

## Vegetation of limestone outcrops in Western and Central Podillia (Ukraine)

### Vegetation von Kalksteinausbissen in West- und Mittelpodolien (Ukraine)

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#### Abstract

This article characterises limestone outcrop vegetation. Such communities grow on limestone, chalk, gypsum and other kinds of rocks of the Devon and Paleogene period dispersed throughout Western and Central Podillia. The relief, geological structure, soil, distribution factors caused by climate, specificity and diversity of the communities and their particular floristic qualities are highlighted. The history of phytocoenological investigations of limestone outcrop communities in Ukraine is also shown. Syntaxonomical and ecological assessments with critical analyses and evaluations of 118 relevés, including bryophytes and lichens, were conducted based on scientific papers. Research activity involved the formation of a database with the help of TURBOVEG, processing the data with JUICE and creating clusters with the help of the Modified TWINSPLAN algorithm and OptimClass. The resulting communities were assigned to two classes: the class *Festuco-Brometea* (order *Brachypodietalia pinnati*, alliance *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati* [*Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae*, *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori*] and order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*, alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* [*Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis*, *Poetum versicoloris*]) and the class *Sedo-Scleranthea* (order *Alysso-Sedetalia*, alliance *Alysso-Sedion* [*Bryo argentei-Ajagetum chiae*, *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolicii*]). Characteristics of the syntaxa are given, especially in case of newly described syntaxa. Syntaxonomical assignments were based on our preliminary results and need to be integrated into the comprehensive analyses of data from different countries. Based on the ECODID database (DIDUKH 2011), we considered 12 environmental factors to justify the position and assessment of syntaxa along environmental scales. Finally, some disputable questions regarding the syntaxonomical position of limestone outcrop communities are discussed.

**Keywords:** dry grassland, *Festuco-Brometea*, *Sedo-Scleranthea*, vegetation classification, Ukraine

#### Erweiterte deutsche Zusammenfassung am Ende des Artikels

#### 1. Introduction

In Ukraine syntaxonomy began to develop on the basis of floristic data in the 1980s (late 20<sup>th</sup> century) and was mainly dedicated to the zonal types of vegetation and to vegetation with developed coenotic structure. These types were classified based on the rich geobotanical data of Ukraine. Petrophytic communitites were omitted by Ukrainian geobotanists

because the dominants were not clear in the coenotic structure of the communities. Moreover, the cryptogam layer was ignored in such communities. However, these original communities have various coenotic structures, which have developed from specific floristic compositions of different genesis. For this reason, these types of communities have attracted a substantial amount of attention from Western Europe and are the cause of heated discussions.

Since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the classification of the dry grassland of Podillia, as well as the genesis of this vegetation and flora, has raised great interest amongst botanists. KLEOPOV (1928), KOCZWARA (1931), GAJEWSKI (1937), ZAVERUKHA (1986) and DIDUKH et al. (1982) distinguished Pontic, Sarmatian and Illyrian mountain elements, which together determine the complex mosaic of communities and their specificity, which complicates their syntaxonomy. In particular, the communities contain eastern varieties of species from the southwestern Balkan (*Astragalus monspessulanus*, *Festuca pallens*), which have genetic connections with Siberian-Altaic (*Helictotrichon desertorum*, *Allium obliquum*), southern Pontic (*Ephedra distachya*, *Caragana frutex*), Sarmatian (*Carex humilis*, *Adonis vernalis*) or Mediterranean (*Helianthemum canum*, *Sedum hispanicum*) elements, among which endemic species (*Schivereckia podolica*, *Poa versicolor*, *Thymus moldavicus*) were described. Some of them are dominant, others are rare, and all this together determines the originality and specificity of vegetative communities, which causes controversial debates about their syntaxonomic affiliation. Therefore, the syntaxonomic system and the placement of individual syntaxa are constantly being revised.

The first works on the classification of xerothermic slope vegetation of Western Podillia were those of KOCZWARA (1931), who described the communities of *Seslerietum heufleriae*, *Caricetum montanae* and *Avenetum desertorum*. In the Soviet period from 1939 to 1991, the classification was carried out on the dominant principles, and since 1992 scientists have been working on an ecologic-floristic basis using the Braun-Blanquet approach.

KUKOVYTSIA et al. (1992) described the alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris*, in which they included the three associations *Poetum versicoloris*, *Adonido vernalis-Stipetum tirsae* and *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori*, which, however, differ significantly in species composition and ecology and can thus not be considered within the framework of one alliance.

ONYSHCHENKO (2001) described two new associations, *Minuartio auctae-Festucetum pallentis* and *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici*, and included them in the alliance *Alysso-Sedetalia* of the order *Alysso-Sedion*. ABDULOIEVA (2002) included the associations *Stipetum pulcherrimae*, *Poetum versicoloris* and *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici* in the class *Sedo-Scleranthetea* (alliance *Alysso-Sedion*, which was presented as a synonym for *Alysso-Festucion pallentis*) and the association *Minuartio auctae-Festucetum pallentis* in the alliance *Helinthemo cani-Festucion pallentis*. KOROTCHENKO (2004) suggested that the association with the dominance of *Poa versicolor* does not belong to the alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* and pointed out that such communities grow on eroded, well-washed slopes and should therefore be included in the alliance *Artemisio marschalliani-Elytrigion intermediae* within the order *Festucetalia valesiacae*.

DIDUKH & VASHENIAK (2012), who characterised the steppe vegetation of Central Podillia, assigned the communities of the association *Poetum versicoloris* to the alliance *Bromo-Festucion pallentis* (order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*), which was further confirmed by the research of WILLNER et al. (2017). KUZEMKO et al. (2014) carried out a critical revision of the syntaxa of carbonate deposits and crystalline rocks and concluded

that these syntaxa belong to the communities of the class *Koelerio-Corynephoretea*, orders *Sedo-Scleranthetalia* and *Alysso-Sedetalia*. Apart from that, the community *Allium podolicum-Sedum acre* was outlined as a synonym of the association *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici*, which occurs on outcrops of crystalline rocks; thus, these acidophilic communities were included in the alliance *Sedo albi-Veronicion dillenii*, order *Sedo-Scleranthetalia*.

In many of these works (excluding the latest), the relevés made in previous decades, which were carried out in large areas ( $10\text{ m} \times 10\text{ m}$ ) and could be very heterogeneous in structure, did not include bryophytes and lichens and were not critically analysed with respect to syntaxa of neighbouring regions, especially the relevés of types that had not been described at that time. For the interpretation of the selected syntaxa, the Polish syntaxonomic scheme (MATUSZKIEWICZ 2001) generally considered xerophytic herbal communities to be part of the alliance *Cirsio-Brachypodion*, but the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* was not mentioned in most scientific papers. In recent years the revision of the volume of orders (*Brachypodietalia pinnati*, *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*, *Alysso-Sedetalia*) and their limits (JANIŠOVÁ 2010, DENGLER et al. 2012, JANIŠOVÁ et al. 2014, MUCINA et al. 2016) significantly changed the picture of the placement of syntaxa of subordinate ranks (alliances, associations); therefore, the obtained material is important for the further improvement of the ecologic-floristic classification of carbonate outcrop communities. Such material will form the basis that in the future, in the framework of international cooperation based on a comparative analysis of the data of neighbouring countries (Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Poland, Moldova), will allow an assessment of the positions of the corresponding syntaxa in the higher category system and to distinguish them from the former system.

## 2. Study area

The Podillia Upland is characterised by a relatively dissected relief and adjoins the Carpathian Mountains on the Southwest and the Polissia flatland on the North. The Podilska Upland occupies the western and partly central region of Ukraine and can be seen as the analogue of the Malopolska Upland, which adjoins the Eastern Carpathian and the Tatra Mountains. In administrative terms the territory belongs to the regions Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Khmelnytsky and Vinnitsa and borders Moldova on the South (Fig. 1). The upland forms a wide strip of 580 km in length and 180 km in width, with an altitude from 180 to 400 m above sea level (the highest point at Kamula Town is 471 m). In the North and West, it looks like steep hilly strands (Holohory, Voroniaky, Kremenets Mountains) with an elevation of 200 m in relation to the nearby plains. In the Southwest it is separated by the valley of the Dnister River from the raised part of the Precarpathian Mountains, to the East it gradually tapers into the Dnieper Canyon, and to the Southeast it extends to the Black Sea Lowland. In geostructural terms it represents a monocline, which is basically filled with carbonate sediments of different ages (from the Silurian Devonian to the Paleogene) and of various structures (limestone, marl, chalk and gypsum) (BONDARCHUK 1959). These deposits are cut through by river valleys with meandering channels and canyon-like banks, all of which form a wide variety of petrophytic communities. Depending on the exposure, the surrounding steppe, structure of the substrate and accumulation of soil, various types of petrophytic communities have formed.



**Fig. 1.** Location of the study area and the study sites (dots) in western Ukraine.

**Abb. 1.** Lage des Untersuchungsgebiets und der Untersuchungsflächen (Punkte) in der West-Ukraine.

Such a geographical position generates discussions about the zonation of the territory as part of the Pontic-Pannonian province. DIDUKH & SHELYAG-SOSONKO (2003) put the boundary for this territory on the Tovtry Ridge, between the Central European forest, where the steppes are conditioned by edaphic factors, and the Ukrainian forest-steppe, where the steppes are conditioned by climatic-zonal features. The territory is limited to the Central Podillian geobotanical districts of Pokutsko-Medoborskyi and Pivnichno-Podilskyi.

The climate of Central and Western Podillia is moderately continental with mild winters and a relatively warm, wet summer (the average annual temperature is 7.1 °C (Kremenets Town) to 8.1 °C (Kamyanets-Podilsky Town), average for July is 18 °C (Lviv City) to 19.8 °C (Kamyanets-Podilsky Town), the average temperature for January is -4 °C (Lviv City) to -5.2 °C (Kremenets Town), and the range in annual precipitation is from 600 to 750 mm. The hydrothermal coefficient of Selyaninov for this region is 1 (1.3–2.1), which indicates a sufficient level of atmospheric humidification (LIPINSKY et al. 2003).

The Dniester Canyon deserves special attention: The average annual temperature is raised to 7.3 °C, and the “subtropical effect” is observed. In geobotanical terms it manifests itself by the fact that many southern (even Crimean) species appear far to the North.

The largest area is occupied by grey podzolised soils, which are formed in forests under hornbeam-oak and hornbeam forests, but under the grass-meadow steppes and oak forests with a rich grass cover, podzolised and typical black earth soils are formed, and on limestone and marls, rendzinas occur, which are washed-off outcrops and pass into lithosols. Rendzinas are characterised by a high content of carbonates of 90–93%, which decreases in the forests to 42–53%. The pH in the soil profile rises from 7.2–7.6 in the upper horizons to 7.7–7.9 in the lower horizons, whereas the humus content decreases from 12–15% to 2.8–3.5%. The ratio of Cg: Cf is 2.16–3.26 (HARBAR 2016).

### 3. Methods

#### 3.1 Vegetation data sampling

The field sampling was carried out in Western and Central Podillia at different periods of time (1977, 2008–2011, 2015–2016). The main part of the data (84 relevés) was sampled in the years 2015–2016 on normal plots of 10 m<sup>2</sup> using the sampling approach of the EDGG expeditions (DENGLER et al. 2016) by recording vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens to obtain complete relevés. These relevés have been positioned randomly in the region. We collected header data using “GARMIN eTrex H”, compass and portable inclinometer to measure longitude and latitude, altitude, slope and exposition. Maps (1 : 400 000) of the distribution of the syntaxa were created using ArcGIS 10. Moreover, we added published relevés (six relevés with plot sizes of 10 m<sup>2</sup>) from Central Podillia (KUZEMKO et al. 2014) and unpublished relevés (28 relevés with plot sizes of approximately 10–20 m<sup>2</sup>) of Y.P. Didukh, Y. Vasheniac and Y. Rozenblit to complete the data of vegetation of limestone outcrops in Western and Central Podillia. The taxonomy of vascular plants followed the checklist of MOSYAKIN & FEDORONCHUK (1999), for bryophytes we used the checklist of BOIKO (2008) and for lichens the checklist of KONDRAKYUK (1998). All data sampled in the years 2015–2016 were stored in the Ukrainian Grassland Database (UGD) (KUZEMKO 2012) as EU-UA-001 in GIVD and in the European Vegetation Archive (EVA) (CHYTRÝ et al. 2016). For the article a total of 118 relevés were used, and a database was developed using TURBOVEG (HENNEKENS 2009). We used the most typical 90 relevés representing the syntaxa of the vegetation of limestone outcrops in the phytocoenological tables (Supplements S2–S3).

#### 3.2 Vegetation data analysis

Data processing was carried out using JUICE (TICHÝ 2002), applying the Modified TWINSPAN algorithm for the formation of clusters (minimum number of groups: 2, pseudospecies cut levels: 0, 5 and 25%; Simpson coefficient) (ROLEČEK et al. 2009). To distinguish individual ecological clusters, we used OptimClass (TICHÝ & CHYTRÝ 2009). Diagnostic species were determined using the *phi* fidelity coefficient (CHYTRÝ et al. 2002). Species with  $0.25 \leq \text{phi} < 0.50$  (shaded in light grey in the synoptic table) were considered as diagnostic, species with  $\text{phi} \geq 0.50$  (shaded in dark grey in the synoptic table) as highly diagnostic. Fisher's exact test was used at  $p > 0.05$  to exclude statistically insignificant values. In addition, constant and dominant species were defined in the JUICE program. Species with a frequency of 25% or more, but less than 50% (shaded in light grey in the synoptic table) were considered as constant, species with a frequency of more than 50% (shaded in dark grey in the synoptic table) as highly constant. Species with a total coverage of more than 25% in the herb layer were considered as dominant. The correlation coefficient was calculated in Microsoft Excel, based on the formula for determining the Pearson correlation coefficient. Correlation coefficients of more than 0.5, which indicates a medium to high positive correlation between environmental factors, are highlighted in bold in Table 1. To compare environmental factors and their interdependence, we built a dendrogram based on the averaged indexes of 12 environmental factors (Didukh's scales) calculated for each cluster using STATISTICA 10.0. Isolated syntaxa were identified using the critical analyses from publications of national and foreign researchers (KUKOVYTSIA 1971, 1973, ROYER 1991, KOROTCHENKO & DIDUKH 1997, ABDULOIEVA & DIDUKH 1999, ABDULOIEVA 2002, KOROTCHENKO 2004, DENGLER & LÖBEL 2006, SOLOMAKHA 2008, JANÍŠOVÁ 2010, KOROTCHENKO et al. 2009a, b, KUZEMKO 2009, 2011, DENGLER et al. 2012, DIDUKH & VASHENIAC 2012, JANÍŠOVÁ et al. 2014, KUZEMKO et al. 2014, WILLNER et al. 2017). For

clarification we used the protogues of associations, alliances and orders (KLIKA 1931, ZÓLYOMI 1936, SOÓ 1959, 1962, MORAVEC 1967, POP 1968, 1991, KUKOVYTSIA et al., 1992, 1994, KOROTCHENKO & DIDUKH 1997, ONYSCHENKO 2001).

