





PERSONAL INFORMATION



Nikolay Georgiev Zafirov

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 <http://www.ltu.bg>

Sex Male | Date of birth 15/03/1979 | Nationality Bulgarian

POSITION
PERSONAL STATEMENT

Higher education 6. Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine; professional field 6.5. Forestry; specialty "Forestry"; scientific direction "Forest melioration, forest protection and special uses" (Forest Phytopathology)

WORK EXPERIENCE

November 2013 – Present

Chief Assistant Professor in Department of Plant Pathology and Chemistry

University of Forestry – Sofia
10 Kliment Ohridski Blvd., Sofia 1756, Bulgaria
<http://www.ltu.bg>

- Teaching of Forest Phytopathology, Forest Protection, Fundamentals of Plant Protection, Research Approaches and Practical Skills in Ecology
- Participation in the holding of semester exams
- Scientific guidance of Course and Diploma Theses
- Preparation of teaching materials of taught disciplines
- Participation in the research and development of the university, faculty and department

Business or sector Education in the field of higher education and research

October 2008 – November 2013

Director of Directorate "Information Systems, International Cooperation and Public Relations" (January 2012 – November 2013)
Head of Department „Software Design and Development" (February 2010 – December 2011)
Expert – Software Developer (October 2008 – February 2010)

Executive Environment Agency at the Ministry of Environment and Water
136, Tzar Boris III Blvd., 1618 Sofia, Bulgaria
<http://eea.government.bg>

- Planning, coordination and supervision of the activities in the Directorate "Information Systems, International Cooperation and Public Relations"
- Planning, coordination and supervision of the activities in the Department "Software Design and Development"
- National Reference Center for Environmental Information Systems in the EIONET Network of the European Environment Agency
- Conceptual design and development of Information systems for monitoring and processing of environmental data

Business or sector State Administration, Public Institution

February 2006 – October 2008

Specialist – Software Developer

Executive Environment Agency at the Ministry of Environment and Water
136, Tzar Boris III Blvd., 1618 Sofia, Bulgaria
<http://eea.government.bg>

- Conceptual design of Information systems for management and presentation of environmental data
- Development of desktop and web applications for processing database data
- Organization and maintenance of the Agency's Web site and development of Web portal for reporting national assessments of the environment to the European Environment Agency

Business or sector State Administration, Public Institution

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

February 2004 – September 2008

PhD

EQF level 8

University of Forestry – Sofia, Faculty of Ecology and Landscape Architecture, Sofia, Bulgaria

- PhD Thesis Title "Main Phytopathological Stressors in Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.) Plantations in South-Western Bulgaria"

March 2002 – July 2003

Master of Science

EQF level 7

University of Forestry – Sofia, Faculty of Forestry, Sofia, Bulgaria

- Forest Protection

September 1997 – January 2002

Bachelor of Science

EQF level 6

University of Forestry – Sofia, Faculty of Forestry, Sofia, Bulgaria

- Forestry

September 1992 – July 1997

Diploma for secondary education

High School "Konstantin Fotinov", Samokov, Bulgaria

- Mathematics with English Language

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s)

Bulgarian

Other language(s)

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C1	C1	B2	B2	B2
Diplomas – High School "Konstantin Fotinov", University of Forestry – Sofia					
Russian	B1	B1	A1	A1	A2
Diploma					

Levels: A1/2: Basic user - B1/2: Independent user - C1/2 Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Communication skills

- Ability to adapt in international and multicultural environments, gained through participation in international training courses, summer schools, conferences, seminars and workshops.

Organisational / managerial skills

- Organizational and planning abilities, acquired through work as Director of Directorate and Head of Department in government agency. Good knowledge of the day-to-day work in environmental government organizations and universities

Job-related skills

- Teaching, presentation, performing of dendrochronological analyzes of forest health

Digital competence

SELF-ASSESSMENT				
Information processing	Communication	Content creation	Safety	Problem solving
Proficient user	Proficient user	Proficient user	Proficient user	Proficient user

Levels: Basic user - Independent user - Proficient user

[Digital competences - Self-assessment grid](#)

Replace with name of ICT-certificate(s)

Computer skills:

- Operating systems: MS Windows, CentOS Linux, Red Hat Linux
- Office software: MS Office, Open Office
- Software development: Delphi, Pascal, Visual Basic, Java, Python, JavaScript, HTML
- Database management systems: Oracle, MySQL, MS Access
- GIS: ESRI ArcGIS, Quantum GIS, MapInfo
- Statistical software: StatSoft Statistica, R
- Graphic design: Adobe Photoshop

Other skills

- Photography

Driving licence

- B category, clean

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Participation in international scientific networks and scientific projects

