# 6.

# **FARMERS' TREE MEMORIAL**

### **BIODIVERSITY / SMALL MAMMALS**



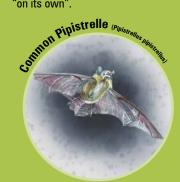
AgriNatur AT-HU

## **BIODIVERSITY OF THE FOREST**

Forest communities provide a significant part of the biodiversity of terrestrial areas. The complexity of forest ecosystems is important for all organisms. Forest trees absorb carbon dioxide and provide oxygen. Forests provide habitat for nearly 80% of terrestrial plant and animal species. Tree roots bind the soil, controlling soil erosion. For humans, the forest is a natural place for recharging and recreation.



Conscious forest management does not involve the removal of undergrowth and deadwood, and new trees are planted in place of felled trees. There is also a need for forests that serve gene conservation, where we allow plants to develop on their own, without human intervention, where the forest grows "on its own".



One of the smallest bats. Active at dusk and at night. Its hunting range is varied, so the Pipistrelle can be found wherever there are large wooded areas and settlements. It mostly hunts



The Mole has a cylindrical body with strong forelegs and a thick coat of black fur. Its whole physique is adapted to an underground lifestyle. Its presence is indicated by molehilis, which are the "by-products" of the burrowing process. It feeds on the insects runs, and worms found within its funel system.



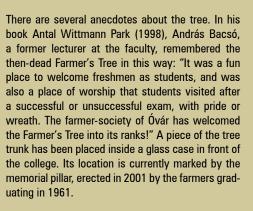
A common inhabitant of our wooded parks. Usually, it can be found at the canopy level of the trees. It has the characteristic of chewing on pine cones and we can detect its presence by the discarded partially-eaten pine cones. It is a protected species in Hunnary.



The Hedgehog can be found in wooded, shrubby areas, as well as in populated settlements. It starts looking for food at dusk, which consists mainly of earthworms and snalls, but it also eats fallen fruit and eggs. Its spines are thickened fur formations. It is a protected species in Hunoary.

#### **FARMER'S TREE**

Until the 1980s, one of the park's attractions was a nearly 300-year-old black poplar, known as the Farmer's Tree. When the park was planted (1813-1817), after the swamp had been drained, sycamores and pine trees were planted, but the centuries-old poplars were also preserved. According to a 1964 survey, there were 26 trees of this species in the park, including the "Farmer's Tree". The size of the country's largest and oldest black poplar tree was determined by Dr. Gábor Tersztyánszky and Dr. István Németh, faculty members: the tree was about 30 metres high, with a diameter at the base of about 13 metres (7 adults could hug around it), and the cavity could hold 8-10 people. In 1987, it did not sprout due to a fire in its cavity - presumably deliberate arson.







#### BLACK POPLAR (Populus nigra)

In Hungary it occurs mainly in the lowlands. A dioecious, large tree, which grows up to 30 metres. It has thick, spreading branches and a wide canopy. The bark is light grey, deeply grooved and cracked. In 2022, we planted one specimen in the place of the Farmer's Tree when the path was created.

#### TAKE A LOOK AT THE MEMORIAL PILLAR!

The four columns of the pillar represent the four years spent at the Academy, the smaller columns the decreasing number of students, the steel bands the friendships formed over the years. The stalk of wheat at the top of the column is a symbol of professional maturity, the completion of studies. Make a "sculpture" of natural materials (stone, wood) for your garden or home that has meaning for you!







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