

FOREST FUNCTIONS IN THE REGION OF DÃO-LAFÕES

Location: Mountain area in the North/Centre of Portugal.

Climate: Mediterranean with continental and maritime influence: the winters are mild to cold (with average temperatures from 6 to 10 degrees Celsius); they are also wet and windy. The summer is hot and dry (with average temperatures from 22 to 33 degrees Celsius).

Forest cover: 44% of the territory

Region of Dão-Lafões
 Aguiar da Beira
 Carregal do Sal
 Castro Daire
 Mangualde
 Mortágua, Nelas
 Oliveira de Frades
 Penalva do Castelo
 Santa Comba Dão
 São Pedro do Sul
 Sátão
 Tondela
 Vila Nova de Paiva
 Viseu
 Vouzela

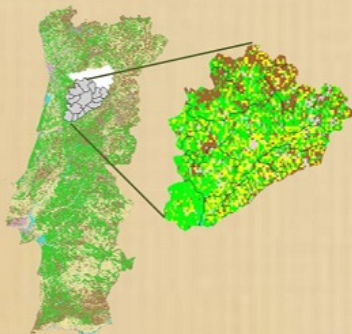


Fig. 1 – RDL in Portugal
 Source – Professor Helder Viana

Flora species:

Eucalyptus (*eucalyptus globulus*)
 Maritime Pine (*pinus pinaster*)

Others:

Holm oak (*quercus rotundifolia*)
 European oak (*quercus robur*)
 Stone pine (*pinus pinea*)
 Sweet chestnut (*castanea sativa*)
 Cork oak (*quercus suber*)
 Acacia (*dealbater*)
 Riparian forests



Fig. 2 – Eucalyptus
 Source – Internet



Fig. 3 – Holm Oak
 Source – Internet

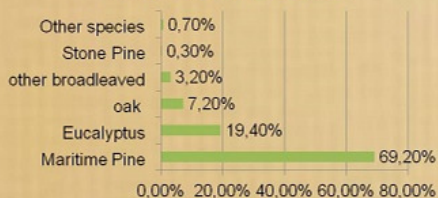


Fig. 4 – Maritime Pine
 Source – Internet



Fig. 5 – Stone Pine
 Source – Internet

Tree species in RDL 2006



Graph. 1 – Percentage of tree species in RDL
 Source – Professor Helder Viana



Economic function:

Industry:
 Pulp, paper and cardboard
 Wood and furniture
 Construction
 Energy: biomass, charcoal, pellets, firewood
 Resin: turpentine, diluents, solvents, varnish, perfumes, cream, glue, chewing-gum, paper industry and medicine

Food:
 Mushroom picking
 Honey
 Medicines
 Aromatic plants
 Cattle breeding
 Forest fruits: Sweet chestnut, pinions, blackberry, blueberry, raspberry, nuts, cherry, acorn

Hunting:
 Has also an important role in local economy

Employment:
 More than 1000 direct jobs
 More than 2900 jobs in forest-related industries

Environmental function:

Soil protection
 Prevention of erosion
 Regulation of hydric resources
 Maintenance of climate balance
 Air purification
 Reduction of wind speed
 Habitat protection

Social function:

Leisure activities:
 Hunting, fishing
 Picnics, walks, sports
 Landscapes
 Life outdoors



Threats
 Biotic factors: pests and diseases
 Abiotic factors: forest fires



Fig. 6 – Fox
 Source – Internet



Fig. 7 – Wild boar
 Source – Internet

Fauna species:
 Wildboar (*Sus scrofa*)
 Turtledove (*Streptopelia turtur*)
 Wild-pigeon (*Columba livia*)
 Roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*)
 Fox (*Vulpes*)
 Wolf (*Canis lupus*)
 Thrush (*Turdidae*)



Fig. 8 – Wild Pigeon
 Source – Internet



Fig. 9 – Turtledove
 Source – Internet

Game species:
 Partridge (*Perdix perdix*)
 Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*)
 Hare (*Lepus*)
 Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)
 Wild rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)



Fig. 10 – Ouzal
 Source – Internet



Fig. 11 – Trout
 Source – Internet



Fig. 12 – Wild Rabbit
 Source – Internet



Sources:
<http://meteo viseu.webnode.pt/o-clima-de-viseu>
<https://funcoesdafloresta.wordpress.com/>
<http://www.icnf.pt/portal/florestas/profs/dao-laf>

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