

Hannah Koch, Florian Weidinger, Simone Gingrich, 2026:
Wald- und Forststatistiken der österreichischen Kronländer (Cisleithanien) im langen 19. Jahrhundert
Materialien zur Umweltgeschichte Österreichs Nr. 9
Wien, Mai 2026

Abstract

This volume accompanies a publicly accessible dataset of historical forest and forestry statistics for the Austrian crown lands in the long nineteenth century. It was created within the FWF project “The Industrialization of Austria’s Forests, 1766–1914 (INFEST)” at the Institute of Social Ecology and aims to quantify biophysical change, in particular biomass stocks and biomass flows, in order to provide an empirical basis for further work and to make the long-term consequences of historical forest use visible for contemporary sustainability questions. The dataset assembles and expands records at the crown-land level. It includes, among other variables, forest area by tree species groups, management regimes, tenure categories, and silvicultural systems such as high forest, coppice with standards, and coppice, as well as timber harvest and increment, and areas subject to servitudes. The dataset is presented in German to remain as close as possible to the original sources, but it also includes an English translation. The volume documents the source base, data capture logic, and processing steps, explains inconsistencies and outliers, and points to complementary data sources. It serves as a methodological guide and user orientation, and as an invitation to reuse the materials in new research contexts.