



The Balkan Botanical Congress is an international meeting that has been held nearly every three years, since 1997. It brings together botanists from around the world who perform research on plants in the widest sense, as well as scientists who are engaged in the plant sciences and their applications. We were honored to host such an extraordinary scientific event this year in Serbia.

The 7th Balkan Botanical Congress – 7BBC 2018 took place in Novi Sad from September 10th to 14th 2018. The Congress was organized by the University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Biology and Ecology and the “Andreas Wolny” Botanical Society, along with the great help of 7 co-organizers and more than 30 supporters and sponsors. It truly was not possible to happen without exceptional help of our co-organizer - the Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province who made this congress not only possible, but totally awesome.

7BBC 2018 placed a special emphasis on plants of the Balkan Peninsula and covered various research fields. The Congress was organized into ten sessions: Plant Anatomy and Physiology, Plant Taxonomy and Systematics, Plant Molecular Biology and Genetics, Floristics, Vegetation and Phytogeography, Conservation Botany and Plant Invasions, Phytochemistry and Plant Resources, Agronomy and Forestry, Botanical Collections and History, Ethnobotany and Cryptogam Biology. These topics were elaborated through five plenary lectures given by eminent scientists, as well as in the form of introductory lectures, oral and poster presentations. With an overall number of 387 abstracts presented on the very latest of botanical science, we shared knowledge, expertise and novel ideas. We welcomed nearly 400 scientists to Novi Sad, and we believe that we succeeded in our joint endeavor to make new networks and new connections among botanists. We hope that we contributed to advancements in the wide and beautiful field of botany, ranging from fundamental botanical research to applied botany.

It is our great pleasure to publish this Abstract Book in Botanica Serbica, in the same year that this international journal, a renamed continuation of the Bulletin of the Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden Belgrade, celebrates its 90 year jubilee. On behalf of the Scientific and Organizing committee of 7BBC 2018 we would like to express our gratitude to all contributors, colleagues and sponsors for taking part in the 7th Balkan Botanical Congress, as well as for their efforts and contributions to its successful realization.

Goran Anačkov and Lana Zorić,
Co-presidents of the Scientific Committee of the 7 BBC
and guest editors of Botanica Serbica 42 (supplement 1).

Organizers:

University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Biology and Ecology, Novi Sad
Botanical Society „Andreas Wolny“, Novi Sad

Co-organizers:

Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province, Novi Sad
Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia, Belgrade
University of Belgrade, Faculty of Biology, Belgrade
University of Belgrade, Faculty of Forestry, Belgrade
University of Belgrade, Institute for Biological Research “Siniša Stanković“, Belgrade
University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine, Center for Medical-Pharmaceutical Research and Quality Control, Novi Sad
Natural History Museum in Belgrade, Belgrade

Support:

Republic of Serbia, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development
Republic of Serbia, Ministry of Environmental Protection
Republic of Serbia, Autonomous Province of the Vojvodina, Provincial Secretary for Higher Education and Scientific Research Activity
Republic of Serbia, Autonomous Province of the Vojvodina, Provincial Secretary for Urbanization and Environmental Protection
City of Novi Sad
PWMC “Vode Vojvodine“, Novi Sad
PC “Vojvodinašume“, Petrovaradin
PCC “Gradsko zelenilo“, Novi Sad
PCC “Lisje“, Novi Sad
Matica srpska, Novi Sad
Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops, Novi Sad
University of Novi Sad, Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment, Novi Sad
University of Novi Sad, Institute of Food Technology in Novi Sad, Novi Sad
University of East Sarajevo, Faculty of Technology, Zvornik
Journal “Plant Systematics and Evolution“
World Wild Fund For Nature, Belgrade
IUCN ECARO, Belgrade
Vojvodina Environmental Movement, Novi Sad
Biology and Ecology Students’ Scientific Research Society “Josif Pančić“, Novi Sad
National Park “Fruška gora”
Nature Park “Rusanda”
SNR “Deliblato Sand”
SNR “Obedska bara”
SNR “Okanj bara”
SNR “Slano Kopovo”
SNR “Titelski breg”
SNR “Zasavica”
Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest
Tourism Organization of Vojvodina
Tourist Organization of the City of Novi Sad, Novi Sad
PanaComp, Wonderland Travel, Novi Sad

