

Europe's field Boundaries

hedged banks / hedgerows / field walls (stonewalls) /
dead brushwood hedges / bent over hedges / woven
hedges/ wattle fences / traditional wooden fences

Volume I



Georg Müller

2013



23.10.2009 Felin Fach/Großbritannien

4

Landscapes of hedged banks and hedges glow in the sunrise in Felin Fach in Great Britain. Many of the hedges that were formerly laid are now annually cut down to a height of about 1.0-1.5 m.



03.05.2010 Albatrello/Italien

5

Stunning stone wall landscape with „Trullis“ near Albatrello in Italy, in spring. Field walls are still in a marvellous condition around there.

extracts from statements

Georg Müller:

The field boundaries of Europe

Under this title G. Müller presents the most exhaustive study ever presented about the hedges, hedged banks, field walls and the full range of field boundaries found in Europe. With the help of a large number of illustrations, it shows a previously unimaginable diversity of hedges and other types of field boundaries which have a significant impact on the landscape. Many only remain as relict features and are here uniquely documented as part of our cultural historic heritage, whereas others will remain due to special protection measures.

This monumental piece of work is the result of intense research that lasted over 30 years and was conducted in over 30 European countries. The results have been carefully examined and presented in a very attractive and instructive manner. Among other things, they show the connection between farming methods based on the different landscapes and their corresponding field boundaries. There are, for example, living hedges and hedged banks, dead scrub hedges, stone banks and field walls, all constructed and managed differently, as described in detail in the text supported by numerous photos and drawings. Some of the structures described are ancient and date back to the Palaeolithic era.

Extensive literature especially on hedges does exist, however this piece of work is the first to so comprehensively cover the distribution, construction and history of field boundaries. It will be the main source of information about these important cultural assets and their links to the landscape and agricultural history. Any future research in this area will be based on this book, which will serve as a reference in this field for the unforeseeable future.

Prof. em. Drs. Dr. h. c. Heinrich E. Weber
Am Bühner Bach 12
49565 Bramsche
3. February 2013

Prof. Dr. Uwe Meiners
Ackerstraße 34
D-26121 Oldenburg

Cloppenburg, 30. 08. 2012

Expert opinion about the script by Georg Müller,
Field boundaries of Europe

With the publication of his extensive documentation and examination of the field boundaries of Europe, Georg Müller from Ganderkesee (BR Germany) has produced an epic work of literature on the occurrence and history of this part of our cultural landscapes, both ancient and recent. For the first time, the book makes data and visual documentation collected over a period of more than 30 years available to a wide audience. Not only does the information hugely increase our understanding of cultural landscapes across Europe, it will

also serve to increase public awareness of the importance of field boundaries to our cultural history.

The nearly completed manuscript has over 5000 images, drawings and maps as well as nearly 1000 printed pages. I recommend it without hesitation. All the information, pictures and maps etc have thoroughly been researched, and so are of high documentary and investigative value for studies on European cultural landscapes. Reflecting its high quality, the book will be a long-lasting source of information on which to base further investigations into the farmed landscape of Europe.

signed.

Prof. Dr. Uwe Meiners

Leading Director of the Lower saxon one open-air museum-
Museum Village Cloppenburg

The field enclosures and field boundaries of Europe
Georg Müller

Georg Müller has written a fabulous book which will be a standard reference tome for years to come. Fieldwork for the book started in 1983 and includes insights from personal visits to over 20,000 km of field margins in 32 European countries. Field margin types include dry brush (dead) hedges, woven sticks, wooden and stone fences, living hedges and hedge banks and dry stone walls. The work seeks to show the distribution of different field boundaries throughout Europe with estimates of condition and status. The book starts with an introduction to the historical development of field boundaries and then moves into detailed survey results.

Apart from the detailed text, the book includes excellent photographs and diagrams illustrating the different types of field boundary and their variants, so there is, for example, not just a single photograph of a stone wall, but a whole collection supported by line diagrams of different construction methods. The illustrations of different hedging styles are breathtakingly beautiful and I'd happily hang some in my office!

The work is the outcome of an obsession with understanding the nature and scope of field boundaries; in doing so Georg Müller may be providing us with a last glimpse of what we once possessed. Alternatively, and this is my hope, his work may stimulate increased conservation and protection of the wonderful diversity of European field boundaries. Field boundaries are not simply stock control or ownership boundary features, they are human cultural artefacts – and their presence in the landscape is a physical history of human endeavour.

Professor John W. Dover BSc, PhD, FRES, FSB
Staffordshire University
Stoke-on-Trent, UK
2012.11.07

Introduction and content summary

Field boundaries such as hedged banks, hedges and other enclosures are present in Europe in many different shapes. In most instances they enclose areas used for farming. They are part of the European cultural landscape history and living space for complex communities.

This book gives a wide ranging overview of the field enclosures found in Europe. Tips regarding the worldwide history, formation and geographical extension round off the results.

It delivers a detailed documentation of hedged banks, hedges, field walls and traditional fences which have been put together as a result of a survey undertaken over the period up to 30 years in which photos were taken, drawings were done, descriptions were written and measurements were taken. This project was solely financed by the author. Appearance, purpose, characteristics, conditions as well as though different usages of the field enclosures are covered in detail such as the maintenance methods. The loss of field enclosures, their damages and the damage causes as well as the creation of them are also described.

The book is split into parts. The first covers the European aspects as a whole, the second one is dedicated to the different countries. The development description of the field enclosures ranges from the Palaeolithic Age up to the present day. The hedged banks (folds), field walls (dry stone walls and stone ramparts), dead brushwood-, stick picket fences, woven vertical branch fences, wattle fences are summarised, classified and their occurrence illustrated. The vegetation growth on the ramparts and field walls is rated and standardised. The recorded tree- and scrub types were analysed and presented in a tabular format. Around 200 hedge styles are described and illustrated. The significance of hedged banks and field walls to the farming industry is also discussed as well as profit and loss calculation for the creation of new ones.