New associations and subassociations were described in accordance with the International Code of Phytosociological Nomenclature (WEBER et al. 2000). The ecological analysis of the communities included an assessment of their leading environmental factors, based on the methodology of synphytoindication using the ECODID database. Phytoindication scales of Y. Didukh (DIDUKH 2011), which are comparable to the Ellenberg scales and reflect amplitude indexes of the species, were used. They are characterised by the following dimensions: soil humidity (Hd – 23 grades), variability of damping (fH – 11 grades), soil acidity (Rc – 15 grades), total salt regime (Sl – 19 grades), carbonate content (Ca – 13 grades), nitrogen content (Nt – 11 grades), aeration of the soil (Ae – 15 grades), thermoregime of the climate (Tm – 17 grades), humidity of the climate (Om – 23 grades), continentality of the climate (Kn – 17 grades), cryoregime of the climate (Cr – 15 grades) and lightness in the community (Lc – 9 grades).

A detrended correspondence analysis (DCA) (HILL 1980) was carried out with R (R CORE TEAM 2016, cf. DALGAARD 2008), which made it possible to reveal the features of the distribution of syntaxa along ecological scales (DIDUKH & PLYTA 1994).

## 4. Vegetation classification

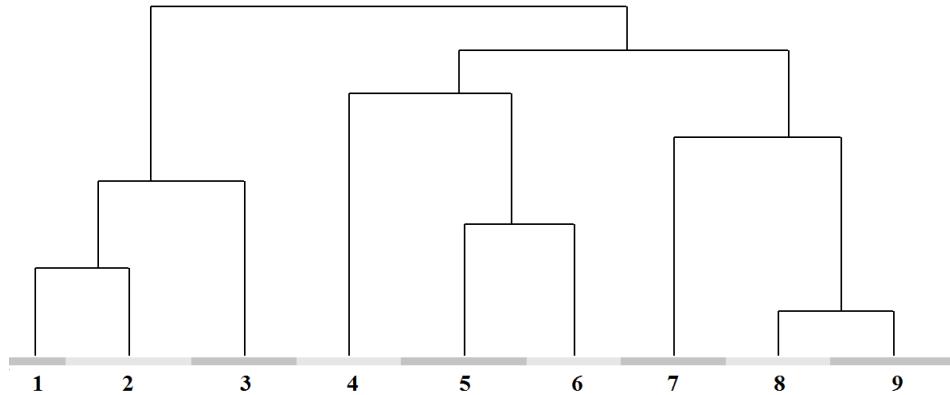
### 4.1 Cluster analysis and syntaxonomy of the communities

Data from those relevés that represent vegetation on outcrops of carbonate rocks were processed by cluster analysis. To determine the optimal number of clusters, we used the Modified TWINSPLAN algorithm and Optimclass. As can be seen from Figure 2, there are two cluster groups at the highest level (the second group is divided into two subgroups) corresponding to the syntaxa at the level of alliances, with the first cluster group being slightly remote from the rest (Supplement S4). The first cluster group can be provisionally identified as communities that occur in moist, shaded ecotopes with low lighting. The analysis of diagnostic species (*Bupleurum falcatum*, *Sesleria heuflerana*, *Ranunculus zapalowiczii*, *Inula ensifolia*, *Anemone sylvestris*, *Thesium linophyllum*, *Linum catharticum* and others) and ecological conditions of the communities indicate that they belong to the alliance *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati* (order *Brachypodietalia pinnati*, class *Festuco-Brometea*). The second and third cluster subgroups represent vegetation of dry, well-warmed and lightened ecotopes.

The second cluster subgroup corresponds to the alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* of the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* and is represented by the diagnostic species *Sempervivum ruthenicum*, *Schivereckia podolica*, *Cleistogenes serotina*, *Gypsophila thyraica*, *Astragalus monspessulanus* and others.

The third cluster subgroup corresponds to the alliance *Alysso allysoidis-Sedion* (order *Alysso-Sedetalia*, class *Sedo-Scleranthetea*) and is represented by the diagnostic species *Alyssum calycinum*, *Tortula ruralis*, *Arenaria serpyllifolia*, *Sedum acre*, *Sedum sexangulare*, *Festuca ovina* and others. Thus, according to the structure of the species composition, the mesophytic communities of the order *Brachopodietalia pinnati* are significantly different from the xerophytic communities of the orders *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* and *Alysso-Sedetalia*, which belong to different classes.

At the next level, six clusters are distinguished corresponding to associations, and the following and last level reflects the level of subassociations (Fig. 2). Based on this division, as well as taking into account the range and the ecological features of the distribution in the relief, a syntaxonomic scheme was set up.



**Fig. 2.** Results of the Modified TWINSPAN analysis with the allocation of nine clusters: 1 – *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae campanuletosum rotundifoliae*, 2 – *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae typicum*, 3 – *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori*, 4 – *Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis*, 5 – *Poetum versicoloris typicum*, 6 – *Poetum versicoloris thymetosum moldavicae*, 7 – *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae*, 8 – *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici typicum*, 9 – *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici xanthorietosum elegantis*.

**Abb. 2.** Ergebnisse der modifizierten TWINSPAN-Analyse. Die neun Gruppen repräsentieren die in der englischen Abbildungsunterschrift genannten Syntaxa.

#### 4.2 Proposed syntaxonomic scheme

Based on the cluster analysis results, we created a preliminary syntaxonomic scheme. Within the complete dataset, the following limestone outcrop communities were distinguished. New syntaxa are presented, and non-valid syntaxa were validated.

Cl. 1: *Festuco-Brometea* Br.-Bl. & Tüxen ex Br.-Bl. 1949

Ord. *Brachypodietalia pinnati* Korneck 1974

All. 1.1: *Cirsio-Brachypodium pinnati* Hadač & Klika in Klika & Hadač 1944

Ass. 1.1.1: *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae* Schneider ex Dengler et al. 2012

Subass. 1.1.1a: *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae campanuletosum rotundifoliae* Didukh & Vasheniac 2017 [Cluster 1]

Subass. 1.1.1b: *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae typicum* Schneider ex Dengler et al. 2012 [Cluster 2]

Ass 1.1.2: *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori* Kukovitsia & al. 1994 ex Didukh & Vasheniac 2017 [Cluster 3]

Ord. *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* Pop 1968

All. 1.2: *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* Kukovitsa & al. 1997 ex Didukh & Vasheniac 2017

Ass. 1.2.1: *Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis* Didukh & Vasheniac 2017 [Cluster 4]

Ass. 1.2.2: *Poetum versicoloris* Kukovitsa et al. 1998

Subass. 1.2.2a: *Poetum versicoloris typicum* Kukovitsa et al. 1998 [Cluster 5]

Subass. 1.2.2b: *Poetum versicoloris thymetosum moldavici* Didukh & Vasheniac 2017 [Cluster 6]

Cl. 2: *Sedo-Scleranthesetea* Br.-Bl. 1955

Ord. *Alyso-Sedetalia* Moravec 1967

All. 2.1: *Alyso-Sedion* Oberdofer & Müller in Müller 1961

Ass. 2.1.1: *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae* Didukh & Vasheniac 2017 [Cluster 7]

Ass. 2.1.2: *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici* Onyshchenko 2001

Subass. 2.1.2a: *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici typicum* Onyshchenko 2001  
[Cluster 8]

Subass. 2.1.2b: *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici xanthorietosum elegantis*  
Didukh & Vasheniac 2017 [Cluster 9]

#### 4.3 Description of the distinguished syntaxa

##### **Association 1.1.1: *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae***

**(Fig. 3a, Supplement S1–S2 and Supplement E1a)**

**Characterisation:** Species-rich association including 30 diagnostic species, among which are *Agrimonia eupatoria*, *Knautia arvensis*, *Sesleria heuflerana*, *Eryngium planum*, *Xanthoria elegans*, *Candelariella vitellina*, *Abietinella abietina* and *Brachythecium albicans*. The constant species *Sesleria heuflerana*, *Brachythecium albicans*, *Abietinella abietina*, *Teucrium chamaedrys*, *Inula ensifolia*, *Onobrychis arenaria* and *Leontodon hispidus* indicate that they belong to the alliance *Cirsio-Brachypodion* (order *Brachypodietalia pinnati*, according to WILLNER et al. [2017]). The total coverage of species is 60–90%, the coverage of vascular plants 60–80% (which is quite significant) and the coverage of bryophytes and lichens 10–15%. Among bryophytes and lichens there are *Abietinella abietina*, *Tortula ruralis*, *Weissia longifolia*, *Candelariella vitellina*, *Peltigera didactyla*, *Cladonia pyxidata*, *Schistidium atrovirens*, *Camptotrichum lutescens*, *Hypnum vaucheri*, *Campylium cryosiphonum* and *Didymodon acutus*.

**Distribution:** The communities are distributed in the middle part of the Dniester River valley and its tributaries within Western Podillia (Ivano-Frankivsk, Khmelnytsky, Chernivtsi and Ternopil regions).

**Ecological characteristics:** The communities are formed on limestone deposits (tertiary limestone, gypsum and loose marls) of slopes (15–45°) up to 50 m high, with a smooth microrelief of predominantly less-warmed northern and northwestern exposure, in more humid conditions on well-developed soddy carbonate soils (rendzinas) with a high content of carbonates and humus.

##### **Subassociation 1.1.1a: *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae campanuletosum rotundifoliae* subass. nova (Fig. 6a, Supplement S1–S2, Supplement E1b)**

**Characterisation:** Species-rich subassociation including 23 diagnostic species, among which are *Campanula rotundifolia*, *Thesium linophyllum*, *Poterium sanguisorba* and *Arabis hirsuta*, and constant species like *Sesleria heuflerana*, *Campanula glomerata*, *Teucrium chamaedrys*, *Thesium linophyllum*, *Galium glaucum* and *Anthericum ramosum*. The total coverage of the species is 50–95%, coverage of vascular plants is 40–80% and coverage of bryophytes and lichens 10–20%. The cryptogam layer includes *Abietinella abietina*, *Hypnum vaucheri*, *Ceratodon purpureus* and *Xanthoria sp.* The vegetation height reaches 40 cm.

The nomenclature relevé 1 (Supplement S2) was recorded by Y. A. Vasheniac on August 4, 2016, near the village Shibalyn in the Berezhansky district, Ternopil region (N 49.4393°, E 24.9879°, precision is 3 m), on the middle part of the northwestern slope with an inclina-

tion of 28° at an altitude of 251 m a.s.l. A total number of 44 species was found on 10 m<sup>2</sup>. The total coverage of all species is 80%, the herb layer coverage 70% and the coverage of the cryptogam layer 20%. The maximum height of the herb layer is 41 cm, the minimum 5 cm. In addition to herbaceous species, there are the shrubs *Chamaecytisus blockianus* and *C. albus*; however, they do not dominate in these communities and do not grow taller than the herb layer.

**Distribution:** The communities are distributed in the middle part of the Dnister River valley and its tributaries within Western Podillia (Ivano-Frankivsk, Khmelnytsky, Chernivtsi and Ternopil regions).

**Ecological characteristics:** The communities occupy limestone outcrops (limestone, gypsum and friable marls) more often in the lower sections of slopes of predominantly northern and northwestern exposition with a moderate inclination (25–45°). They are formed in mesoxerophytic conditions on eroded, loose substrates consisting of poorly developed, often washed-out soddy carbonate soils (rendzinas) with an increased content of carbonates, which occur as inclusions.

#### **Subassociation 1.1.1b: *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae typicum***

Nomenclature typus. Characterisation and diagnostic species of the subassociation are similar to the typus of the association *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae*.

#### **Association 1.1.2: *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori* (Fig. 3b, Supplement S1–S2 and Supplement E1c)**

This association was described earlier by KUKOVYTSIA et al. (1994), but it must be validated in accordance with Art. 5, 15, 16 of the Code (WEBER et al. 2000). In this article we present a neotype of the association.