Sponsors:

- Coca-Cola HBC, Belgrade
- Naftachem, Sremski Karlovci
- BioSPIN ltd, Novi Sad
- Mikronik ltd, Belgrade

- Nikon
- Pivnica “Gusan“, Novi Sad
- Intercaffe ltd, Belgrade

Honorable Commitee

Dr Ana Petrova, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria
Dr Kit Tan, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Dr Arne Strid, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Lund University, Sweden
Dr Werner Greuter, Herbarium Mediterraneum, University of Palermo, Italy & Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem, Freie University of Berlin, Germany
Dr Branislava Butorac, Institute for Nature Conservarion, Serbia
Dr Branka Stevanović, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia
Dr Dušan Nikolić, Rector of University of Novi Sad, Serbia
Dr Jelena Blaženčić, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia
Dr Milica Pavkov Hrvojević, Dean of Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
Miloš Vučević, The Mayor of Novi Sad, Serbia
Dr Pal Boža, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
Dr Rudolf Kastori, Secretary General of the Department of Natural Sciences, Matica srpska, Serbia
Dr Vladimir Stevanović, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade & Serbian Academy of Sciences and Art, Serbia
Vladimir Galić, Provincial Secretary for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection, Serbia
Dr Zoran Milošević, Provincial Secretary for Higher Education and Scientific Research, Serbia
Dr Karol Marhold, Plant Science and Biodiversity Centre, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Charles University, Prague, and Secretary-General of International Association for Plant Taxonomy, Slovak Republic & Czech Republic
Dr Tod Stuessy, Museum of Biological Diversity, The Ohio State University, United States of America

Scientific Committee**Presidents:**

Dr Goran Anačkov, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
Dr Lana Zorić, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

Members:

Dr Alfred Mullaj, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana, Albania
Dr Lulëzim Shuka, Department of Biology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana, Albania
Dr Božo Frajman, Institute of Botany, University of Innsbruck, Austria
Dr Peter Schönswetter, Institute of Botany, University of Innsbruck, Austria
Dr Faruk Bogunić, Faculty of Forestry, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Dr Senka Barudanovic, Faculty of Science, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Dr Siniša Škondrić, Department of Biology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Dr Rosen Tsonev, Faculty of Biology, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski“, Bulgaria
Dr Vladimir Vladimirov, Department of Plant and Fungal Diversity and Resources, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria
Dr Antun Alegro, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia
Dr Boštjan Surina, Natural History Museum Rijeka, Croatia
Dr Sandra Bogdanović, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb, Croatia
Dr Sonja Šiljak Jakovljević, Ecologie Systématique Evolution, CNRS, AgroParisTech, Univ. Paris-Sud, Université Paris-Saclay, France
Dr Dimitris Tzanoudakis, Division of Plant Biology, Department of Biology, University of Patras, Greece
Dr Panayotis Dimopoulos, Institute of Botany, Division of Plant Biology, Department of Biology, University of Patras, Greece
Dr Theophanis Constantinidis, Department of Ecology and Systematics, Faculty of Biology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
Dr Király Gergely, Institute of Silviculture and Forest Protection, University of Sopron, Hungary
Dr Zoltán Barina, Department of Botany, Hungarian Natural History Museum, Hungary
Dr Vlado Matevski, Institute of Biology, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University and Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Macedonia
Dr Danka Caković, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, University of Montenegro, Montenegro

