



Dr Darius Kavaliauskas is a researcher at the Vytautas Magnus University Agriculture Academy. In 2015, he defended his doctoral dissertation 'Genetic Structure and Diversity of Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.) Populations in Lithuania', in which he examined the genetic structure and geographical variation of genetic diversity among natural Scots pine populations in Lithuania based on mitochondrial, chloroplast and nuclear DNA microsatellites. His research interests cover evolutionary ecology, global change ecology and biogeography, population and landscape genetics, management and conservation of forest genetic resources and adaptation of forest tree populations, forest genetic monitoring. He is also interested in applied forest genetic research, e.g., traceability of forest reproductive material based on DNA markers as basic research is relevant for practitioners. Therefore, in his research he is trying to incorporate historical biogeography, recent knowledge of the demography of trees and evolutionary approaches with ecological issues such as climate change: it is important to understand possible migration, adaptation, and speciation of tree species under accelerated environmental change, which alter distributions of genetic diversity over space and time.

Between 2015 to 2022, he was a researcher at the Bavarian Office for Forest Genetics (AWG), Teisendorf (Germany). Together with LIFE GENMON project partners, he was involved in the development and implementation of forest genetic monitoring and published a manual and guidelines for Forest Genetic Monitoring, which were translated into several languages (e.g., German, Greek, Slovenian). Together with co-authors, he presented the results of the research more than 40 times at different international conferences such as XXV IUFRO 2019 World Congress in Brazil, IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress in Germany, etc. Scientific results were published in high-level international scientific journals, 14 out of them in scientific publications published in Clarivate Analytics and Web of Science database. Research apprenticeships were conducted in Sweden, Germany, and Austria. Over the past seven years, he has attended a variety of courses and summer schools in Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Lithuania, Slovenia, Austria, etc. In addition, he is a member of an expert group on forest genetic resources, seed production, and reforestation in Lithuania; a member (deputy) of the IUFRO (International Union of Forest Research Organizations) Unit 2.04.12 Forest Genetic Monitoring (Division 2 Physiology and genetics); a representative of Lithuania at the EUFORGEN (European Forest Genetic Resources Programme).