A brief overview of the international agreements and EU responsibilities, regarding; the protection of hedged banks and other landscape elements is given. The ecological significance of hedged banks and hedges is described with the help of examples.

The energetic usage of field enclosure groves and the effects on the field enclosure elements of that usage is another aspect.

The respective country descriptions are always divided in the same way. They are arranged as follows:

1. The country name with a picture of a typical field enclosures landscape.
2. Map illustration and description of the hedged banks-and field wall survey distance.
3. General information about the country
4. Pictorial representation of country typical hedge banks - and field wall landscapes
5. Brief country settlement description
6. The chapter " Hedged banks, field walls (dry stone walls/

stone ramparts) contains a selection of different terms connected with field enclosures they are translated into the respective country language. A representation of the formation of the hedged banks and field walls in the respective country follows as far as practicable. Afterwards a rough overview of the situation of the hedged banks and field walls, their appearance and vegetation growth with the most important tree-and scrub types is given which is topped up with information regarding the maintenance methods, condition, damages and the legal protection status.

7. In the chapter "The banks and field walls" contains illustrations of a variety of such types of boundaries.
8. The dead brushwood hedges, stick picket fences, woven vertical branch fences, wattle fences and simple wooden fences are described as practicable.
9. This chapter is dedicated to passages, gangways, crossings, waterways and ditches.
10. The chapter „ Vegetation growth “gives an overview of vegetation types. Not all of them could be recorded due to time constraints.
11. The chapter " Vegetation cutting styles on hedged banks and field wall hedges" contains information about the folding, laying, living and curving of groves as well as various hedge styles.
12. The chapter " Damages" covers the sometimes severe hindrances of hedged banks and field walls.
13. The chapter " Maintenance" covers the traditional management of the groves, ramparts and field walls.
14. Their description of the creation of new hedged banks and field walls concludes the book. Furthermore literature used during the survey in the country descriptions is quoted.

Georg Müller

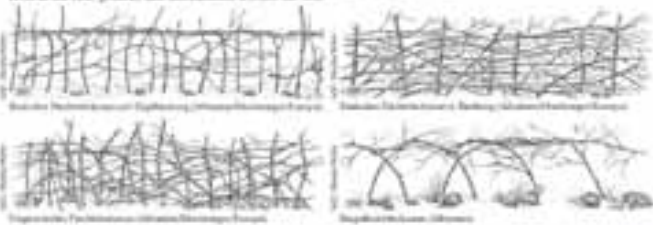
13.06.2013

Die Flechtstockhecken Europas



Die Flechtstockhecken Europas sind in drei Hauptgruppen unterteilt: die Flechtstockhecken (191), die Flechtstockhecken (191) mark Ucker und die Flechtstockhecken (191) mark Ucker.

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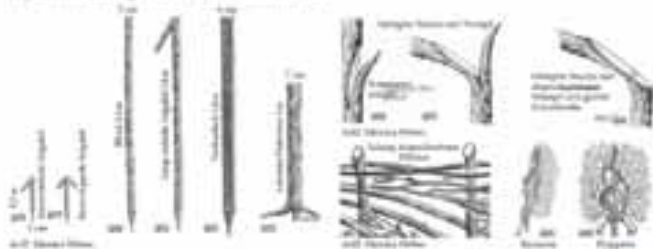
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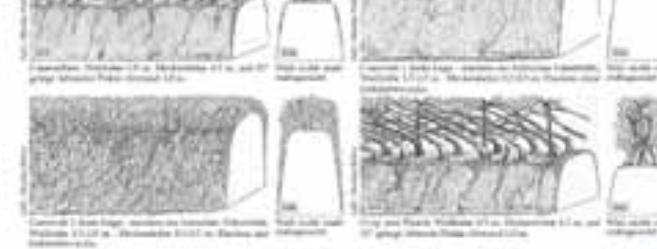
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Allgemeines

Wirtschaftliche Bedeutung des Agrarlandes in Europa

Wirtschaftliche Bedeutung des Agrarlandes in Europa

Flächenumfang und Nutzung

Waldlandschaft (1) Dänemark, Deutschland, Frankreich, Belgien, Niederlande

Waldlandschaft (1) Dänemark, Deutschland, Frankreich, Belgien, Niederlande



Waldlandschaft (2) Dänemark, Deutschland, Frankreich, Belgien, Niederlande

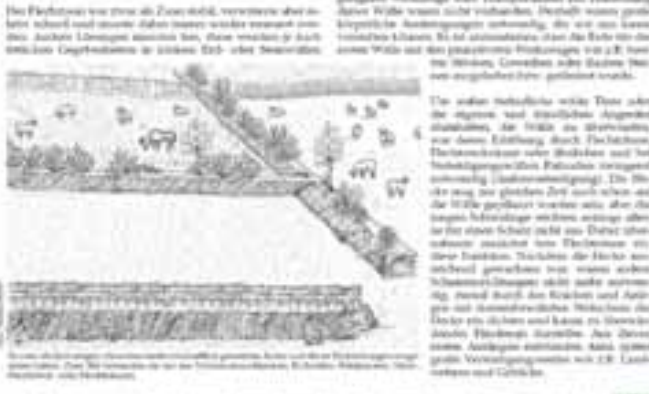


sample pages



Entwicklung und Veränderung der Landschaftsstruktur

Entwicklung und Veränderung der Landschaftsstruktur



Entwicklung und Veränderung der Waldlandschaften

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