

ECOSYSTEM STATION

Name: Bosco Fontana (IT-BFt)

Location (lat-long): Marmirolo MN (Po valley, Italy), 45,2022 – 10.7427, 37 m

a.s.l..

Environment: Oak-Hornbeam forest.

Operational history: 2012 – present.

Scientific purpose: To understand the gas (greenhouse and non-greenhouse

ones) exchange between the forest and the atmosphere using the eddy covariance technique for the measurement

of the fluxes.

Station description: The Bosco Fontana (BF) station is a micrometeorological

tower located in the middle of the Po valley, in the northern

Italy.

The BF station main peculiarities are the location, a very polluted area with intense agriculture activity, and the extension of the forest, 230 ha, since no such big forests are still present in the Po valley. The forest, 26 m tall, is an Oak-Hornbeam forest (nearly 70% of the coverage is constituted by these two species) and it is a relic of the original Po Valley

forests.

The tower is 40 m tall and is equipped on the top with micrometeorological instrumentation for the measurement of turbulent fluxes (H, LE, CO₂, O₃, PM) with the eddy covariance technique. Vertical profiles of CO₂, NO, NO₂, O₃ concentration, temperature and relative humidity are measured too. Additional measurements are available on the top of the tower (net radiation, rainfalls, total/incident/diffuse PAR, atmospheric pressure) and at the bottom (soil water content and temperature, soil heat flux). Soil CO₂ fluxes are measured too with an automated

homemade system.

Measured ICOS core parameters: Turbulent fluxes of CO₂, H and LE. Vertical profile of CO₂, air

temperature and relative humidity, net radiation, rainfalls, total/incident/diffuse PAR, atmospheric pressure, soil water content and temperature, soil heat flux, soil CO₂ fluxes.

Measured ICOS desirable parameters: Many ICOS parameters are measured but with

instrumentation which is not included in the ICOS protocols

so an instrument upgrade would be desirable.

Other measured parameters: O₃ fluxes, O₃, NO and NO2 vertical profile, PM fluxes (for

short campaigns).

Responsible organization: Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Principal investigator: Giacomo Gerosa (giacomo.gerosa@unicatt.it)

Data manager: Angelo Finco (angelo.finco@unicatt.it)
Funding: Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Air temperature and PAR probes on the top of the tower



Automated system for soil CO₂ fluxes



Radiation probes on the top of the tower



Micrometeorological instrumentation on the top of the tower