- 2014–2016 – Participation in COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) Action – FP1106 STReESS “Studying Tree Responses to extreme Events: a Synthesis” in the domain „Forests, their Products and Services”
- 2015–2016 – Participation in the ESENIAS Network (East and South European Network for Invasive Alien Species) and work in project ESENIAS-TOOLS (ESENIAS – A tool to support the management of alien species in Bulgaria).
- 2015–2016 – Participation in project “Improvement of the Information system to the National System for Biodiversity Monitoring (IBBIS)”, task „Creation of module for collection of data and risk assessment of invasive alien species in Bulgaria”.
- 2016 – Leading of Expert investigation for determination of the age of sample trees by analyzing the dynamics of their radial growth in forest stand in RFD Plovdiv. Assignment №907 to the Scientific Research Sector at the University of Forestry – Sofia.
- 2016 – Leading of Expert investigation for the health condition of dangerous tree in Sofia Municipality - Region "Krasno Selo". Assignment №907 to the Scientific Research Sector at the University of Forestry – Sofia.
- 2014 – Participation in project "Training to enhance the knowledge, skills and competence of management and expert personal of the Food Safety Agency in order to ensure the effective functioning system of phytosanitary control".
- 2005 – Participation in project "Effects of climate on the health condition of Scots pine

plantations in the region of Southwestern Bulgaria", ". Assignment №106 financed by the Scientific Research Sector at the University of Forestry – Sofia.

- 2002 – Participation in Expert investigation of the health of poplars trees along the river Haskovska at blvd. "Bulgaria" in the city of Haskovo. Assignment №709 to the Scientific Research Sector at the University of Forestry – Sofia.

Selected publications and reports on scientific conferences

- Bräuning, A., M. De Ridder, **N. Zafirov**, I. García-González, D. P. Dimitrov, H. Gärtner, 2016. Tree-ring features: Indicators of extreme event impacts. IAWA Journal, vol. 37 (2), pp. 206–231
- Battipaglia, G., F. Campelo, J. Vieira, M. Grabner, V. De Micco, C. Nabais, P. Cherubini, M. Carrer, A. Bräuning, K. Cufar, A. Di Filippo, I. García-González, M. Koprowski, M. Klisz, A. V. Kirdyanov, **N. Zafirov**, M. de Luis, 2016. Structure and Function of Intra–Annual Density Fluctuations: Mind the Gaps. Frontiers in Plant Science, vol. 7, article number 595, doi: 10.3389/fpls.2016.00595.
- Tsavkov, E., **N. Zafirov**, 2016. The English oak at the University Botanic Garden "talks". Leaf, vol. 2, pp. 4–11 (in Bulgarian).
- **Zafirov, N.**, St. Mirtchev, R. Schivacheva, 2015. Dendrochronological assessment of climatic and anthropogenic influences on urban forests in Bulgaria. In: Book of Abstracts from International Scientific Conference in honour of 90 Years Higher Forestry Education in Bulgaria "Forestry: Bridge to the Future", 6–9 May 2015, Park Hotel Moskva, Sofia, Bulgaria, Publishing House of the University of Forestry, Sofia, pp. 108–108.
- Tsvetkov, I., St. Mirtchev, **N. Zafirov**, 2015. Climate-tree ring width relationship in a Cork oak (*Quercus suber* L.) stand in South-Eastern Bulgaria. In: Book of Abstracts from International Scientific Conference in honour of 90 Years Higher Forestry Education in Bulgaria "Forestry: Bridge to the Future", 6–9 May 2015, Park Hotel Moskva, Sofia, Bulgaria, Publishing House of the University of Forestry, Sofia, pp. 102–102.
- **Zafirov, N.**, T. Nanchev, 2014. Relationship between the state of oak forests and the yield of honey dew in Nature Park Strandzha. In: Abstracts of reports from Jubilee Conference "40 years training in ecology, conservation and restoration of the environment", 12–13 June 2014, University of Forestry, Sofia, Bulgaria (in Bulgarian).
- Mirtchev, St., B. Hristov, **N. Zafirov**, 2013. Impact of Horse Chestnut Leaf Miner (*Cameraria ohridella* Deschka et Dimic) on Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum* L.). Dendrochronological Analysis. Journal of Balkan Ecology, vol. 16 (1), Sofia, pp. 63–71.
- Panayotov, M., **N. Zafirov**, P. Cherubini, 2013. Fingerprints of extreme climate events in *Pinus sylvestris* tree rings from Bulgaria. Trees – Structure and Function, vol. 27(1), pp. 211–227.
- Mirtchev, St., **N. Zafirov**, R. Rasheed, 2012. Dendrochronology as a tool for the investigation of forest decline. Forestry Ideas, vol. 18, No 2 (44), University of Forestry Press, Sofia, Proceedings of the Conference "Forestry: Bridge to the Future", 13–15 May, 2010, Sofia, Bulgaria, pp. 117–124.
- **Zafirov, N.**, 2008. Main Phytopathological Stressors in Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.) Plantations in South-Western Bulgaria. Thesis for the award of educational and scientific degree "doctor" in a scientific specialty "Forest melioration, forest protection and special uses" (Forest Phytopathology). University of Forestry, Department of Plant Pathology and Chemistry, Sofia, 146 p.
- Mirtchev, St., **N. Zafirov**, 2008. Climate Reconstruction in Southwestern Bulgaria by Using Pine Tree Ring Records. EFI 2008 Annual Conference Week, September 18–23, 2008, Orvieto, Italy.
- Mirtchev, St., **N. Zafirov**, 2008. Dendroclimatic Analysis for Changes of Air Temperature and Precipitation in Southwestern Bulgaria. Report on the 36th Symposium of the International Forestry Students Association „Forest for the Future”, 3–17 August 2008, Sofia, Bulgaria.
- Tashev, A., St. Mirtchev, S. Stoichev, **N. Zafirov**, 2007. Dendrochronological Analysis of the Influence of Temperature–Precipitation Conditions on the Health of *Quercus thracica* Stef. et Ned. In: Зибзеев Е. Г. & Селютина (ред.). Перспективы развития и проблемы современной ботаники: Материалы I (III) Всероссийской молодежной научно-

