

Comments and Reviews (extracts)

...the most exhaustive study ever presented about the hedges, hedged banks, field walls and the full range of field boundaries found in Europe...It will be the main source of information about these important cultural assets and their links to the landscape and agricultural history. Any future research in this area will be based on this book, which will serve as a reference in this field for the unforeseeable future... Prof. em. Drs. Dr. h.c. Heinrich E. Weber, December 2013 (Germany)

...an epic work of literature on the occurrence and history of this part of our cultural landscapes, both ancient and recent... All the information, pictures and maps etc have thoroughly been researched, and so are of high documentary and investigative value for studies on European cultural landscapes... Prof. Dr. Uwe Meiners. Cloppenburg August 2012 (Germany)

...Georg Müller has written a fabulous book which will be a standard reference tome for years to come. ... Apart from the detailed text, the book includes excellent photographs and diagrams illustrating the different types of field boundary and their variants... Professor Dr. John W. Dover University Stoke- on- Trent, December 2012 (Great Britain)

...Today I received your very impressive two volumes of Europe's field boundaries. Congratulations with this milestone ! It will be of great help for my lectures in landscape history at the University of Groningen... Prof. Dr. ir. Theo Spek, Dezember 2013 (Netherlands)

...great overview of important aspects of the cultural landscape. Henk Baas, January 2014 (Netherlands)

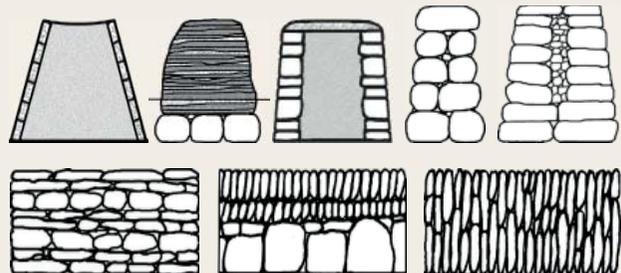
...It will be recognised as the standard work on Europe's cultural landscapes and will earn a wider attention outside the German speaking countries... Dr. Benoît Sittler, Landscape Management, University of Freiburg, February 2014 (Germany)

...they are fascinating and I know of no other such books. They give an insight in to a long neglected area of study... Patrick McAfee, Dublin, January 2014 (Ireland)

I congratulate you for this extraordinary work! Fantastic! Dr. Francesco Bellù, Italy (April 2014)

Overall, an extremely thorough and comprehensive work that provides the most accurate definitions, descriptions, information and cultural history available on the subject. Greatest respect for this comprehensive work in a hitherto sadly neglected area of landscape analysis! November 25, 2014 Dr. rer. nat. Andreas Zehm, Graduate Biologist (ANL publications and editors, Bavarian Academy for Nature Conservation and Landscape Management

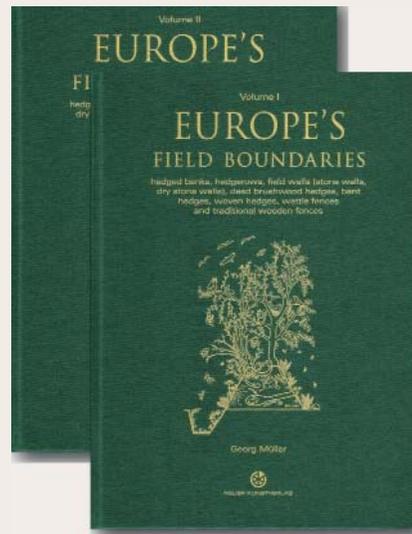
Further information about the book on the website
www.wallhecke.de



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Awarded
the **Golden medlar**
(Gouden Mispel) 2014
by the Association
Netherlands cultural
landscape

... for his extremely precise
create overview and definition of a pan-European formative cultural expression: the European field boundaries recognize and reward....