**Neotype:** The nomenclature relevé 29 (Supplement S2) was recorded by Y.P. Didukh on June 2, 1977, between the villages Gerasimov and Zhabokruki in the Tlumatsky district, Ivano-Frankivsk region (N 49.5762°, E 25.5633°) in the upper part of the precipitous northern slope (up to 300 m above sea level) of Lysa hill. Miocene gypsum outcrops are eroded and form shelves up to 40 cm wide, on which soil accumulates in the cracks. The thickness of the rendzinas is between a few and up to 20 cm. Due to the accumulation of humus, soils are dark and cloddy. Limestone outcrop communities are generally sparse (coverage 50–80%), but the dominating grass *Helictotrichon desertorum* forms dense sods. 51 species have been found in the relevé. *Helictotrichon desertorum* is dominant, *Carex humilis* co-dominant (coverage 5–20%); small blocks are formed by *Allium senescens* subsp. *montanum* (5%) and *Thalictrum uncinatum* (1–5%); few (up to 1–3%) are *Filipendula vulgaris*, *Gallatella linosyris*, *Euphorbia cyparissias*, *Stipa capillata*, *Galium glaucum*, *Gypsophila fastigiata*, *Inula ensifolia*, *Anemone sylvestris*, *Poa versicolor*, *Thymus pannonicus*, *Ranunculus zapalowiczi*, *Festuca rupicola*, *Anthyllis vulneraria*, *Teucrium chamaedrys* and *T. montanum* and rare (1%) *Astragalus cicer*, *Pulsatilla latifolia*, *Eremogone procera* subsp. *procera*, *Campanula sibirica*, *Erysimum pannonicum*, *Hyacinthella leucophaea*, *Hieracium cymatum*, *Jurinea arachnoidea*, *Minuartia setacea*, *Onobrychis arenaria*, *Polygonatum odoratum*, *Scabiosa ochroleuca*, *Senecio czerniae* and *Trifolium lupinaster*.

**Characterisation:** In general, there are 23–51 species in the communities of the association, of which *Helictotrichon desertorum*, *Astragalus austriacus*, *Euphrasia stricta*, *Inula ensifolia*, *Jurinea molissima*, *Gypsophila fastigiata* and *Helianthemum nummularium* are diagnostic. Constant species belong to the syntaxa of the order *Brachypodietalia pinnati*,



**Fig. 3.** **a)** *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae* in the Dniester Canyon near the village Gorodok in the Zalishchyky district, Ternopil region (Photo: Y. Vasheniac, 21.07.2016). **b)** *Ranunculo zapaliczi-Helictotrichetum desertori* on limestone outcrops near the village Gerasymiv in the Tlumatisk district, Ivano-Frankivsk region (Photo: Y. Didukh, 08.06.2014). **c)** *Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis* on limestone outcrops near the village Nagoriany in the Kelmentsi district, Chernivtsi region (Photo: Y. Vasheniac, 09.07.2017). **d)** *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici* on limestone outcrops near the village Vrublivka in the Kamyanets-Podilskyi district, Khmelnytskyi region (Photo: Y. Vasheniac, 03.06.2017).

**Abb. 3.** **a)** *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae* im Dniester-Schluchttal nahe der Ortschaft Gorodok im Bezirk Zalishchyky, Ternopil-Region (Foto: Y. Vasheniac, 21.07.2016). **b)** *Ranunculo zapaliczi-Helictotrichetum desertori* auf Kalksteinfelsen nahe der Ortschaft Gerasymiv im Bezirk Tlumatisk, Ivano-Frankivsk-Region (Foto: Y. Didukh, 08.06.2014). **c)** *Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis* auf Kalksteinfelsen nahe der Ortschaft Nagoriany im Bezirk Kelmentsi, Chernivtsi-Region (Foto: Y. Vasheniac, 09.07.2017). **d)** *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici* auf Kalksteinfelsen nahe der Ortschaft Vrublivka im Bezirk Kamyanets-Podilskyi, Khmelnytskyi-Region (Foto: Y. Vasheniac, 03.06.2017).

alliance *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati*: *Lembotropis nigricans*, *Bupleurum falcatum*, *Briza media*, *Anemone sylvestris*, *Leucanthemum vulgare*, *Trifolium montanum* and others. The total coverage of the species is 50–95%, and the herb layer covers 40–90%. Among the different species, *Helictotrichon desertorum*, *Carex humilis*, *Poa versicolor*, *Sesleria heuflerana*, *Inula ensifolia*, *Festuca valesiaca*, *Anthericum ramosum*, *Poa angustifolia*, *Lembotropis nigricans* and *Elytrigia intermedia* dominate.

Distribution: Communities are distributed in Pokuttia, Opillia and Gologoro-Kremenets Ridge (Ternopil and Ivano-Frankivsk regions).

**Ecological characteristics:** They occupy the upper and middle parts of the steep (25–70°) gypsum-containing slopes, up to 70 m high, predominantly of northern and northwestern exposure. The microrelief in form of ledges forms shelves of up to several square metres in area, on which dark soddy carbonate soils (rendzinas) accumulate. A high content (up to 20%) of humus is typical. They are more humid than the previous ones and characterised by a very high content of carbonates and a high pH of 7.2–7.5.

Many communities of the association include rare species listed in the Red Book of Ukraine (DIDUKH 2009), the European Red List, the Bern Convention and regional lists of rare species.

**Association 1.2.1: *Schivereckia podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis* ass. nova  
(Fig. 3c, Supplement S1, S3 and Supplement E1d)**

**Characterisation:** These multispecies communities (16–34 species) are distributed in northern, northwestern, northeastern, eastern and southwestern slopes with an average inclination of 25–45°. The association is characterised by the following diagnostic taxa: *Allium senescens* subsp. *montanum*, *Astragalus onobrychis*, *Erysimum odoratum*, *Gypsophila thyriflora*, *Melampyrum arvense*, *Schivereckia podolica*, *Seseli libanotis* subsp. *intermedia* and *Vincetoxicum hirundinaria*. Constant species are: *Asperula cynanchica*, *Euphorbia cyparissias*, *Leonotodon hispidus*, *Potentilla incana*, *Sedum acre*, *Thymus marschallianus* and *Centaurea stoebe*. The total coverage of the species is 50–95% and that of the herb layer 50–90%. The height of the grass stand is quite considerable and reaches 32 cm. The cryptogam layer (*Hypnum cupressiforme*, *Abietinella abietina*) is well developed and forms in some communities a coverage of approximately 80%.

The nomenclature relevé 1 (Supplement S3) was recorded by Y.A. Vasheniak on July 15, 2015, near the village Nagoryany in the Kelenetsky district, Chernivtsi region (N 48.5415°, E 26.7678°), on the top of the southwestern slope with an inclination of 45° at an altitude of 249 m above sea level. In the relevé there are 21 species of vascular plants and cryptogams (e.g., *Schivereckia podolica*, *Seseli libanotis* subsp. *intermedia*, *Amblystegium serpens* and *Brachythecium velutinum*). The total coverage is 95%, the grass layer covers 90% and the bryophyte-lichen layer 50%. The average height of the herbaceous vegetation is 30 cm. The shrub *Chamaecytisus blockianus* grows here.

**Distribution:** Communities are noted in the middle of the Dnister River valley (Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk, Khmelnytsky, Chernivtsi regions).

**Ecological characteristics:** The communities occupy outcrops of limestone, on which dry, soddy-carbonate rendzinas rich in humus are formed. By the indicators of temperature and cryoregime, they occupy cooler ecotopes, which is the reason why they occur mainly on the shaded northern, northwestern and northeastern slopes.

**Association 1.2.2: *Poetum versicoloris* (Fig. 6b, Supplement S1, S3 and Supplement E1e)**

The new syntaxon published by KUKOVYTSIA et al. (1992) does not have the nomenclature type of the association and is therefore, according to Articles 5, 15 and 16 of the Code (WEBER et al. 2000), not valid. We provide the neotype of the association to validate it.

**Neotype:** Relevé No. 17 was recorded by Y.P. Didukh on June 18, 2015, near the village Vrublivtsi in the Kamyanets-Podilsky district, Khmelnytsky region (N 48.6054°, E 26.7754°), in the upper part of the southern slope with an inclination of 45° at an elevation of 220 m a.s.l. There is a total number of 24 species in the relevé. The total coverage of species is 90%, the herb layer coverage is 40%, and the bryophyte-lichen coverage is 50%.



**Fig. 6.** **a)** *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae campanuletosum rotundifoliae* near the village Shybalyn in the Berezhany district, Ternopil region (Photo: Y. Vasheniak, 06.08.2016). **b)** *Poetum versicoloris* near the village Voronovysia in the Kelmentsi district, Chernivtsi region (Photo: Y. Didukh, 08.08.2014). **c)** *Poetum versicoloris thymetosum moldavicae* near the village Goraivka in the Kamyanets-Podilskyi district, Khmelnytskyi region (Photo: Y. Didukh, 08.06.2014). **d)** *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae* near the village Nagorany in the Kelmentsi district, Chernivtsi region (Photo: Y. Didukh, 12.06.2014). **e)** *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici xanthorietosum elegantis* near the village Yaruga in the Kamyanets-Podilskyi district, Khmelnytskyi region (Photo: Y. Vasheniak, 18.07.2016).

**Abb. 6.** **a)** *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae campanuletosum rotundifoliae* nahe der Ortschaft Shybalyn im Bezirk Berezhany, Ternopil-Region. **b)** *Poetum versicoloris* nahe der Ortschaft Voronovysia im Bezirk Kelmentsi, Chernivtsi-Region. **c)** *Poetum versicoloris thymetosum moldavicae* nahe der Ortschaft Goraivka im Bezirk Kamyanets-Podilskyi, Khmelnytskyi-Region. **d)** *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae* nahe der Ortschaft Nagorany im Bezirk Kelmentsi, Chernivtsi-Region. **e)** *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici xanthorietosum elegantis* nahe der Ortschaft Yaruga im Bezirk Kamyanets-Podilskyi, Khmelnytskyi-Region.

Characterisation: As a rule, communities are sparse (coverage 50–80%), with 19–41 species in the relevé. The association has 29 diagnostic species, amongst them herbal xerophytes, which develop under conditions of increased erosion. In these communities the endemic species *Poa versicolor* predominates, along with other species (> 50% *Botriochloa ischaemum*, *Melica transsilvanica*, *Nonea pulla*, *Cleistogenes serotina*, *Sedum acre* and *Teucrium montanum*). Species with sizable constancy in the communities are *Euphorbia cyparissias*, *Elytrigia intermedia*, *Teucrium chamaedrys*, *Segurigera varia*, *Echium vulgare*, *Centaurea stoebe* and *Salvia verticillata*.

Distribution: The communities are limited to Western and Central Podillia (the Dnister River valley and its tributaries); administratively, these are the territories of Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Khmelnytsky and Vinnitsa regions.

Ecological characteristics: Communities occupy the steep (25–60°) slopes, generally of southern, southeastern or eastern exposure, on shelves and ledges that look like strips formed as a result of stratification of limestone deposits of various ages (from Tertiary to Devonian). Soils are dry, low-humus, poorly developed, washed-away, gravelly, skeletal lithosols and sometimes mobile scree, which form on outcrops of limestone.

#### **Subassociation 1.2.2a: *Poetum versicoloris typicum***

Nomenclature typus. Characterisation and diagnostic species of the subassociation are similar to the typus of the association *Poetum versicoloris*.

#### **Subassociation 1.2.2b: *Poetum versicoloris thymetosum moldavici subass. nova* (Fig. 6c, Supplement S1, S3 and Supplement E1f)**

Characterisation: Communities are quite rich (32–43 species) in floristic composition. Diagnostic taxa include *Stipa pulcherrima*, *Thymus moldavicus*, *Jurinea calcarea*, *Weissia longifolia*, *Astragalus monspessulanus* and others. *Euphorbia cyparissias*, *Elytrigia intermedia*, *Teucrium chamaedrys*, *T. montanum*, *Galium glaucum* and others are found in high constancy. The total coverage of the species is 60–95%, and that of the herb layer 50–85%. The bryophyte-lichen layer is well developed with a coverage of 50–80%.

The nomenclature relevé 21 was recorded by Y.A. Vasheniac on July 8, 2015, near the village Sokil in the Kamyanets-Podilsky district, Khmelnytsky region (N 48.5394°, E 26.6387°), on the upper part of the northeastern slope at an altitude of 135 m a.s.l. Overall, there are 40 species in a relevé of 10 m<sup>2</sup>. The total coverage is 80%, the grass coverage is 70%, and the bryophyte-lichen layer covers 60%. The maximum height of the grass is 50 cm.

Distribution: Communities are noted in the valley of the Dnister River at the intersection of the Tovtry Ridge (near the village Sokil in the Kamyanets-Podilsky district, Khmelnytsky region, and the village Nahoryany in the Kelmenytsky district, Chernivtsi region).

Ecological characteristics: Communities are distributed in the upper and middle parts of slopes of northeastern, eastern, western and southwestern exposure, occupying the slopes of medium steepness. The soils are fairly dry, short-profile, washed-off, crushed, alkaline, rich in carbonate and poor in humus rendzinas, which are formed on Devonian layered limestones.

#### **Association 2.1.1: *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae ass. nova* (Fig. 6d, Supplement S1, S3 and Supplement E1g)**

Characterisation: Communities are quite rich in floral composition (14–52 species of vascular plants and cryptogams). KUZEMKO et al. (2014) describe the community *Ajuga chamaepitys-Sedum acre* with a similar species composition, but we propose to separate

associations in which the diagnostic species are *Ajuga chia*, *Xanthoria* sp., *Bryum argenteum*, *Pilosella praetorta* and others. In the herbage, the constant species are *Sedum acre*, *Acinos arvensis* and others. The cryptogam layer (50–70%) consists mainly of *Tortula ruralis*, with the participation of *Abietinella abietina*, *Bryum argenteum*, *B. capillare*, *Schistidium atrovirens*, *Cladonia pocillum* and *Hedwigia ciliata*. The total coverage of the species (height up to 20 cm) is only 50–70%, the coverage of the herb layer 40–50%.

The nomenclature relevé 38 was recorded by Y.A. Vasheniac on June 12, 2011, near the village Khrebtiv in the Novoushitsky district, Khmelnytsky region (N 48.6432°, E 27.2317°), on the middle part of the southern slope at an altitude of 250 m a.s.l. The total number of species is 23 species per 10 m<sup>2</sup>. Total coverage is 90%, grass coverage is 40%, and bryophyte-lichen coverage is 50%.

**Distribution:** The communities occur along the middle reaches of the Dnister River. KUZEMKO et al. (2014) report relevés from the vicinity of the village Dmytrashivka, Bolgan, Yampol Town, Vinnytsia region. We noted such communities in the vicinity of the villages Kurazhin and Khrebtiv in the Novoushitsky district of the Khmelnytsky region and of the village Makarovka in the Kelmenets district of the Chernivtsi region.

