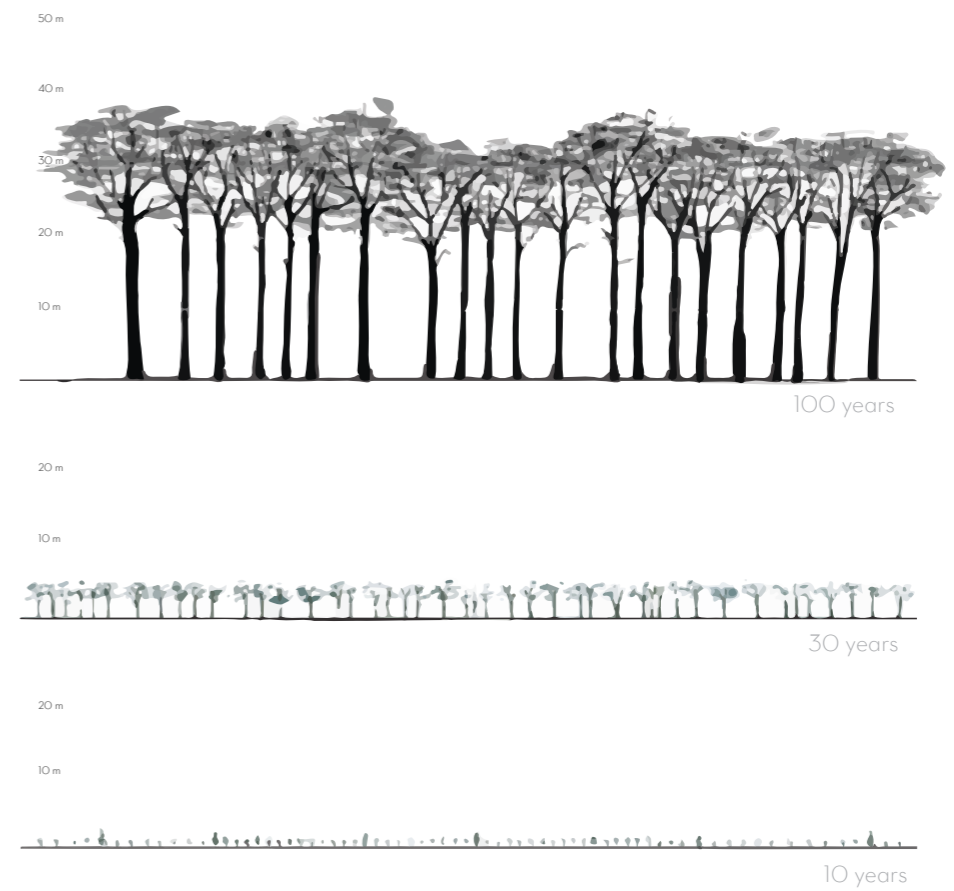
10 years

Deciduous monoculture

Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*)

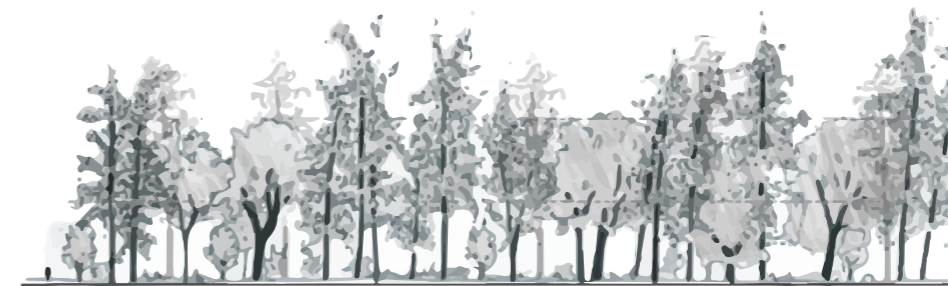
The beech dominates in many of the danish forests. It is a shadow tree, whose form is determined by the tree's premises: the connected forest will stem long and slender, whereas a freestanding beech is *lavstammet*, with lower branches and much more voluminous. Can reach the age of 300 years and reach maturity about 40 m high. A 14-year beech is about 5.8 m, 35 years - 10 m, 50 years old - 14 m, 75 years old - 20 m, 100 years - 24 m. Bøgen need moist, nutrient-rich and calcareous soils. The tree's bark is silver-gray and smooth with individual contours.

The beech forest is the arketype of a danish forest, and has a beautiful light green colour in the spring. The ground is white of anemones as a sign of spring.

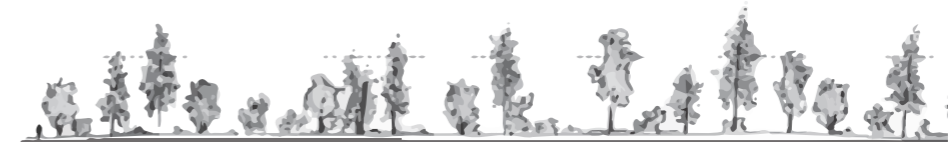


deciduous mixed forest

Deciduous forests are typically stronger than a mono culture forest. The forest on the picture is a young forest with Birch as a nurse tree, which is the dominating specie at this stage, and red oak as the main tree later on. Other species as Hazel, Rowan and Maple will be added to the forest. This type of forest is popular due to the rich underwood, a lot of filtered light and a rich bird life.



100 years



30 years



10 years

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