Dr Danijela Stešević, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, University of Montenegro, Montenegro
 Dr Vesna Mačić, Institute of Marine Biology, University of Montenegro, Montenegro
 Dr Łuczaj Łukasz, Department of Botany, Institute of Applied Biotechnology and Basic Sciences, University of Rzeszów, Poland
 Dr László Bartha, Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Bio-Nano Sciences Romania
 Dr Biljana Božin, Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Bojan Konstantinović, Department of Environmental and Plant Protection Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Bojan Zlatković, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Science and Mathematics, University of Niš, Serbia
 Dr Branislava Lakušić, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Dmitar Lakušić, Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden “Jevremovac”, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Dragana Miladinović, Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops, Serbia
 Dr Dragana Rančić, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Dragana Vukov, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Gordana Tomović, Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden “Jevremovac”, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Ivana Maksimović, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Jadranka Luković, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Maja Karaman, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Marjan Niketić, Natural History Museum, Serbia
 Dr Marko Sabovljević, Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden “Jevremovac”, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Mihajla Đan, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Milan Stanković, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Kragujevac, Serbia
 Dr Milan Veljić, Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden “Jevremovac”, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Mirjana Šijačić Nikolin, Faculty of Forestry, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Miroslava Mitrović, Institute for Biological Research “Siniša Stanković”, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Nataša Nikolić, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Neda Mimica Dukić, Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Environmental Protection, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Pavle Pavlović, Institute for Biological Research “Siniša Stanković”, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Peđa Janačković, Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden “Jevremovac”, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Petar Marin, Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden “Jevremovac”, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Saša Orlović, Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Slobodan Jovanovic, Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden “Jevremovac”, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia
 Dr Slobodanka Pajević, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Snežana Radulović, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Srđan Stojnić, Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment and Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
 Dr Vladimir Ranđelović, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Science and Mathematics, University of Niš, Serbia
 Dr Andraž Čarni, “Jovan Hadži” Institute of Biology, Slovenia
 Dr Nejc Jogan, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
 Dr Neriman Özhatay, Department Of Pharmaceutical Botany, Faculty of Pharmacy, Istanbul University, Turkey

Organizing Committee

Presidents:

Dr Ružica Igić, President of Botanical Society “Andreas Wolny”, Novi Sad
 Dr Biljana Panjković, Head of Institute for Nature Conservation of the AP Vojvodina, Novi Sad

Secretaries:

Bojana Bokić, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Milica Rat, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad

Members:

Dr Biljana Božin, Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine, University of Novi Sad
 Dr Dragana Vukov, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Dr Dušanka Cvijanović, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Dr Goran Anačkov, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Dr Jadranka Luković, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Dr Lana Zorić, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Dr Ljiljana Nikolić, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad

Dr Milan Borišev, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Dr Milan Župunski, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Dr Nebojša Kladar, Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine, University of Novi Sad
 Dr Slobodanka Pajević, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Ana Vestek, Botanical Society “Andreas Wolny” Novi Sad
 Boris Radak, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Danijela Arsenov, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Dragan Obradov, Botanical Society “Andreas Wolny” Novi Sad
 Dunja Karanović, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Đurđica Simin, Botanical Society “Andreas Wolny” Novi Sad
 Goran Tmušić, Botanical Society “Andreas Wolny” Novi Sad
 Jelena Jocković, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Jelena Knežević, Botanical Society “Andreas Wolny” Novi Sad
 Marija Kovački, Botanical Society “Andreas Wolny” Novi Sad
 Marko Ručando, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Miloš Ilić, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Mirjana Čuk, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad
 Ranko Perić, Institute for Nature Conservation of the AP Vojvodina
 Sara Pavkov, Institute for Nature Conservation of the AP Vojvodina
 Slobodan Bojčić, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad

Sessions:

The 7th Balkan Botanical Congress consists of plenary lectures, introductory lectures of each session, as well as oral and poster presentations on the following topics:

Sessions 1. Plant Anatomy and Physiology

Sessions 2. Plant Taxonomy and Systematics

Sessions 3. Plant Molecular Biology and Genetics

Sessions 4. Floristics, Vegetation and Phytogeography

Sessions 5. Conservation Botany and Plant Invasion

Sessions 6. Phytochemistry and Plant Resources

Sessions 7. Agronomy and Forestry

Sessions 8. Botanical Collections and History

Sessions 9. Ethnobotany

Sessions 10. Cryptogam Biology

or medicine used or previously used in the study area. Thirty-one species are used exclusively as food or everyday drink, 50 species are used exclusively as medicine and 40 species are used for both food and medicine. The most commonly used exclusively food species are: *Cornus mas*, *Cichorium intybus*, *Chenopodium album*, *Prunus domestica*, *Pyrus amygdaliformis*, *Rubus idaeus*, *Clematis vitalba*, *Diplotaxis tenuifolia*, *Fragaria vesca* and *Allium ampeloprasum*. The most commonly exclusively medicinal species are: *Achillea millefolium*, *Tilia platyphyllos*, *Hypericum perforatum*, *Sempervivum tectorum*, *Artemisia absinthium*, *Plantago lanceolata*, *Gentiana lutea* ssp. *symphyandra*, *Althaea officinalis*, *Matricaria chamomilla*, and *Pinus nigra*. The most commonly used food-medicine spectrum species are: *Rubus caesius*, *Sambucus nigra*, *Urtica dioica*, *Dioscorea communis*, *Taraxacum* spp., *Asparagus acutifolius*, *Rosa canina*, *Foeniculum vulgare*, *Prunus spinosa* and *Sorbus domestica*. There were no significant differences between Ellenberg values for food and medicinal plants, apart from the Nitrogen indicator value – the plants used exclusively as food had a significantly higher index than those used in medicine. This probably stems from the fact that plants with soft fleshy shoots are attractive as food and they are more likely to come from nitrogen-rich ruderal habitats. Food plants and medicinal plants are collected from a variety of habitats and no clear difference between the two categories of plants was detected, however further testing of Ellenberg values in ethnobotanical studies could be interesting.

KEYWORDS: ethnoecology, quantitative ethnobotany, Ellenberg indicator values, wild edible plants, medicinal plants, Croatia

Poster presentation 13 09 11

HYPERICUM PLANTS AS TRADITIONAL MEDICINES IN AREAS OF NORTH CENTRAL AND EAST PELOPONNESE (GREECE)

Keki Maria^{1*}, Poulaki Stefania¹ & Kokkini Stella^{1,2}

¹Postgraduate Studies Program “Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Exploitation of Native Plants”, School of Biology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, GR 541 24 Thessaloniki, Greece, ²Lab of Systematic Botany & Phytogeography, Department of Botany, School of Biology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, GR 541 24, Thessaloniki, Greece

*Corresponding author: mariakeki@bio.auth.gr

The genus *Hypericum* L. includes about 484 taxa (herbs, shrubs and infrequently trees) placed in 36 taxonomic sections with worldwide distribution in warm temperate, subtropical and mountainous tropical regions. Several publications suggest that wild growing *Hypericum* plants are well known in the Balkans and are used by local people for the preparation of traditional medicines. The genus is represented in the flora of Greece by over 40 taxa (species and subspecies), members of 13 sections. Among them 15 taxa are Greek endemics. *Hypericum* plants are widely collected from the Greek country under the name “spathohorto” and “valsamohorto”

and are used for the preparation of teas or more frequent of olive oil extracts (“spatholado” or “balsamolado”). The aim of the present study is to (i) collect and identify the different *Hypericum* taxa grown in two geographically distant regions of Greece, (ii) record which of them are used as traditional medicines by the locals, and (iii) trace information for the way of home-made preparations as well as the suggestions for therapeutically applications. The total area where the present study is carried out, includes 12 villages and small cities, six located in North Central Greece (Municipality of Edessa) and six in the Eastern part of Peloponnese (Municipality of Epidaurus). Plants of the genus *Hypericum* were collected during flowering time and taxonomically identified. Voucher specimens with coordinates of their collection sites, are kept at the Herbarium of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (TAU). For the collection and evaluation of ethnobotanical information, structured and semi-structured interviews with native people were used. The informants are of different sex, age and professional employment. Due to differences in topography and climate (Continental-Mediterranean and Mediterranean climatic zone, respectively) but also in the cultural heritage of the two areas, differences are recorded in the taxa used as well as in the way of their therapeutically uses.