**Ecological characteristics:** The communities, as a rule, occupy the shelves and rocky protrusions of limestone and sandstone of the steep banks of the Dnister River valley, predominantly on southern, southwestern and southeastern slopes. They are formed in dry conditions, mainly on underdeveloped, shallow soils (lithomes) with low humus and high carbonate content.

#### **Association 2.1.2: *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici* (Fig. 3d, Supplement S1, S3 and Supplement E1h)**

**Characterisation:** Multispecies communities (32–42 species). Among the diagnostic species are *Allium podolicum*, *Festuca ovina*, *Chelidonium majus*, *Encalypta vulgaris*, *Homalothecium lutescens* and others. The total coverage of the species is 50–90%; the coverage of the herb layer is 40–80%. With approximately 40 cm, the height of the grass stand is quite considerable. The bryophyte-lichen layer is well developed and reaches a coverage of 25–80%.

**Distribution:** The communities of this association are quite common in Western Podillia and are reported from the valleys of the Dnister River and its tributaries and from the Kremenets Mountains. The communities occur on limestone outcrops, humps, rocks and shelves (Chernivtsi, Khmelnytsky, Ternopil, Vinnytsia and Ivano-Frankivsk regions).

**Ecological characteristics:** The communities occupy protrusions of limestone deposits, where underdeveloped, shallow crushed-stone lithosols are formed, allowing carbonate-rich species (*Schizocarpha podolica*, *Seseli hippomarathrum*) to grow. Soils are fairly dry, with a high content of carbonates.

#### **Subassociation 2.1.2a: *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici typicum***

Characterisation and diagnostic species of the subassociation are similar to the typus of the association *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici*.

#### **Subassociation 2.1.2b: *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici xanthorietosum elegantis subass. nova* (Fig. 6e, Supplement S1, S3 and Supplement E1i)**

**Characterisation:** The communities are rich in species (11–49 species), and diagnostic species include *Xanthoria elegans*, *Berteroia incana*, *Arabidopsis thaliana* and others. Constant species are *Allium podolicum*, *Sedum acre*, *Centaurea stoebe*, *Arenaria*

*serpyllifolia*, *Festuca rupicola*, *F. valesiaca*, *Abietinella abietina*, *Tortula ruralis* and others. The total coverage of the groups is 50–90%. The coverage of the herb layer is small and amounts to 20–50%. The height of the grass stand is 20–50 cm. The bryophyte-lichen layer is well developed and has a coverage of 50–80%. *Sedum sexangulare* and *S. acre* dominate in the communities.

The nomenclature relevé 58 of this subassociation was recorded by Y.A. Vasheniac on July 29, 2016, near the village Gorodok in the Zalishchyky district, Ternopil region (N 48.64350°, E 25.7495°), in the upper part of the southern slope of limestone deposits at an altitude of 206 m a.s.l. There are 38 species of vascular plants and cryptogams (e.g., *Poa angustifolia*, *Xanthoria elegans*, *X. polycarpa*, *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Asplenium ruta-muraria*, *Hypnum cupressiforme*, *Cladonia furcata*, *Hedwigia ciliata*). The total coverage of species is 65%, the herb layer coverage is 40% and the cryptogam layer coverage is 50%.

**Ecological characteristics:** The communities occupy limestone humps and shelves at the bottom of southern slopes. They develop under conditions of high insolation. Unlike the previous association, soils are dry, light, sandy, loamy and poor in nutrients, so they form on dense cemented tertiary limestone.

**Distribution:** The communities are common in the Dnister River valley in the Khmelnytsky and Chernivtsi regions and likely widespread within Central Podillia.

## 5. Environmental characteristics of distinguished syntaxa

In order to assess the differentiation of selected syntaxa with respect to the effect of various environmental factors, a scoring system on the scale of DIDUKH (2011) for syntaxa was calculated on the basis of the synphytoindication method. The nature of their correlation is shown in Table 1.

As can be seen from Table 1, medium to high correlation (coefficients > 0.50, indicated in bold) is observed between soil humidity (Hd) and aeration of soil (Ae), lightness in the community (Lc), humidity (Om) and thermoregime (Tm), between variability of damping (fH) and carbonate content (Ca), between acidity (Rc) and carbonate content (Ca), between total salt regime (Sl) and humidity (Om), between aeration of soil (Ae) and lightness in the community (Lc), between thermoregime (Tm) and humidity (Om) and between humidity (Om) and continentality (Kn). In general, unlike steppe black earth soil or meadow alluvial soils, soil factors have significantly less influence on the distribution of communities developing on limestone sediments than the degree of humidity. This is due to soil structure (rendzinas, lithosols), which are generally undeveloped, with shallow soil profiles.

The distribution of the syntaxa with respect to the total environmental factors is shown in the ordination diagram (Fig. 4) based on the DCA.

Il communities are confined to dry conditions with moderate soaking of the root-forming layer of the soil by sediments and melted water; therefore, the variability of damping is fluctuating ( $fH = 6.1\text{--}6.8$ ). The association *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae* corresponds to most humid conditions, the association *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae* to the driest. The communities are characterised by subaerophytic conditions and grow on relatively aerated soils with inclusions of gravelly rocks (55–80%). The highest degree of aeration is characteristic for the associations *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae* and *Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum lilanotidis* and the lowest for the association *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum*

**Table 1.** Correlation coefficients between various environmental factors after DIDUKH (2011). Hd – soil humidity, fH – variability of damping, Rc – soil acidity, Sl – total salt regime, Ca – carbonate content, Nt – nitrogen content, Ae – aeration of soil, Tm – thermoregime of climate, Om – humidity of climate, Kn – continentality of climate, Cr – cryoregime of climate and Lc – lightness in the community. Coefficients > 0.5 indicating medium to high correlation are highlighted in bold.

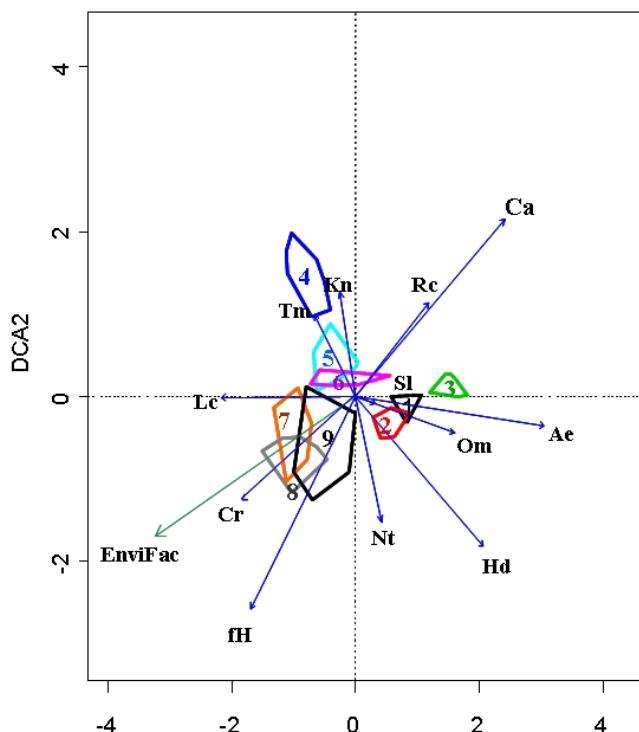
**Tabelle 1.** Korrelationskoeffizienten der Beziehungen verschiedener Umweltfaktoren nach DIDUKH (2011). Hd – Bodenfeuchtigkeit, fH – Variabilität der Bodenfeuchteigkeit, Rc – Bodenreaktion, Sl – Gesamt-Salzgehalt, Ca – Carbonatgehalt, Nt – Stickstoffgehalt, Ae – Durchlüftung des Bodens, Tm – Temperaturregime (Strahlungsbilanz), Om – Luftfeuchtigkeit, Kn – Kontinentalität, Cr – Kältereigime, und Lc – Helligkeit in der Gesellschaft. Koeffizienten > 0,5; die auf eine mittlere bis hohe Korrelation hinweisen, sind durch Fettdruck hervorgehoben.

	Hd	fH	Rc	Sl	Ca	Nt	Ae	Tm	Om	Kn	Cr	Lc
Degree	23	11	13	19	13	11	15	17	23	17	15	9
Hd	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
fH	-0.01	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Rc	-0.24	-0.47	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Sl	-0.29	0.14	0.49	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ca	-0.08	<b>-0.72</b>	<b>0.67</b>	0.14	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Nt	0.43	0.01	0.11	0.31	-0.14	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ae	<b>0.59</b>	-0.35	0.32	0.25	0.42	0.46	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tm	<b>-0.55</b>	-0.16	0.29	0.48	0.26	0.01	-0.02	–	–	–	–	–
Om	<b>0.51</b>	-0.07	-0.26	<b>-0.60</b>	0.07	-0.30	0.18	<b>-0.66</b>	–	–	–	–
Kn	-0.34	-0.12	0.29	0.49	0.19	0.24	0.10	0.49	<b>-0.74</b>	–	–	–
Cr	-0.28	0.21	-0.06	0.22	-0.18	-0.04	-0.21	0.49	-0.24	-0.23	–	–
Lc	<b>-0.71</b>	0.45	0.08	0.43	-0.25	-0.25	<b>-0.53</b>	0.29	-0.47	0.28	0.23	–

*heufleranae*. Soils of all groups are characterised by a low nitrogen content (Nt = 4.3–5.0); the highest index belongs to the association *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae*, the lowest to the association *Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum lilanotidis*.

Analyses of soil indicators have shown that the communities develop in neutral to basic conditions (Rc = 8.3–8.8, fH = 6.7–7.3) rich in carbonates (Sl = 7.7–8.3, Ca = 8.1–9.1). The highest values of carbonates (Ca) correspond to the subassociations *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae campanuletosum rotundofliae*, which forms on loose substrates, and *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori*, which forms on dense gypsum. Both are obligatorily carbonatophilic coenoses. The lowest Ca values belong to the subassociations *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici typicum* and *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici xanthorietosum elegantis*, which are formed not only on carbonates, but also on sandstones and granites (KUZEMKO et al. 2014).

The indicators of the climatic factors are quite close to zonal. The communities exist in a narrow range of the thermoregime (Tm = 8.8–9.3), characterising sub-mesothermal conditions with an annual radiation balance of 1885 MJ/m<sup>2</sup>, (according to HARBAR (2016) 1650–1820 MJ/m<sup>2</sup> for the Tovtry Ridge). The warmest places are occupied by the communities of the subassociations *Poetum versicoloris typicum* and *Poetum versicoloris thymetosum moldavici*, which are formed on steep southern slopes (inclination up to 45°). The remaining communities are formed in cooler conditions.



**Fig. 4.** DCA ordination of the distinguished syntaxa in relation to 12 indicators of environmental factors. Syntaxa are: 1 – *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae campanuletosum rotundofoliae*, 2 – *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae typicum*, 3 – *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori*, 4 – *Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis*, 5 – *Poetum versicoloris typicum*, 6 – *Poetum versicoloris thymetosum moldavicae*, 7 – *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae*, 8 – *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici typicum*, 9 – *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici xanthorietosum elegantis*. Indicators of environmental factors: see Table 1.

**Abb. 4.** DCA-Ordination der Syntaxa in Beziehung zu den Indikatoren von 12 wichtigen Umweltfaktoren. Syntaxa: siehe englische Abbildungsunterschrift. Indikatoren der Umweltfaktoren: siehe Tabelle 1.

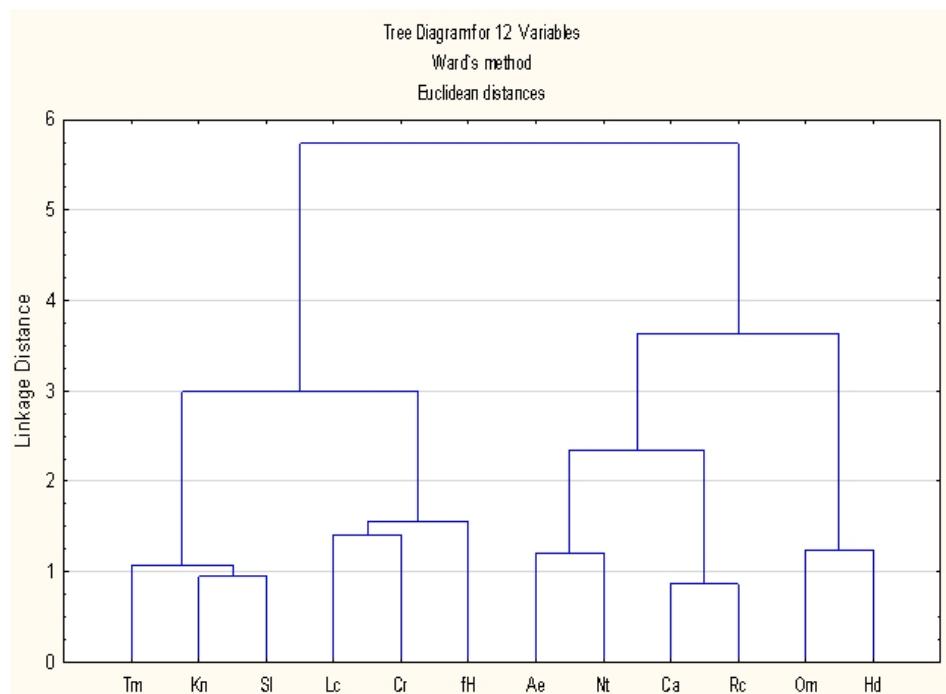
These data correlate to the Cr (cryoregime of climate) figures, where the highest values are typical for the *Poetum versicoloris* occurring on southern slopes and the lowest for the *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori*, which occurs on steep northern slopes. Accordingly, for these communities, as for Podillia in general, hemicontinental conditions are typical ( $Cr = 8.8-9.3$ ). The highest Cr figures are also found for the association *Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis*, and the lowest for groups dominated by *Sesleria heuflerana* (*Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae campanuletosum rotundo-foliae*).

