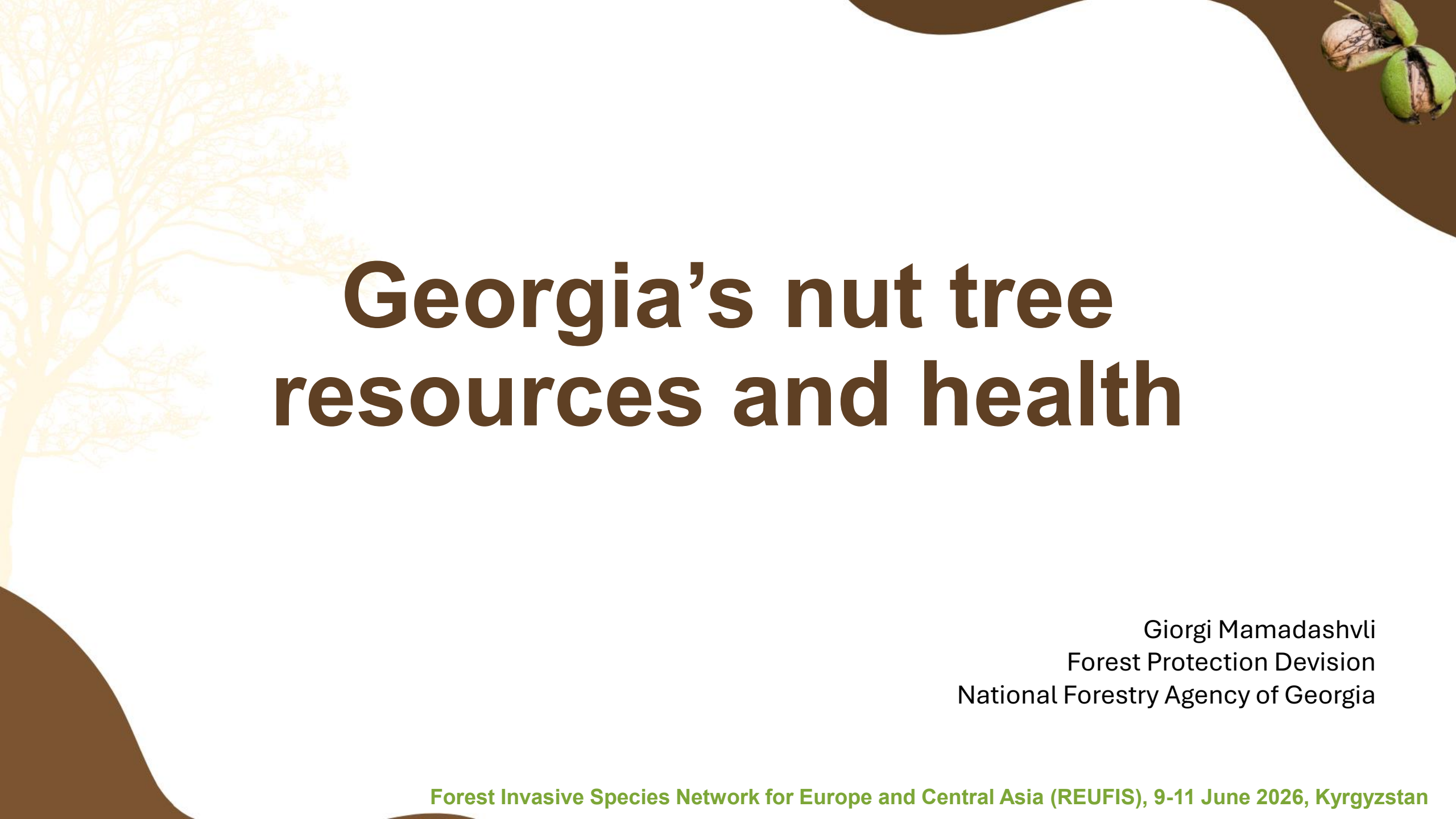




Georgia's nut tree resources and health

Giorgi Mamadashvli
Forest Protection Division
National Forestry Agency of Georgia

Main nut tree species and distribution



- N1 – **Hazelnut**: the most popular / exporting in EU countries
Suitable climate makes easy (cheaper) for hazelnut production, with lower price / competing with Turkish traders
- N2 – Less popular but still exported - **Walnut**
No large plantations, harvested less, price is high
- N3 – **Almond** in process of development
Industrial plantations are creating on larger areas, mostly in eastern Georgia
- N-4 – **Pistachio** / very fresh steps
Only few plantations started to harvest Pistachio nuts
- N-5 **Chestnut** / never was in trade
And it might never happen... chestnut blight and chestnut gall wasp

Main uses of nut trees

- Local - Georgian cuisine

Many Georgian traditional dishes are “dressed” by nuts (mostly hazelnut)

- Local - snacks and sweet desserts / pastry
- *Chocolate, cake, cookie*



- Trade internationally – all purposes...

Trade (import/export) of nut products and germplasm



Past years 2020-present

- Hazelnut – 50 000 t
- Walnut – 3000 t
- Almond – 2500 t
- Pistachio – 200 t
- Chestnut – no valuable info

According to GeoStatistics:

Top N1 is Hazelnut/walnut. But Almond is traded mostly locally, as the price is higher here than abroad...

The needs are increasing on Almond, walnut and pistachio too

Main insect pests and diseases of nut trees in the country



Hazelnut Pests – Ambrosia beetles, hazelnut weevil (*Curculio nucum*), Brown marmorated stink bug (*Halyomorpha halys*), aphids... *Phytoptus avellanae*, *Obera linearis*.

Diseases - bacterial blight (*Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *corylina*), Verticillium wilt (*Verticillium dahliae*) anthracnose (e.g. *Gloeosporium coryli*), brown rot (*Monilinia spp.*) and grey mold (*Botrytis cinerea*).

Almond Pest - *Grapholita molesta*, *Eurytoma amygdali*, aphids and mites...

Diseases – Moniliosis (*Brown Rot*), Verticillium wilt (*Verticillium dahliae*), Anthracnose (*Colletotrichum spp.*), Phytophthora root and crown rot (*Phytophthora spp.*).

Walnut Pests - Walnut husk fly (*Rhagoletis complete*), Codling moth (*Cydia pomonella*).

Diseases – Walnut blight (*Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *Juglandis*), Anthracnose (*Ophiognomonia leptostyla*), Verticillium wilt (*Verticillium dahlia*), Phytophthora root and crown rot – *Phytophthora spp.*

Current pest and disease control methods used in the country

- **Pests** – Insecticides and/or yellow sticky traps, collecting all damaged fruits (Mechanical).
 - **Diseases** - collect all the damaged branches, clean from the leftovers of the infested parts of the trees
- Treatment** with copper solutions – spray on early spring

Needs/challenges in management of pest and diseases

Capacity building, infrastructure, bio/eco methods – less pressure on Ecology)



A light green silhouette of a tree with many branches, located on the left side of the slide.Three walnuts, one green and two brown, located in the top right corner of the slide.

Thank you for your attention!

Giorgi Mamadashvli
Forest Protection Division
National Forestry Agency of Georgia