BOOK OF ABSTRACTS
GREENER CITIES FOR MORE EFFICIENT ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN A CLIMATE CHANGING WORLD

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S3.A4. A proposal to enhance the biodiversity of Tirana City: the case study of Paskuqan Park

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Abstract

The very rapid population growth, the urbanization and the need for investments over the years have affected almost the entire city of Tirana and the surrounding municipalities. To deal with these developments, a new general local plan was approved recently. The General Local Plan proposes an "Orbital Forest" of 2 million trees as a green belt able to limit the city expansion beyond its current boundaries. In this study we propose the creation of Paskuqan Park and analyze the alternatives how to integrate this park with the general local plan and with Tirana historical paths through a green corridor. Two main elements, the lake and the road around the green area are determined at the first step. Second step defined different types of areas like rural, suburban, urban or natural. During the third step composition and details of each area are developed. This proposal is based on the idea of mixing different activities, including recreation and sports facilities, educational and cultural institutions, but a lot of attention is focused in retaining large sections of quiet, scenic landscape, while offering concentrated areas for active programming. An important element of the design includes sustainable energy demonstrations harnessing solar power. Paskuqan Park in this proposal is seen as an opportunity to restore natural systems, create open spaces, and improve the habitat. The aim of the design presented is to achieve sustainable use of ecosystem goods and services for Tirana city and maximization of the ability to support biodiversity.

S3.A5. Characterization and selection Brazilian native grasses for use as turfgrass

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Abstract

The objective of this study was to characterize eight accessions of Brazilian native grasses, namely Axonopus parodii (AP 01), Paspalum notatum (PN 01, PN 02, PN 03, PN 04, PN 05 and PN 06) and P. lepton (PL 01) as turfgrass. The experiment was conducted in a randomized block design, with four repetitions, in the Rain Forest Zone of the State of Pernambuco, Brazil, from October, 2013 to April, 2014. Two to six month after planting, the accessions were evaluated in terms of mowing frequency, mowing dry biomass (g) and weeds dry biomass (g). At the end of the experiment the turfgrass ornamental appearance was evaluated by scales of notes as: excellent (uniform green color, soil coverage higher than 90%, absence of dry leaves and weeds); pleasant (uniform green color, soil coverage between 75 and 90%, low quantity of dry leaves and weeds); not very pleasant (green color moderate uniform, soil coverage between 60 and 75%, moderate quantity of dry leaves and weeds); unpleasant (green color ununiform, soil coverage below 60%, high quantity of dry leaves and weeds). All accesses reached the cutting heights of 7.5 cm, requiring mowing 10 (PN 01) to 14 (PN 02, PN 03, PN 04 and PN 05) times during the period of two to six month after planting. The PN 02, PN 03 and PN 05 accumulated a higher mowing dry biomass, nevertheless reduce the weeds development, demonstrated by lowest dry biomass observed. Greatest weeds dry biomass was observed in the accession AP 01. Based on the excellent appearance demonstrated by the uniform green color, high soil coverage, low quantity of dry leaves and weeds, the accessions PN 01, PN 03 and PN 05 are suitable for Brazilian breeding programs for a functional purpose of native turfgrasses to urban green space.