Finally, the humidity index substantiates subaridophytic conditions ( $Om = 11.0-11.9$ ), which are characterised by a moisture deficit of -100 to -300 mm. The largest deficit is characteristic for the communities of the association *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae*, which occupies limestone rocks, and the smallest for the subassociation *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae campanuletosum rotundofoliae*, which is confined to the lowest part of the northern slopes.

From the ordination diagram (Fig. 4) it can be seen that for associations related to the alliance *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati* (located on the right side of the matrix axis), the leading factors of differentiation are moisture content, aeration and carbonate content. For the others, which relate to the alliance *Alysso-Sedion* (located on the left side of the axis of the matrix), the leading factors of differentiation are carbonate content, aeration and variability of humidification. In this case, a separate *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictro-trichetum desertorum* association is more specific.

In order to assess the interdependencies and the impact of the environmental factors on the distribution of communities, a dendrogram was developed (Fig. 5).

The analysis of the dendrogram shows that the twelve factors are divided into two groups. The first group shows a close interdependence between the indicators of the thermoregime and the continentality of the climate, the latter of which is most closely associated with the salt regime of the soil, and between the indicators of the variability of damping and the cryoregime of the climate, the latter of which is closely associated with the lightness in the community. In the second group there are factors directly or indirectly related to soil moisture and climate. According to the dendrogram, the soil humidity is closely related to the humidity of the climate. The nitrogen content is associated with the aeration of the soil, and the soil acidity is associated with the carbonate content. We have noted that these dependencies differ from those observed under hydrophilic conditions, where the aeration of the soil, soil humidity, total salt regime and soil acidity have a close connection.



**Fig. 5.** Interdependence between 12 indicators of environmental factors based on Euclidean distances (Ward's method). Indicators of environmental factors: see Table 2.

**Abb. 5.** Wechselbeziehungen zwischen 12 Indikatoren wichtiger Umweltfaktoren auf Basis von euklidischen Distanzen (Ward-Methode). Indikatoren der Umweltfaktoren: siehe Tabelle 2.

## 6. General discussion

Podillia communities of limestone outcrops characterised by the presence of endemic species (*Schivereckia podolica* and *Poa versicolor*) have generated discussions about the syntaxonomic affiliation of floristic elements depending on the view of the principles of classification regarding the class *Festuco-Brometea*.

In former times the class *Festuco-Brometea* was divided into orders depending on the climatic and geographic features of the region from oceanic (*Brachypodietalia pinnati*) to continental (*Festucetalia valesiacae* Br.-Bl. et Tx 1943). Each of these turned out to be quite heterogeneous, and at the same time, their individual alliances were similar, depending on the leading edaphic factor, e.g., the carbonate content. Therefore, it was logical to move away from geographical positions and to use soil characteristics to assign petrophytic groups to the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*, which included the alliances *Alyss-Festucion pallentis* (MORAVEC 1967), *Asplenio septentrionalis-Festucion pallentis* (ZOLYOMI 1936) and *Seslerio-Festucion glaucae* (KLIKA 1931), which were considered by SOÓ (1959) within the order *Festucetalia valesiacae*. At the same time, a problem regarding the separation of the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* from the class *Sedo-Scleranthetea* (especially the alliance *Alysso-Sedion*) as well as the volume and distribution of other syntaxonomic categories occurred. The alliance *Cirsio-Brachypodion*, e.g., was previously placed in the order *Brachypodietalia pinnati*, which included the carbonatophilic communities on rendzinas.

Instead, many syntaxa of limestone outcrops of the alliance *Alysso-Sedion* were transferred to the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* (JANIŠOVÁ et al. 2014). According to our analysis, we propose to differentiate between the orders *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* and *Alyss-Sedetalia* on the basis of the presence of grasses (i.e., turf-type plants) in the former and their absence and the presence of terophytes, succulents and leafy lichens and bryophytes in the latter. The order *Alysso-Sedetalia* is characterised by the presence of the following lichens and bryophytes: *Bryum caespiticum*, *B. capillare*, *B. argenteum*, *Schistidium atrofuscum*, *Hedwigia ciliata*, *Cladonia pocillum* and *C. pyxidata*; for the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*, taxa like *Amblystegium serpens*, *Barbula unguiculata*, *Brachythecium glareosum*, *B. velutinum*, *Tortella tortuosa*, *T. inclinata*, *Leucodon sciuroides*, *Politrichum piliferum* and *Porella platyphylla* are typical. As indicated by DENGLER & LÖBEL (2006), the communities of the order *Alysso-Sedetalia* are rich in terophytes, succulents, lichens and bryophytes and distributed throughout Europe, mainly in mountainous areas. Furthermore, they are known as vegetation deposits and described by many authors (MORAVEC 1967, ONYSCHENKO 2001). However, most of the syntaxa described in Central Europe, particularly in Romania, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, are now in the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*, in particular the associations *Sedo allbi-Allietum montani*, *Alyssetum murale* and others (JANIŠOVÁ et al. 2014). It is interesting to note that for the Podilsky communities, there are no diagnostic types of the alliance *Alysso-Sedion* (*Sedum album*, *Seseli osseum*, *Teucrium botrys*, *Erophila spatulata*); instead, the species occurred in Podillia (*Sedum acre*, *S. sexangulare*, *Seseli hippomarathrum*). Hence one may assume an eastern vicariant of the alliance *Alysso-Sedion*.

Within the order *Brachypodietalia pinnati*, the alliance *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnate* represents the communities that develop in mesoxerophilous conditions on rendzinas formed on the limestone deposits with a considerable depth of occurrence. As noted by DENGLER et al. (2012) and KUZEMKO et al. (2014), this is an alliance of mesoxerophytic communities developing on rich, loamy soils. MUCINA et al. (2016) introduced an expanded ecology of

such communities and gave a characterisation of this alliance as such, which unites communication on the limestone substratum. We agree with the last statement and refer to this syn taxon as the alliance of *Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae* and *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori*. The alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* occurs only in Western and Central Podillia and is endemic to this region.

As to its composition, the authors have included three associations: *Poetum versicoloris*, *Adonido vernalis-Stipetum tirsae* and *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori*, which are both ecologically and coenotically different, and their relevés are invalid according to Art. 7 of the Code (WEBER et al. 2000).

Particularly, the publication in which this alliance is described contains only the synoptic table of associations, from which it is clear that to select the association *Adonido vernalis-Stipetum tirsae*, 19 relevés were used, and 30 relevés for the association *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori* (KUKOVYTSIA et al. 1994), but neither relevés nor nomenclature types are given; therefore, according to Art. 5, 15, 16 of the Code (WEBER et al. 2000), the association data are not valid.

For the alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris*, the typus selected was the association *Poetum versicoloris*; however, such disclosure is not valid in accordance with Art. 8, 9 and 16 of the Code (WEBER et al. 2000).

The analysis showed that the association *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori* occupies a separate position in relation to others in this alliance, which is explained by the presence of specific carbonatophilic species (*Helictotrichon desertorum*, *Thalictrum uncinatum*, *Viola jooi*), which are relict closely related to Siberian-Altaic species. Since these communities are formed on northern slopes, i.e., in mesophytic conditions, we have excluded the association *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori* from this alliance and included it in the alliance *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati* instead. However, this decision is inconclusive and requires a broader comparison. It is likely that these associations with the dominance of *Sesleria heuflerana* and *Helictotrichon desertorum* must be assigned to a new alliance.

The placement of the association *Poetum versicoloris*, the communities of which are often of limited species, which greatly complicates their classification, is rather controversial. The authors who described it included them in the alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris*, which they considered as part of the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*. We agree with the first statement and refer such groups to the alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris*, order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*. It should be noted that MUCINA et al. (2016) consider the alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* as a synonym of the alliance *Bromo pannonicci-Festucion csikhegyensis*. However, analysis shows that most of the diagnostic species belong to the alliance *Festucion valesiacae* (*Festuca valesiaca*, *Melica transsilvanica*, *Botriochloa ischaemum*, *Centaurea stoebe*) but that the existing endemic species of Western and Central Podillia (*Poa versicolor*, *Gypsophila thyraica*, *Schivereckia podolica*) distinguishes the *Bromo pannonicci-Festucion csikhegyensis* from this alliance. We have observed diagnostic species of the alliance *Bromo pannonicci-Festucion csikhegyensis* (*Fumana procumbens*, *Festuca pallens*, *Jovibarba globifera*) and concluded that there is another alliance within the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*. We assume that the alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* is an eastern vicariant of the alliance *Bromo pannonicci-Festucion csikhegyensis*, which passes into the *Festucion valesiacae* and is endemic to Western and Central Podillia.

The class *Sedo-Scleranthetea* (order *Alysso-Sedetalia*, alliance *Alysso-Sedion*) differs from the previous alliance by the presence of a rich cryptogam block and the depletion of vascular plants with a coverage of less than 50%, so dominants do not appear. Moreover, *Poaceae* do not play an appreciable role in the formation of the species composition in such communities. Instead, a significant percentage of juvenile hemicryptophytes and terophytes occur.

The alliance *Alysso-Sedion* is not widely spread in Ukraine, and it is substituted by the communities of the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* on the deposits of limestone outcrops. In general, this alliance has 45 diagnostic species, about 20 of which are cryptogams (Supplement S2).

## 7. Conclusions

Our analysis is based on the processing of 118 geobotanical relevés of Western and Central Podillia and a preliminary comparison with relevés of neighbouring regions. We have assumed that most of the communities developing on limestone outcrops belong to the class *Sedo-Scleranthetea*, order *Alysso-Sedetalia*, alliance *Alysso-Sedion*, and that the communities dominated by *Sesleria heuflerana* and *Helictotrichon desertorum* belong to the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*. However, we have obtained slightly different results. In the final analysis, the communities on the northern slopes dominated by *Sesleria heuflerana* and *Helictotrichon desertorum* occur together with mesoxerophytic species, so we assigned them to the order *Brachypodietalia pinnati*, alliance *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati*. But the question remains open, as these syntaxa need to be compared with those located on the territory of Hungary, Slovakia and Romania. The communities with *Poa versicolor* are rare and contain endemic species of Western and Central Podillia; therefore, we assigned them to the separate alliance *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris*, which is placed within the order *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*, noting that this alliance is a Podillia vicariant of the alliance *Bromo pannonicci-Festucion csikhegyensis*. As part of the association described earlier, we have identified the subassociation *Poëtum versicoloris thymetosum moldavici* and described a new association, *Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis*. Furthermore, we have concluded that, despite our expectations, the communities of the class *Sedo-Scleranthetea* correspond quite well to the alliance *Alysso-Sedion*, but belong to two endemic associations: *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae* and *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici* (subassociation *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici typicum* subassociation and newly described subassociation *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici xanthorietosum elegantis*). Surely, the obtained data serve as important factual material for a broader comparative analysis involving material from Eastern and Central Europe, which we set as our goal for further research.

## Erweiterte deutsche Zusammenfassung

**Einleitung** – Die Klassifikation der xerophytischen Krautvegetation Podoliens stößt seit Beginn des 20. Jahrhunderts auf ein großes Interesse. Bildeten noch bis Ende der 1980er Jahre Dominanzprinzipien die Basis der Klassifikation, so wird die Vegetation seit den 1990er Jahren zunehmend auf der Grundlage ökologisch-floristischer Kriterien gegliedert. In dieser Zeit wurde auch der für Podolien endemische Verband *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* mit verschiedenen Assoziationen beschrieben (KUKOVYTSIA et al. 1992, ONYSCHENKO 2001). In den folgenden Untersuchungen (ABDULOVA 2002, KOROTCHENKO 2004, KUZEMKO 2009, DIDUKH & VASHENIAC 2012, KUZEMKO et al. 2014) wurde

v. a. die Notwendigkeit bestimmter Syntaxa aus den Klassen *Sedo-Scleranthesia* und *Festuco-Brometea* diskutiert. Neuere supranationale Klassifikationen (MUCINA et al. 2016, WILLNER et al. 2017) erfordern nun in unserem Untersuchungsgebiet eine Neubewertung der Syntaxa niederer Rangs aus den Ordnungen *Brachypodietalia*, *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia* und *Alysso-Sedetalia*. Auf der Grundlage dieser neuen Untersuchungen sowie neu erhobener Daten, die Kryptogamen einschließen, starteten wir daher mit der Validierung bzw. Neudeinition der Grenzen zwischen den Klassen *Sedo-Scleranthesia* und *Festuco-Brometea*, insbesondere auf der Ebene der Ordnungen *Alysso-Sedetalia* und *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis*, und klärten die syntaxonomische Stellung der Assoziationen *Poetum versicoloris*, *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertorum* und *Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolici*.

**Untersuchungsgebiet** – Das Untersuchungsgebiet liegt nordöstlich der Karpaten in Richtung des Flusses Dnieper und umfasst West- und Mittelpodolien. Das Gebiet besteht aus einer stärker unterbrochenen Hügellandschaft und liegt in 180–400 m Meereshöhe. Im Norden und Westen ist es durch steile Hügelketten des Hologor, Voronyaky und der Kremenets-Berge begrenzt, während es im Südwesten durch den Fluss Dniester von den Karpaten getrennt ist. Im Osten reicht es bis zur Dnieper-Mulde und im Südosten bis zum Tiefland des Schwarzen Meeres. Der geologische Untergrund der Hügel wird von mächtigen Kalkablagerungen aus dem Silur bis zum Paläogen gebildet; stellenweise heißt dieser Kalkstein aus. Die Böden der Ausbisse sind als Stadien der Rendzina-Serie entwickelt. Das Klima des Gebietes ist als gemäßigt-kontinental zu bezeichnen. Das Jahresmittel der Temperatur liegt zwischen 7,1 und 8,1 °C, das Julimittel zwischen 18,0 und 19,8 °C und das Januarmittel zwischen -4,0 und -5,2 °C. Der Jahresniederschlag beträgt 600–750 mm. Im schluchtartig eingeschnittenen Tal des Dniester liegt die Jahresmitteltemperatur etwas höher als in den umliegenden Gebieten, was einen gewissen subtropischen Effekt bewirkt. Insgesamt liegt in West- und Mittelpodolien die geobotanische Grenze zwischen zentraleuropäischen Wäldern und der ukrainischen Waldsteppenzone (DIDUKH & SHELYAG-SOSONKO 2003).