практической конференции ботаников в Новосибирске (Новосибирск 17–21 октября 2007 г.), Изд-во СО РАН., Новосибирск, с. 231–233 (in Russian).

- **Zafirov, N.**, 2006. A computer program for analysis of tree-ring chronologies. Forestry Ideas, No. 1-2, University of Forestry Press, Sofia, pp. 44–53 (in Bulgarian).
- **Zafirov, N.**, 2005. Dendroecological analysis of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.) stands in Vitosha Mountain, Bulgaria. In: Proceedings of the "Tree Rings in Archaeology, Climatology and Ecology (TRACE 2005)" Conference, 21–23 April, 2005, Fribourg, Switzerland, pp. 187–193.
- **Zafirov, N.**, D. Ovcharov, 2004. Dendroecological analysis of the impact of forest fires on the radial increment of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.) and Austrian pine (*Pinus nigra* Arn.) cultures in the contact area of the fire. Forestry Ideas, No. 3, University of Forestry Press, Sofia, Proceedings of Jubilee Scientific Conference for Forest Protection. 17–19 November, 2004, Yundola, Bulgaria, pp. 17–25 (in Bulgarian).
- Dimitrov, D., I. Raev, St. Mirtchev, **N. Zafirov**, 2003. Chronology of tree ring series of *Fagus sylvatica* L. from Berkovitsa State Forest Enterprise – Western Balkan Range. In: Proceedings of International Scientific Conference "75 years of the Forest Research Institute of BAS", 1–5 October, 2003, Sofia, Bulgaria, vol. 1, pp. 29–35.
- Mirtchev, St., I. Vakarelov, **N. Zafirov**, N. Simeonova, 2003. Influence of climate conditions on the radial increment of old Common Beech stands (*Fagus sylvatica* L.) in the reserve "Boatin". In: Proceedings of Jubilee Scientific Conference "50 Years University of Forestry – Sofia", 1–2 April, 2003, Sofia, Bulgaria, pp. 257–262 (in Bulgarian).
- Ovcharov, D., D. Doychev, P. Dimitrova, **N. Zafirov**, 2003. Xylophagous insects of order Coleoptera (Insecta) in pine cultures at atypical habitats in UOGS "Petrohan." Part II. Forestry Ideas, No. 1–4, University of Forestry Press, Sofia, c. 97–104 (in Bulgarian).

Papers in the following scientific journals:

- Trees – Structure and Function, Berlin, Germany
- Dendrobiology, Poznan, Poland
- Forestry Ideas, Sofia, Bulgaria

Reviews of papers in scientific journals

- Participation in the International Scientific Committee and the Organizing Committee for International Scientific Conference in honour of 90 Years Higher Forestry Education in Bulgaria "Forestry: Bridge to the Future", 6–9 May 2015, Park Hotel Moskva, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Participation in organizing committees of international scientific conferences

- Participation in the National commission on forest protection under the Executive Forest Agency (Ministry of Agriculture and Foods).

Participation in national expert workgroups

- Октомври 2007 г.
Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg (ALU-FR), Freiburg, Germany
Summer School "Innovative approaches for sustainable management of forest ecosystems under a changing environment"

Certificates from international training courses and summer schools

- Ноември 2006 г.
Brandenburg University of Technology (BTU), Cottbus, Germany
Training Course "Sustainable Forestry – Change of Forest Management: From Man-made towards Natural Forests"
- Септември 2005 г.
National Institute for Agricultural Research, Centre of Nancy (INRA-Nancy), Nancy, France
Summer School "Land use, land-use change and forest history – Impacts on the environment"