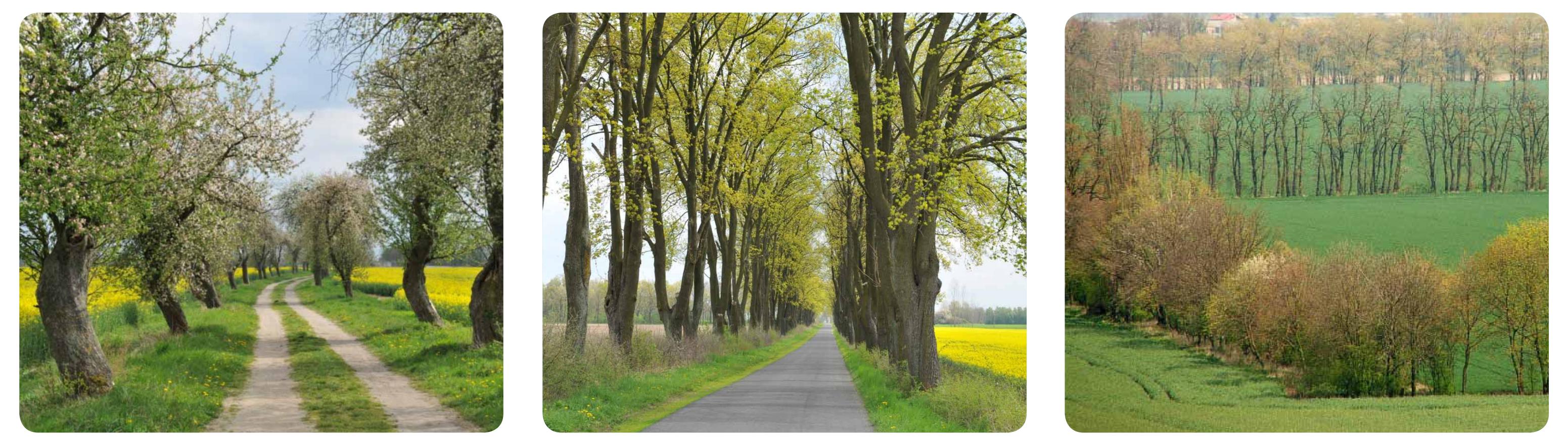
Trees around fields: a substitute of agroforestry in homogenous European landscapes

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Value



Fruit trees along field roads have provided fruit, shelter for pollinators and birds, and improved microclimate.

Tradition of planting trees along roads in Europe originated in 18th century. Trees became a part of road construction design.

Hedgerows and avenues provided farms with fodder and timber. Now their role to mitigate impacts of changing climate is even more crucial for agriculture.

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Threats

Roots of this old oak have been damaged by tilling. "We like our fields clean" – said a Spanish farmer.

We are loosing roadside trees and hedgerows due to road upgrade, intensification of agriculture, land consolidation.

Improper care practices shorten tree lifespan and damage its' stability.



What to do?



More info on hedgerows and rural avenues in the publication available at drzewa.org.pl/en/knowledge

Trees in rural areas

-best practice and

recommendations

Road services should be involved in avenue restoration. Planting trees with communities increases public acceptance of trees.

Trees need proper care – young trees need to be properly formed and watered when needed.



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