KEYWORDS: *Hypericum*, ethnobotany, taxonomy, traditional medicine, Greece

Poster presentation 14 09 06

DIVERSITY OF RARE INDIGENOUS PEAR VARIETIES (*PYRUS COMMUNIS* L.) IN THE REGION POLIMLJE, (SOUTHWEST SERBIA) AND THEIR USE IN ETHNOMEDICINE AND NUTRITION

Aleksandra Savić^{1*}, Snezana Jarić², Zora Dajić Stevanović³ & Sonja Duletić-Laušević⁴

¹Natural History Museum Belgrade, Njegoševa 51, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia, ²University of Belgrade, Institute for Biological Research “Siniša Stanković”, Department of Ecology, Bulevar Despota Stefana 142, Belgrade, Serbia, ³University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, Nemanjina 6, Belgrade, Serbia, ⁴University of Belgrade, Faculty of Biology, Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden “Jevremovac”, Takovska 43, Belgrade, Serbia

*Corresponding author: aleksandra.savic@nhmbeo.rs

This study documents the ethnobotanical and ethnomedicinal knowledge of the local inhabitants in the region Polimlje in Southwest Serbia, focused on recording rare autochthonous pear varieties (*Pyrus communis*). A special feature of Polimlje, as an unique multiethnic complex of natural and cultural heritage, is the great diversity of indigenous varieties of pears and breeding tradition in the households for hundreds of years. Objectives of the study were: to establish the diversity of indigenous pear varieties in order to preserve the unique *P. communis* gene fond characteristic to this region, and to explore their use in ethnomedicine and traditional

food production. The opened and semi-structured interviews were done with 40 people aged between 30-80 years (29 men and 11 women), during June - September 2015, on the territory of 23 villages. The results of this study indicate the presence of 23 autochthonous pear varieties: 7 are determined as rare (*Vidovača*, *Ječmenjača*, *Ilinjača*, *Lubeničarka*, *Medunak*, *Zimnjača*, *Takiša*) and 16 as extremely rare (*Jagodarka*, *Mirisavka*, *Sijerak*, *Turundžija*, *Stambolka*, *Čadavica*, *Okruglica*, *Mesnjača*, *Jarac*, *Bazva*, *Tepavac*, *Lončara*, *Kantaruša*, *Ovčara*, *Turšijara*, *Budaljača*). A lot of varieties remain in the old and abandoned homes and the rugged terrain. For medicinal purpose pear is used (fresh or dried fruit, juice or compote) as antihypertensive remedy (65.2%), antidiabetic or anticholesterol (63%), anticonstipation remedy (54.3%), as well as for body mass reduction (65.2%). Tea made from the pear skin is used for urolithiasis - stone and sand in the kidney (36.9%), pear tea and fresh fruit juice are applied as antirheumatics (26%) and for cancer prevention (10.87%). Pears are consumed as fresh fruit, in pies and cakes, or they are processed in a compote, juice, jam or marmalade, baby food, jelly, syrup, dried fruit, pear brandy and other traditional products (*sita*, *vodnjika*). Depopulation of investigated rural area is directly related to disappearance of pear varieties gene pool, thereby losing traditional knowledge. Preservation can be achieved with *in situ* methods, by raising the awareness of the inhabitants and through the support of the State.