Price: 298 € (Volumes 1 and 2, 1280 pages), plus any delivery costs (free within Germany) and outside of the Euro zone any applicable customs, banking and currency exchange.

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EUROPE'S FIELD BOUNDARIES

hedged banks, hedgerows, field walls (stone walls, dry stone walls), dead brushwood hedges, bent hedges, woven hedges, wattle fences and traditional wooden fences



Georg Müller

Field boundaries such as hedged banks, hedges and field walls are found in widely differing forms across Europe. Mostly they enclose areas used for agriculture. They mark the boundary of property, provide a barrier to grazing animals and are closely associated with the history of the cultural landscape, they are an important and distinctive part of the common European heritage. Field boundaries feature in many landscape types - hedges, and wall landscapes are beautiful landscapes -they are also essential living space, or habitat, for many organisms.

For the first time this book provides a wide ranging overview of the field boundaries found in Europe. An overview of the worldwide history, formation and geographical range of field boundaries is also detailed. This piece of work is the result of intense research that took over 30 years. This involved author visiting 32 European countries one or more times (52 countries worldwide). In doing so, 240,000 kilometres were covered by car and around 15,000 - 20,000 km covered on foot. In addition over 50,000 photos were taken and hundreds of drawings and sketches.

The book is aimed not only at landscape researchers and landscape designers, but also geographers, conservationists, landscape gardeners, foresters, hedge layers and dry stone wallers. Those who are interested in the origin, purpose and conservation of these important elements of our European cultural landscape will also find the text of interest.

The two-volume work amounts to 1280 pages and its dimensions are 29.7 x 22.2 cm including the cover and binding. The volumes include 4433 photos and 1381 other illustrations, such as drawings of field boundary types, hedge styles, diagrams and old painting of Europe. The work is presented in full-colour and is available in both German and English languages.



It provides a detailed documentation of hedged banks, hedges, field walls and traditional fences based on results from a survey undertaken over a period of 30 years in which photos were taken, drawings made, descriptions written and measurements were taken. This project was solely financed by the author. The appearance, function, characteristics, condition and woody growth as well as the different uses of the field boundaries are covered in detail. So too are the methods of cutting woody growth, weaving, bending and other types of maintenance. The loss of field boundaries, the extent of damage and the causes of damage, as well as newly built examples are also described.

The book is split into two volumes. The first volume provides an overview of Europe, while the second volume is dedicated to detailed descriptions of the different countries surveyed.

The historical description of field boundaries ranges from the Palaeolithic Age up to the present day. The hedged banks, field walls (dry stone walls and stone banks), dead brushwood fences, stick picket fences, woven vertical branch fences, wattle fences and other traditional fences are summarised, classified and their distribution illustrated.

The woody growth on the banks and field walls is assessed and standardised. The tree and woody growth is evaluated and set out in tables.

In addition, about 170 different earth banks, 160 stone faced banks, 10 peat banks, 330 field walls, 240 hedge styles, 70 dead brushwood hedges, stick picket fences, vertical branch fences, wattle fences and other traditional wooden fences are depicted in diagrams. Other types are described and illustrated.

The significance of hedged banks and field walls to the farming industry is also discussed as well as the economic implications of the creation of new ones. The effect of excessive cutting of woody growth on yields is also detailed.

A brief overview of the international agreements and EU responsibilities regarding the protection of hedged banks and other landscape elements is given.

The ecological significance of hedged banks and hedges is described with the help of examples.

The numerous methods of cutting and maintenance, as well as their influence on the hedge and woody growth structure, on the organisms therein and on the character of the landscape, are presented in detail.

The use of woody growth from field boundaries as a source of wood fuel and the impacts of this are also detailed.

The European chapter ends with a general overview of the types of damage which affect field boundaries, the reasons for loss and also the construction of new hedge banks and field walls.

This is followed by detailed information on the individual countries surveyed as presented below.

There is a named explanation of the technical terms followed by the respective register at the end of every ribbon.