**Material und Methoden** – Zur Klassifikation der Vegetation der Kalksteinausbisse dienten insgesamt 108 Aufnahmen, die wir im Zeitraum 1997–2016 angefertigt haben; zusätzlich wurden verfügbare Daten aus der Literatur ausgewertet. Die meisten Aufnahmen wurden nach der Standardmethode der Eurasian Dry Grasland Group erstellt, d. h. auf 10 m<sup>2</sup> großen Flächen und unter Berücksichtigung von Kryptogamen. Die Daten wurden mit TWINSPAN gegliedert. Die ökologischen Merkmale der Syntaxa wurden mit der Synphyto-Indikationsmethode nach DIDUKH (2011) herausgearbeitet. Zur Visualisierung der Verteilung der Syntaxa entlang wichtiger ökologischer Gradienten diente ArcGIS 10.0 mit Fixierung der Koordinaten im WGS-1984-System.

**Ergebnisse** – Entsprechend der TWINSPAN-Analyse wurden neun Cluster als Assoziationen oder Subassoziationen der Klassen *Sedo-Scleranthesia* und *Festuco-Brometea* identifiziert (Abb. 2, Beilage S1). Das *Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis* und das *Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae* wurden neu beschrieben. Die syntaxonomische Position der Assoziationen *Orchido militaris -Seslerietum heufleranae* und *Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichonetum desertorum* innerhalb der Ordnung *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* wurden dem Verband *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati* bzw. der Ordnung *Brachypodietalia pinnati* zugeordnet. In Übereinstimmung mit dem pflanzensoziologischen Code (WEBER et al. 2000) wurde das *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* als eine östliche (Podalien-) Vikariante des *Poetum versicoloris* innerhalb des *Bromo pannonicci-Festucion pallentis* validiert. Zusätzlich werden Informationen zur Ordnung *Alysso-Sedetalia* gegeben; jeweils zwei Assoziationen und Subassoziationen wurden erstmalig für die Ukraine beschrieben. Die Syntaxa wurden auf Basis der ökologischen Zeigerwerte von DIDUKH (2011) evaluiert (Abb. 2), und ihre Verteilung entlang der Umweltgradienten wurde beleuchtet. Dabei wurde festgestellt, dass die *Brachypodietalia pinnati* weiter vom *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* entfernt waren als die Gesellschaften der *Alysso-Sedetalia*.

**Diskussion und Schlussfolgerungen** – Die meisten Gesellschaften der Kalksteinausbisse Podoliens gehören zu den Ordnungen *Alysso-Sedetalia* und *Stipo-Festucetalia pallentis*. Dagegen bleibt die synsystematische Stellung der von *Sesleria heuflerana* und *Helictotrichon desertorum* aufgebauten Gesellschaften offen – diese Frage benötigt einen größeren Betrachtungsraum. Unsere Aufnahmen bilden wichtiges Material zur Weiterentwicklung der Klassifikation der Vegetation der Ukraine im Kontext einer großräumig-europäischen Gesamtklassifikation.

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## Supplements

**Supplement S1.** Synoptic table of the vegetation occurring on limestone outcrops in Western and Central Podillia.

**Beilage S1.** Übersichtstabelle der Vegetation von Kalksteinausbissen in West- und Mittelpodolien.

**Supplement S2.** Relevés of the *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati* (*Brachypodietalia pinnati*) in Western and Central Podillia.

**Beilage S2.** Aufnahmen des *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati* (*Brachypodietalia pinnati*) in West- und Mittelpodolien.

**Supplement S3.** Relevés of the *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* and *Alysso-Sedetalia* in Western and Central Podillia.

**Beilage S3.** Aufnahmen des *Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis* und *Alysso-Sedetalia* in West- und Mittelpodolien.

**Supplement S4.** Synoptic table of the alliances with *phi* fidelity coefficients. Alliances are: 1 – *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati*, 2 – *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris*, 3 – *Alysso-Sedion*.

**Beilage S4.** Übersichtstabelle der Verbände mit Gesellschaftstreuekoeffizienten *phi*. Die Verbände sind: 1 – *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati*, 2 – *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris*, 3 – *Alysso-Sedion*.

**Additional supporting information may be found in the online version of this article.**

**Zusätzliche unterstützende Information ist in der Online-Version dieses Artikels zu finden.**

**Supplement E1.** Distribution maps of the distinguished syntaxa.

**Anhang E1.** Verbreitungskarten der untersuchten Syntaxa.

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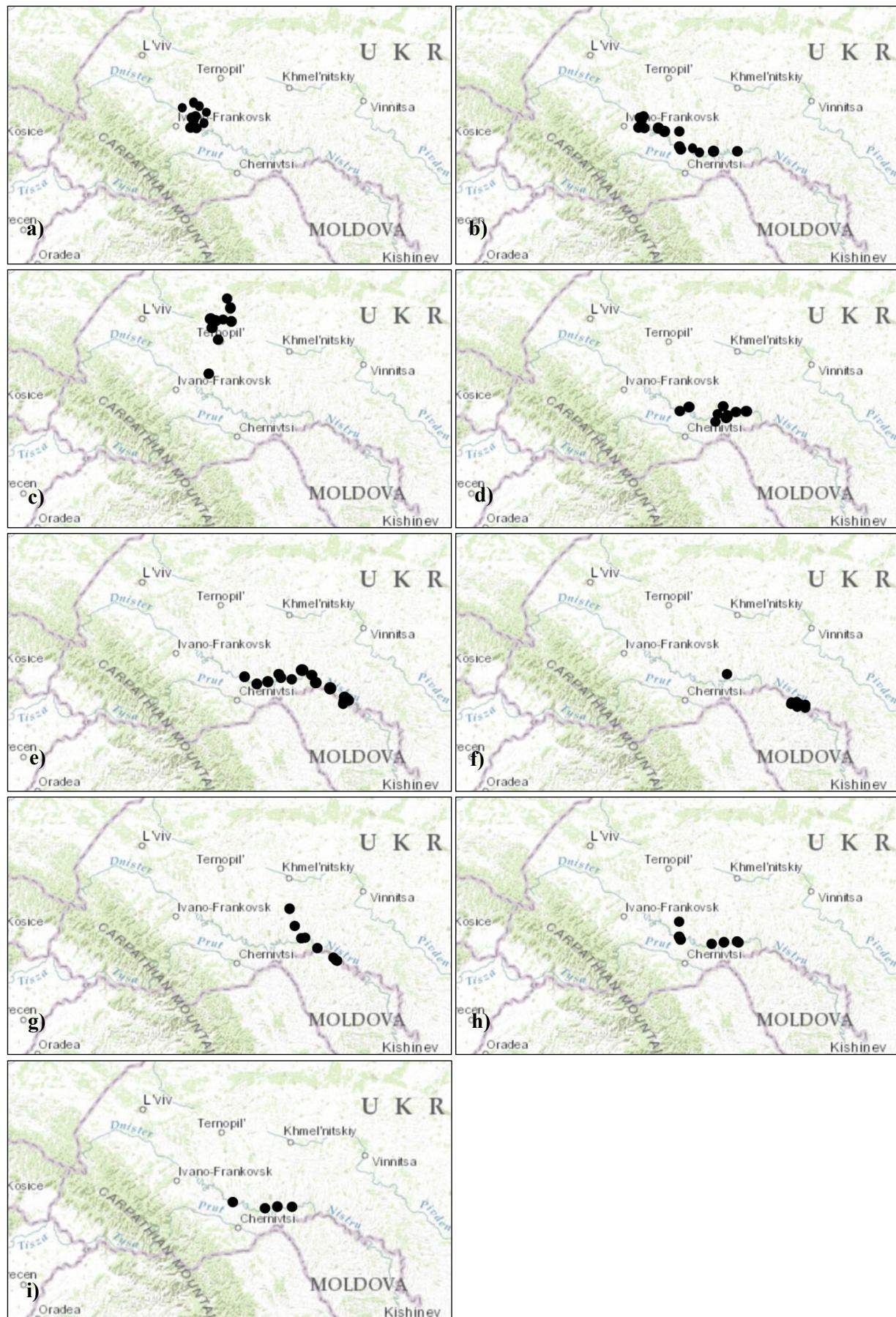
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Didukh & Vasheniak: Vegetation of limestone outcrops in Western and Central Podillia (Ukraine)

**Supplement E1.** Distribution maps of the distinguished syntaxa.

**Anhang E1.** Verbreitungskarten der untersuchten Syntaxa.



**Supplement S1.** Synoptic table of the vegetation occurring on limestone outcrops in Western and Central Podillia with percentage frequencies and phi fidelity indices ( $\Phi \times 100$ ) in upper case. DS = diagnostic species. Frequencies of more than 25%, but less than 50% (constant species) and fidelity indices of  $0.25 \leq \text{phi} < 0.50$  (diagnostic species) are shaded in light grey, frequencies of 50% or more (highly constant species) and fidelity indices of  $\text{phi} \geq 0.50$  (highly diagnostic species) in dark grey.

**Beilage S1.** Übersichtstabelle der Vegetation von Kalksteinausbissen in West- und Mittelpodolien mit relativer Häufigkeit (in Prozent) und Gesellschaftstreueindex phi ( $\Phi \times 100$ , hochgestellte Werte). DS = Diagnostische Arten. Häufigkeiten ab 25 %, aber unter 50 % (konstante Arten) und Treueindizes mit  $0.25 \leq \text{phi} < 0.50$  (diagnostische Arten) sind hellgrau, Häufigkeiten  $\geq 50$  % (hochkonstante Arten) und Treueindizes mit  $\text{phi} \geq 0.50$  (hochdiagnostische Arten) dunkelgrau unterlegt.

	Festuco-Brometea						Sedo-Scleranthetea		
	Brachypodietalia			Stipo-Festucetalia			Alyso-Sedetalia		
	Cirsio-Brachypodion		Galio-Poion versicoloris				Alyso-Sedion		
Code of the syntaxa	1.1.1a	1.1.1b	1.1.2	1.2.1	1.2.2a	1.2.2b	2.1.1	2.1.2a	2.1.2b
Cluster numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No. of relevés	10	22	11	10	25	10	10	10	10
DS <i>Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae campanuletosum rotundofoliae</i>									
<i>Campanula glomerata</i>	80 77.5	20	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	70 75.9	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Chamaecytisus blockianus</i>	60 75.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Thesium linophyllum</i>	60 75.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Poterium sanguisorba</i>	70 62.4	20	.	.	.	.	10	.	10
<i>Euphorbia volvynica</i>	30 52.5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>	30 43.8	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	30 43.8	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Thymus pulegioides</i>	60 43.4	30	.	.	.	10	.	20	20
<i>Primula macrocalyx</i>	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Valeriana stolonifera</i>	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Pulsatilla pratensis</i>	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Pyrethrum corymbosum</i>	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Chamaecytisus albus</i>	20 32.8	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DS <i>Orchido militaris-Seslerietum heufleranae typicum</i>									
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	.	100 90.1	.	.	.	10	10	.	.
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	.	60 75.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Brachythecium albicans</i>	.	90 69.6	.	.	.	10	.	10	40
<i>Ranunculus polyanthemos</i>	10	40 53.2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Malus praecox</i>	.	30 52.5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Fragaria viridis</i>	10	60 51.6	.	.	.	10	10	.	20
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	.	90 44.1	18	20	8	20	10	60 21.4	60 21.4
<i>Hypericum elegans</i>	.	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Candeleriella vitellina</i>	.	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Primula veris</i>	.	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	10	50 36.5	.	.	17	.	10	20	20
<i>Daucus carota</i>	20	50 35.8	.	.	.	.	10	30	20
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	.	30 33.1	.	10	.	.	.	.	20
<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	10	20 32.8	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Rosa canina</i>	10	40 30.8	.	.	17	10	10	.	20
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	20	50 30.1	.	.	8	10	30	20	20
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	10	30 29.3	.	.	.	.	20	.	10
<i>Galium mollugo</i>	40	70 28.2	64 23.4	40	33	30	.	50	20
<i>Thymus marschallianus</i>	20	70 27.8	.	.	50	20	10	10	50
<i>Abietinella abietina</i>	40	90 27.8	27	10	8	80 20.8	50	70	80 20.8
DS <i>Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori</i>									
<i>Helictotrichon desertorum</i>	.	.	100 100	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Astragalus austriacus</i>	.	82 89.4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Euphrasia stricta</i>	.	82 89.4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Gypsophila fastigiata</i>	.	73 83.9	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Jurinea mollissima</i>	.	82 78.7	20	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	.	64 78	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Anemone sylvestris</i>	10	64 71.5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>	.	10 71.5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Chamaecytisus ruthenicus</i>	.	20 66.2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Briza media</i>	10	10 66.2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Carex humilis</i>	30	20 60.3	91	20	.	30	.	.	.
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	.	55 59.3	55	10	.	.	.	.	10
<i>Peucedanum cervaria</i>	.	36 58	36	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	10	45 57.8	45	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Inula ensifolia</i>	30	40 55.3	82	25	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Adonis vernalis</i>	20	10 51.2	64	.	.	.	20	10	.
<i>Onobrychis arenaria</i>	10	30 50.8	55	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Lembotropis nigricans</i>	30	30 50.7	82	8	50 23.6	.	.	.	.
<i>Trifolium montanum</i>	.	27 50	27	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Centaurea sp.</i>	.	27 50	27	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Serratula tinctoria</i>	.	27 50	27	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Echium russicum</i>	.	27 50	27	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Iris hungarica</i>	.	27 50	27	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Thesium arvense</i>	.	27 50	27	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Trifolium medium</i>	.	10 49.9	36	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Stipa capillata</i>	.	55 49	55	10	25	10	.	.	.
<i>Cirsium pannonicum</i>	.	18 40.6	18	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Euphorbia seguieriana</i>	.	18 40.6	18	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Allium senescens montanum</i>	30	.	73 40.1	40	25	10	.	20	20
<i>Linum flavum</i>	20	.	36 33.7	.	25	.	.	.	.
<i>Centaurea marschalliana</i>	.	10 30.6	18	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	20	.	27 26.6	.	.	.	.	10	10
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	20	10 25	36	8	20	10	10	.	.
DS <i>Schivereckio podolicae-Seselietum libanotidis</i>									
<i>Schivereckia podolica</i>	.	.	.	90 88.8	.	10	.	.	.
<i>Gypsophila thyraica</i>	.	.	.	60 75.6	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Seseli libanotis intermedium</i>	.	10	.	70 66.2	.	10	.	10	.
<i>Veronica prostrata</i>	.	.	.	40 61	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Galium exoletum</i>	.	.	.	40 61	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Melampyrum arvense</i>	.	10	.	60 58.9	.	10	10	.	.
<i>Astragalus onobrychis</i>	10	.	27	60 49.8	8	.	10	.	.
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	.	.	.	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>	.	.	.	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Potentilla intermedia</i>	.	.	.	20 42.6	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	20	.	27	50 41.6	.	.	.	.	10
<i>Thymus pannonicus</i>	.	.	.	60 39	30	10	40	20	.
<i>Rosa species</i>	.	.	.	30 37.7	.	.	20	.	.
<i>Hylotelephium maximum</i>	.	.	.	50 36.1	8	30	20	.	20
<i>Erysimum odoratum</i>	.	.	.	40 35.4	.	20	.	20	10
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	10	20	.	40 35.4	.	10	.	.	10
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	.	10	.	20 32.8	.	.	.	.	.
DS <i>Poetum versicoloris typicum</i>									

