Risk perception in forest utilizations: experimental analysis in the Basilicata forest sites.

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**Abstract.** The present legal framework for the protection of health and safety in the workplace, established by Legislative Decree 81/2008, has identified the “work-related stress” as one of the risks to be assessed, according to the contents of European Agreement of 8 October 2004, and the importance of its management.

The present analysis deals with an important subject as the workplace safety, in particular the risk perception and the work-related stress of the operators in the agro-forestry sector.

The sampling plan was based on the delivery of structured questionnaire.

A total of 378 operators participated in the survey (171 women and 207 men).

The overall response rate for the survey was 100%.

Results showed that the accident and safety sector cannot be and should not be considered only as a repressive instrument to identify specific violations or responsibilities to be punished.

It must instead be considered as a tool for better identifying measures and strategies to eliminate or to minimise the risk perception and the work – related stress in the same or in a similar working environment.