KEYWORDS: *Pyrus communis* L., indigenous pear varieties, ethnomedicine, nutrition, region Polimlje (Southwest Serbia)

Poster presentation 15 09 09

HOME GARDENS – GEOGRAPHY OF BIOCULTURE AND QUALITY

Teodora Ivanova^{1*}, Dessislava Dimitrova¹, Yulia Bosseva¹, Lyudmil Haydutov¹ & Michele Rumiz²

¹Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria, ²Slow Food International, Italy

*Corresponding author: teoivan@abv.bg

The current study focuses on plant diversity used in production of traditional food from the Balkans. The selected products are part of Ark of Taste e-catalogue of Slow Food and their recognition and promotion is a result of the collaborative network of 8 Balkan countries (including Turkey). All entries involve small-scale farmers and processors engaged in preservation of food biodiversity and traditions through sustainable use of biological resources. From over 250 products (primary and processed), 174 were found to include plant ingredients or to be local varieties/landraces. Most of the latter are cultivated in gardens and/or as small-scale crops being part of the disappearing traditional practices handed down from generation to generation. About half of the products are manufactured by small businesses that offer food at local or regional markets and/or restaurants. Analyzing the threats for food diversity in the Balkans we have detected a high level of similarity that presumes common approaches to safeguarding it.

To illustrate the overall conclusions we show-case Bulgarian traditional products with geographical reference. Challenges and transformations related to plant heritage conservation at home gardens are discussed.

KEYWORDS: rural areas, plant varieties, agrobiodiversity, local communities

Poster presentation 16 09 16

RISING INTEREST IN MEDICINAL PLANTS APPLICATION – DATA FROM NOVI SAD AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Maja Bekut^{1*}, Neda Gavarić¹, Nebojša Kladar¹, Snežana Brkić^{2,3}, Nebojša Salaj¹, Katarina Jeremić¹ & Biljana Božin¹

¹University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Pharmacology, Novi Sad, Serbia, ²University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Infectious Diseases, Novi Sad, Serbia, ³Clinical Centre of Vojvodina, Clinic for Infectious Diseases, Novi Sad, Serbia

*Corresponding author: maja.bekut@mf.uns.ac.rs

The trend of self-medication and intense public promotions of herbal medicines and herbal dietary supplements sometimes results in use of plants of distant cultures, as well as use in unorthodox types of application. Phytopreparations with herbs previously not familiar to wider consumers market seem to be used together with plant of traditional herbal medicine. Purpose of the study was to determine the most frequently used medicinal plants in the territory of city of Novi Sad and suburban and rural areas surrounding the city. A questionnaire was specifically created for this research. Survey contained questions about sociodemographic characteristics and use of phytotherapy. The semi-open list with 64 medicinally significant plants was provided; the reasons of plant's usage were added in separated open list. Volunteers (age over 18 years) filled in the survey. The data were analyzed using IBM® SPSS® Statistics 20. The research retrieved 104 completed surveys. The most frequently used plants belong to traditional Balkan and European phytotherapy were chamomile (47), garlic and parsley (44), mint (42), propolis (31), sage (30), nettle (29), oregano and rose hip (25), basil and St. John wort (22), marshmallow (21), yarrow, flax and lemon balm (17), lime tree (16), caraway, winter savory and elder tree (15), comfrey, pot marigold and rosemary (14). However, some other species, originating from other continents, such as green tea (34), ginger (31), chokeberry and bearberry (30), aloe vera and cranberry (28), as well as cinnamon (22) are also frequently used. The main reasons of use were: improvement of immune system (28), problems of urinary tract (27), diseases of mouth and gums and common cold (16), as well as sedatives, hypnotics (11) and for gastrointestinal ailments (10). Medicinal plants, especially aromatic species, appear to be used most frequently in studied area. Many of the consumed plants are traditionally accepted and used for longer period of time, although some new species seem to find their position in prevention and treatment of various diseases.

KEYWORDS: herbal medicine, medicinal plants, phytotherapy