	Festuco-Brometea							Sedo-Scleranthea		
	Brachypodietalia			Stipo-Festucetalia				Alyso-Sedetalia		
	Cirsio-Brachypodion		1.1.2	1.2.1	1.2.2a	1.2.2b	2.1.1	2.1.2a	2.1.2b	
Code of the syntaxa	1.1.1a	1.1.1b	1.1.2	1.2.1	1.2.2a	1.2.2b	2.1.1	2.1.2a	2.1.2b	
Cluster numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
No. of relevés	10	22	11	10	25	10	10	10	10	
DS <i>Bryo argentei-Ajugetum chiae</i>										
<i>Ajuga chia</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	80	88.3	.	.
<i>Xanthoria sp.</i>	10	.	.	.	.	.	70	75.9	.	.
<i>Pilosella praeculta</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	50	68.6	.	.
<i>Bryum argenteum</i>	.	.	.	.	25	.	90	68.1	30	10
<i>Lappula squarrosa</i>	.	.	.	.	8	10	60	64.3	.	.
<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	40	61	.	.
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	.	.	.	.	17	.	60	56.2	20	.
<i>Poa bulbosa</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	40	53.2	.	10
<i>Polycnemum arvense</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	30	52.5	.	.
<i>Schistidium atrovirens</i>	30	30	.	.	.	.	60	48.5	.	.
<i>Euphorbia stepposa</i>	.	10	.	.	.	.	30	43.8	.	.
<i>Galium humifusum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	42.6	.	.
<i>Allium flavescens</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	42.6	.	.
<i>Potentilla canescens</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	42.6	.	.
<i>Setaria viridis</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	42.6	.	.
<i>Thymus sp.</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	42.6	.	.
<i>Hieracium umbellatum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	42.6	.	.
<i>Anisantha tectorum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	39.3	.	.
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	.	10	.	10	8	10	30	33.1	20	10
<i>Sideritis montana</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	32.8	.	.
<i>Achillea setacea</i>	.	.	.	10	.	.	60	29.8	50	.
DS <i>Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolicum typicum</i>										
<i>Allium podolicum</i>	.	.	.	20	.	.	90	79.7	30	.
<i>Festuca ovina</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	80	73.2	10	.
<i>Encalypta vulgaris</i>	.	20	.	.	.	30	70	58.9	.	.
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	40	53.2	10	.
<i>Homalothecium lutescens</i>	50	50	.	.	.	30	100	51.3	30	.
<i>Veronica incana</i>	10	.	.	.	.	.	30	43.8	.	.
<i>Galium tinctorium</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	42.6	.	.
<i>Cladonia pocillum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	32.8	10	.
<i>Aurinia saxatilis</i>	.	.	.	80	55.2	.	20	46.2	30	.
<i>Koeleria cristata</i>	10	20	36	.	.	30	60	29.8	50	.
DS <i>Aurinio saxatilis-Allietum podolicum xanthorietosum elegantis</i>										
<i>Xanthoria elegans</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	10	80	82.5
<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	60	75.6	.
<i>Berteroa incana</i>	.	10	.	.	.	.	20	70	66.2	.
<i>Hypnum cupressiforme</i>	30	40	.	.	.	.	10	70	48.3	.
<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	42.6	.
<i>Tragopogon orientalis</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	20	42.6	.
<i>Xanthoria polycarpa</i>	.	.	.	.	.	10	10	.	30	37.7
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	20	20	.	.	.	.	.	.	30	29.3
DS <i>Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati</i> and <i>Brachypodietalia pinnati</i>										
<i>Sesleria heufflerana</i>	70	39.6	100	64.8	36	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>	60	35.8	60	35.8	27	.	.	.	10	20
<i>Bupleurum falcatum</i>	90	41.6	80	34.1	73	28.7	.	25	30	.
<i>Securigera varia</i>	70	30.3	70	30.3	18	.	10	67	27.7	10
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	40	31.6	.	64	57.7	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Ranunculus zapalowiczii</i>	40	29.1	10	64	54.3	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Anthericum ramosum</i>	60	26.7	20	91	51.5	.	8	20	20	10
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	20	70	39.5	.	.	67	36.7	.	20	30
<i>Plantago media</i>	20	50	32.7	55	37.1	.	.	.	10	10
<i>Poa angustifolia</i>	.	50	25.3	.	.	8	20	30	50	25.3
<i>Viola ambigua</i>	40	24.8	30	36	.	8	10	10	.	.
DS <i>Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris</i> and <i>Stipo pulcherrimae-Festucetalia pallentis</i>										
<i>Galium glaucum</i>	50	40	18	.	25	80	40.8	20	.	20
<i>Sempervivum ruthenicum</i>	.	.	.	60	47.1	25	40	.	.	.
<i>Cephalaria uralensis</i>	.	.	.	50	32.9	33	60	42.6	.	.
<i>Otites eugeniae</i>	10	.	.	50	28.1	.	60	37.1	10	40
<i>Cleistogenes serotina</i>	.	.	9	.	58	34.3	60	35.8	20	20
<i>Falcaria vulgaris</i>	.	.	.	10	33	29.4	40	37.5	.	.
<i>Astragalus monspessulanus</i>	10	20	.	.	42	27	60	45.4	.	.
<i>Teucrium montanum</i>	40	.	.	58	26.8	70	36.3	30	20	10
<i>Linaria genistifolia</i>	10	.	.	.	25	60	32.9	70	41.5	20
DS <i>Festuco-Brometea</i>										
<i>Artemisia campestris</i>	.	.	55	21.4	30	33	70	33.6	30	30
<i>Campanula sibirica</i>	40	40	73	33	30	17	20	20	30	.
<i>Asperula cynanchica</i>	50	80	100	30.7	30	33	70	60	60	30
<i>Salvia verticillata</i>	80	26.6	80	26.6	36	20	58	20	50	20
<i>Eryngium planum</i>	.	70	53.1	.	.	.	50	33.6	.	10
<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>	10	20	9	80	26.4	58	60	37.1	20	60
<i>Festuca valesiaca</i>	30	40	.	60	58	90	36.2	40	40	40
<i>Veronica spicata</i>	30	10	91	52.8	80	44	.	.	20	.
<i>Thalictrum minus</i>	40	.	64	30.6	20	8	10	.	60	27.7
<i>Stachys recta</i>	20	10	9	40	42	40	.	20	20	20
<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	40	40	18	.	33	40	.	.	.	.
DS <i>Alyso-Sedion</i> and <i>Alyso-Sedetalia</i>										
<i>Sedum acre</i>	.	10	.	80	21.3	58	50	.	90	28.4
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	30	10	.	.	.	.	10	60	33.7	50
<i>Acinos arvensis</i>	.	.	27	50	8	10	10	60	28.5	28.5
<i>Tortula ruralis</i>	10	10	.	20	.	60	.	40	80	35
<i>Sedum sexangulare</i>	.	.	.	.	.	40	.	50	26.5	90
<i>Alyssum calycinum</i>	10	.	.	.	.	40	.	50	50	44.1
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	.	.	.	10	.	.	.	10	40	62.9
Other vascular species										
<i>Elytrigia intermedia</i>	.	40	64	50	75	27.3	80	30.9	20	10
<i>Allium albidum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	10	10	.	.	.
<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>	.	.	.	20	8	.	30	20	10	.
<i>Artemisia austriaca</i>	.	.	.</td							

**Beilage S2.** Aufnahmen des *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati* (*Brachypodietalia pinnati*) in West- und Mittelpodolien. Koordinaten von Aufnahmen mit Sternen (\*) wurden (grob) mit

Hilfe von Google Maps ermittelt.

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Relevé no.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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Longitude	
Latitude	
Date	
Author	
Aspect (°)	
Inclination (°)	
Plot size (m2)	
Total vegetation cover (%)	
Cover of herb layer (%)	
Cover of cryptogam layer (%)	
Maximum height of herbs (cm)	
Minimum height of herbs (cm)	
Number of species	
Number of relevés in TURBOVEG Database	
Code of the syntaxa	
Cluster	
661 44 5 41 20 70 80 10 28 345 I. Vashenialk42586 49.4393 24.9879	
620 46 1 53 20 70 95 10 45 318 I. Vashenialk42586 49.4387 24.9874	
621 34 1 41 20 40 50 10 43 309 I. Vashenialk42586 49.4446 25.0677	
681 36 2 80 10 60 70 10 18 250 I. Vashenialk42586 49.4452 25.0649	
667 32 2 70 10 70 80 10 15 250 I. Vashenialk42587 49.0645 25.1165	
671 21 2 80 20 60 80 10 18 240 I. Vashenialk42587 49.3519 24.6118	
67 32 - - 60 10 40 - I. Vashenialk42587 49.3518 24.6188	
70 20 - - 60 10 45 - I. Vashenialk42587 49.3522 24.6175	
69 24 - - 50 10 40 180 I. Didukh 42586 50.0678 25.4991	
71 30 - - 90 - 10 - I. Didukh 42586 49.4386 24.9882	
555 49 2 73 10 70 80 10 28 290 I. Rozenblit 42586 50.0712 25.5126	
552 36 5 73 10 60 70 10 15 310 I. Vashenialk42543 48.6009 26.8307	
584 34 1 74 15 70 85 10 22 330 I. Vashenialk42543 48.6003 26.8305	
675 34 2 58 10 80 90 10 18 320 I. Vashenialk42543 48.6032 26.8298	
572 43 1 71 10 70 80 10 30 310 I. Vashenialk42543 48.6055 26.8297	
559 37 1 85 10 70 80 10 25 320 I. Vashenialk42550 48.5737 26.7298	
573 29 2 51 10 50 60 10 30 90 I. Vashenialk42550 48.5741 26.7292	
551 39 1 43 20 80 90 10 31 15 I. Vashenialk42550 48.5723 26.7337	
586 41 1 85 15 50 60 10 15 330 I. Rozenblit 42586 50.0724 25.4643	
591 52 3 56 10 65 70 10 10 30 I. Rozenblit 42586 50.0731 25.4661	
1 23 2 85 - 40 55 20 65 180 I. Didukh 28278 49.1283 25.3731	
5 39 4,5 80 - 40 50 20 50 10 I. Didukh 28278 49.1279 25.3709	
10 37 5 110 - 45 50 20 55 10 I. Didukh 28278 49.1268 25.3707	
4 35 5 100 - 70 80 20 25 315 I. Didukh 28279 49.7256 25.4516	
8 37 8 80 - 70 80 20 25 45 I. Didukh 28279 49.7253 25.4485	1.1.2
9 34 5 120 - 90 95 20 45 10 I. Didukh 28279 49.7267 25.4318	3
3 38 1 105 - 40 50 20 45 10 I. Didukh 28279 49.5723 25.5633	
6 51 4 120 - 50 80 20 25 10 I. Didukh 28279 49.5762 25.5633	
7 42 5 100 - 50 70 20 70 270 I. Didukh 28280 50.1076 25.7399	

Agrimonia eupatoria  
Brachythecium albicans

*Achillea millefolium* . . . . .  
*Eryngium planum* . . . . .

## **Ass. Ranunculo zapalowiczi-Helictotrichetum desertori**

Hedysarum desertorum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	3	3	3	1	3	4	3	3	3			
Euphrasia stricta	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
Astragalus austriacus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	.	1	1	.	1	1	1		
Jurinea mollissima	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	.	.	1	1		
Gypsophila fastigiata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Helianthemum nummularium	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	1	.	3	5	.	.	1	
Linum catharticum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	
Stipa capillata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	.	.	1	1	1	
Artemisia campestris	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	.	1	1	1	1	1	.	
Filipendula vulgaris	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	1	.	1	.	.	1	1	1
Anemone sylvestris	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Chamaecytisus ruthenicus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Briza media	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	1	1	.	1	1	1	1	
Peucedanum cervaria	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	1	.	1	.	1	1	.	
Adonis vernalis	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	1	.	.	1	1	1	1	
Leucanthemum vulgare	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	1	.	.	1	1	1	1	
Iris hungarica	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	1	.	1	.	1	.	1	
Acinos arvensis	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	
Trifolium medium	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	1	1	1	
Poa versicolor	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	.	3	.	1	.	1	1	

#### All. Cirsio pannonicum-Brachypodion pinnati

<b>Ord. Brachypodietalia pinnati</b>	1	3	+	2	3	3	.	1	.	.	3	2	3	3	5	4	4	1	3	2	.	.	.	.	.	2	4	5	.		
Sesleria heuflerana	1	2	2	.	.	3	.	.	.	1	.	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	.	.	.	.	4	.	2	.	.		
Abietinella abietina	1	2	2	.	.	3	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	3	1	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	1	.	1	1	1	1	.		
Lembotropis nigricans	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	3	1	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	1	.	1	1	1	1	.		
Veronica spicata	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	.		
Carex humilis	.	1	.	2	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	2	.	5	4	4	4	5	.	5	3	1	4		
Ranunculus zapalowiczii	.	.	.	1	+	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	1	.	1	1	.		
Allium senescens subsp. montanum	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	.	1	1	.		
Viola ambigua	.	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.		
Aster amellus	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.		
Galium campanulatum	1	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.		
Linum flavum	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	.		
Anthericum ramosum	1	1	2	1	1	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	.	4		
<b>Cl. Festuco-Brometea</b>	1	.	.	+	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Festuca valesiaca	1	.	.	+	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Teucrium chamaedrys	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	.	1	1	2	.	1	1	1	.	1	1	1	+	1	2	1	1	1	.	1	1	.		
Scabiosa ochroleuca	+	.	.	1	1	.	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	+	1	.	.	1	1	1	.	1	1	.	1	1	
Asperula cynanchica	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	+	+	+	1	+	.	+	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	.	
Festuca rupicola	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	+	1	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	.	.	1	1	.	
Inula ensifolia	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	2	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	.	1	1	.		
Anthyllis vulneraria	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	1	.	1	1	1	.		
Elytrigia intermedia	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	+	1	1	1	.	.	1	1	1	.	1	.		
Thalictrum minus	1	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	1	1	1	.	1	.			
Poa compressa	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Salvia verticillata	+	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	+	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.			

Potentilla incana  
Euphorbia cyparissias

Securigera varia	1	+	1	.	1	1	1	.	1	.	1	1	1	.	1	.	+	+	1	.	.	.	.	
Plantago lanceolata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	1	.	1	.	.
Bupleurum falcatum	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	.	+	.	1	1	1	1	1
Leontodon hispidus	1	.	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	+	+	.	.	1	.	.	1
Galium verum	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	+	1	.	.	.
Medicago falcata ag.	+	1	+	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	1	1	1	.	+	.	1	.	1
Arenaria serpyllifolia	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	
<b>Other vascular plants</b>																								
Hieracium virosum	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Festuca pratensis	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Stachys recta	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1
Centaurea stoebe	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	+	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Astragalus onobrychis	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	1	.	.
Rhamnus cathartica	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Vincetoxicum hirundinaria	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1
Taraxacum officinale	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Salvia pratensis	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Pyrus communis	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Eryngium campestre	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Arabis hirsuta	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Chamaecytisus albus	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Carlina vulgaris	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Medicago lupulina	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	1	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
Thymus marschallianus	1	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	1	1	+	1	.	+	.	1	1	1	1	1
Onobrychis arenaria	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	1	1	1	1
Campanula sibirica	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	.	1	.	1	.	1	1	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	.	1	
Centaurea scabiosa	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	1	.	1	
Hypericum perforatum	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	.
Berteroa incana	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Koeleria cristata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	1	1	.	.	1	.	1	.
Festuca pseudodalmatica	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	1	.	.	.
Pimpinella saxifraga	.	.	1	.	1	1	2	.	1	+	1	1	1	.	+	.	.	1	+	.	1	.	1	1

*Astragalus monspeliensis*  
*Plantago media*

maritima (19:1, 27:1, 29:1) Centaurea spec. (22:1, 25:1, 30:1), Cerasus avium (15:1, 16:1), Chamaecytisus austriacus (21:1), Chisium paeniticum (27:1, 30:1), Cleistogenes serotina (21:1), Clematis integrifolia (10:1), C. recta (12:+), Cotoneaster melanocarpus (11:1), Crucia glabra (10:1), Cuscuta approximata (5:1, 14:1), C. europaea (18:1), Echium russicum (27:1, 30:1, 31:1), Equisetum arvense (12:1), Erysimum canescens (15:+), E. odoratum (11:1), Euphorbia seguieriana (28:1, 29:1), E. stepposa (18:1), Euphrasia hirtella (6:1), Fraxinus excelsior (19:1), Galatella linoxyris (12:+), Galium tinctorium (12:+), Geranium sanguineum (10:+), Helichrysum arenarium (21:1), Hieracium umbellatum (29:1), Hypericum elegans (15:1, 20:1), Jurinea arachnoidea (2:r), Jurinea spec. (31:+), Laser trilobium (26:1), Leontodon autumnalis (14:1, 21:1), Linaria vulgaris (14:1), Lotus corniculatus (8:1, 9:1, 10:1, 17:1), Malus praecox (13:1, 16:1, 19:r), Melampyrum arvense (18:1), Melica transsilvanica (19:1), Melilotus officinalis (19:r), Minuartia setacea agg. (15:+), Nonea pulla (1:1), Origanum vulgare (6:1, 10:1), Orites densiflora (7:1), O. eugeniae (1:1), Oxytropis pilosa (29:1), Peucedanum carvifolia (6:1), Peucedanum spec. (6:1), Phlomis tuberosa (24:1), Pieris hieracioides (13:1), Polygal comosa (1:r), P. sibirica (18:1), P. vulgaris (12:+), Primula macrocalyx (7:1, 8:1), P. veris (11:1, 14:1), Prunella vulgaris (11:1), Pulmonaria mollis (12:1), Pyrethrum corymbosum (4:1, 10:1), Rosa caryophyllacea (24:1), R. rubiginosa (18:1), R. spinosissima (5:1), Salvia nemorosa (2:1), Sanguisorba officinalis (12:+), Saxifraga tridactylites (1:1), Sedum acre (20:1), Senecio jacobaea (7:1), Serratula tinctoria (28:1, 30:1, 31:1), Seseli hippomarathrum (3:r, 18:1), Seseli libanotis subsp. intermedium (12:1), Silene tanaitica (7:1), Silene spec. (7:1), Silene viridifolia (29:+), Stachys germanica (20:r), Stipa pulcherrima (1:1), Swida sanguinea (12:1, 20:1), Teucrium polium (24:1), Thesium arvense (25:1, 30:1, 31:1), Thymus moldavicus (26:1), Trifolium montanum (27:1, 28:1, 29:1), Trinia glauca (11:+), Turritis glabra (17:r), Valeriana stolonifera (2:1, 3:r), Verbascum lychnitis (1:1), V. phlomoides (20:r), Veronica austriaca (2:r, 31:1), V. incana (1:1), V. teucrium (12:1), Vicia tetrasperma (17:r), Viola hirta (20:1), V. matutina (25:1). **Other bryophytes and lichens:** Brachythecium glareosum (20:r), Camplothece lutescens (12:1), Campylium chrysophyllum (11:1), Candellariella vitelina (11:r, 12:r), Ceratodon purpureus (4:1, 11:1), Cladonia fimbriata (20:r), C. foliacea (4:1, 15:1)



**Supplement S4.** Synoptic table of the alliances with phi fidelity coefficients. Alliances are: 1 – *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati* , 2 – *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* , 3 – *Alyso-Sedion* .

**Beilage S4.** Übersichtstabelle der Verbände mit Gesellschaftstreuekoeffizienten *phi*.

Die Verbände sind: 1 – *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati* ,  
2 – *Galio campanulati-Poion versicoloris* , 3 – *Alyso-Sedion* .

Alliance	1	2	3
Number of relevés	43	43	32
Bupleurum falcatum	76.1	—	—
Sesleria heuflerana	70.8	—	—
Ranunculus zapalowiczii	57.7	—	—
Anthyllis vulneraria	54.9	—	—
Plantago media	53.7	—	—
Inula ensifolia	53.6	—	—
Campanula glomerata	52.0	—	—
Pimpinella saxifraga	50.8	—	—
Briza media	49.0	—	—
Euphrasia stricta	49.0	—	—
Chamaecytisus ruthenicus	49.0	—	—
Helictotrichon desertorum	47.8	—	—
Filipendula vulgaris	45.9	—	—
Gypsophila fastigiata	45.9	—	—
Anemone sylvestris	45.9	—	—
Carex humilis	45.1	—	—
Anthericum ramosum	44.8	—	—
Onobrychis arenaria	44.6	—	—
Helianthemum nummularium	42.6	—	—
Lembotropis nigricans	42.6	—	—
Astragalus austriacus	41.3	—	—
Leucanthemum vulgare	39.2	—	—
Knautia arvensis	39.2	—	—
Campanula rotundifolia	37.9	—	—
Viola ambigua	37.5	—	—
Agrimonia eupatoria	37.5	—	—
Veronica spicata	35.9	—	—
Trifolium medium	35.6	—	—
Ranunculus polyanthemos	35.6	—	—
Adonis vernalis	34.3	—	—
Poterium sanguisorba	33.9	—	—
Jurinea mollissima	33.5	—	—
Campanula sibirica	33.4	—	—
Asperula cynanchica	33.2	—	—
Salvia verticillata	32.7	—	—
Arabis hirsuta	31.6	—	—
Peucedanum cervaria	31.6	—	—
Lotus corniculatus	31.6	—	—
Chamaecytisus blockianus	30.1	—	—
Thesium linophyllum	30.1	—	—
Linum catharticum	29.7	—	—
Centaurea species	27.2	—	—
Serratula tinctoria	27.2	—	—
Carlina vulgaris	27.2	—	—
Iris hungarica	27.2	—	—
Trifolium montanum	27.2	—	—
Centaurea marschalliana	27.2	—	—
Euphorbia volhynica	27.2	—	—
Thesium arvense	27.2	—	—
Echium russicum	27.2	—	—
Malus praecox	27.2	—	—
Fragaria viridis	26.6	—	—
Teucrium chamaedrys	26.1	—	—
Linum flavum	25.7	—	—
Hypericum perforatum	25.5	—	—
Thymus pulegioides	24.7	—	—
Thymus marschallianus	24.7	—	—
Scabiosa ochroleuca	24.6	—	—
Centaurea scabiosa	23.4	—	—
Aster amellus	22.4	—	—
Brachythecium albicans	22.1	—	—
Allium senescens s. montanum	21.7	—	—
Securigera varia	21.0	—	—

Alliance	1	2	3
Number of relevés	43	43	32
Melica transsilvanica	—	54.5	—
Sempervivum ruthenicum	—	50.6	—
Elytrigia intermedia	—	50.0	—
Cephalaria uralensis	—	49.8	—
Schizocarphus podolica	—	49.1	—
Chamaecytisus austriacus	—	43.4	—
Cerasus fruticosa	—	40.3	—
Poa versicolor	—	38.9	—
Nonea pulla	—	38.7	—
Falcaria vulgaris	—	38.7	—
Cleistogenes serotina	—	38.2	—
Gypsophila thymoides	—	37.1	—
Botriochloa ischaemum	—	36.8	—
Festuca valesiaca	—	35.2	—
Hylotelephium maximum	—	34.3	—
Seseli libanotis s. intermedium	—	34.1	—
Salvia nemorosa	—	34.1	—
Astragalus monspessulanus	—	33.1	—
Centaurea stoebe	—	31.1	—
Melampyrum arvense	—	30.6	—
Veronica prostrata	—	30.0	—
Chamaecytisus podolicus	—	30.0	—
Galium exoletum	—	30.0	—
Stachys recta	—	28.0	—
Anthemis tinctoria s. subtinctoria	—	26.8	—
Astragalus onobrychis	—	26.3	—
Otites eugeniae	—	26.1	—
Consolida regalis	—	25.8	—
Melica ciliata	—	25.8	—
Asparagus polystachyus	—	25.8	—
Reseda lutea	—	25.8	—
Stipa pennata	—	25.8	—
Stipa pulcherrima	—	23.8	—
Eryngium campestre	—	23.0	—
Artemisia campestris	—	21.2	—
Teucrium montanum	—	20.8	—
Alyssum calycinum	—	—	63.6
Tortula ruralis	—	—	61.3
Arenaria serpyllifolia	—	—	58.3
Sedum acre	—	—	55.1
Sedum sexangulare	—	—	53.8
Festuca ovina	—	—	50.9
Asplenium ruta-muraria	—	—	46.6
Bryum argenteum	—	—	45.2
Berteroa incana	—	—	42.6
Ajuga chia	—	—	42.6
Allium podolicum	—	—	39.9
Xanthoria polycarpa	—	—	39.7
Koeleria cristata	—	—	38.5
Homalothecium lutescens	—	—	37.7
Sideritis montana	—	—	36.5
Poa angustifolia	—	—	35.4
Abietinella abietina	—	—	35.1
Xanthoria species	—	—	34.0
Lactuca serriola	—	—	33.5
Poa bulbosa	—	—	33.1
Pilosella praeculta	—	—	33.1
Encalypta vulgaris	—	—	32.7
Arabidopsis thaliana	—	—	29.5
Carduus acanthoides	—	—	29.5
Fulgensia species	—	—	29.5
Centaurea diffusa	—	—	29.5
Chelidonium majus	—	—	29.5
Veronica incana	—	—	29.5
Linaria genistifolia	—	—	28.4
Verbascum phlomoides	—	—	27.2
Artemisia austriaca	—	—	27.2
Lappula squarrosa	—	—	26.4
Acinos arvensis	—	—	26.2
Cardaminopsis arenosa	—	—	25.4
Polycnemum arvense	—	—	25.4
Cladonia pocillum	—	—	25.4
Artemisia absinthium	—	—	22.4
Cichorium intybus	—	—	21.5
Achillea millefolium	—	—	19.9

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