

# Bryophytes of the *Lobarion* communities in the RLP "Stuzhytzia" (Ukraine)

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In 1997 and 1998 species composition of the epiphytic communities with *Lobaria pulmonaria* was studied in the regional landscape park "Stuzhytzia" (Transcarpathia), the Ukrainian part of the international biosphere reserve "Eastern Carpathians". More than 120 samples of bryophytes were collected in 28 sites mostly on *Fagus sylvatica* and *Acer pseudoplatanus* in beech and mixed beech forests of Novostuzhytzia, Zhornava, Stavne, Kostryno and the Velyky Berezny collective farm forest.

Altogether 54 species of epiphytic bryophytes were found. The richest families of the epiphytic bryoflora are *Orthotrichaceae* (7 spp.), *Brachytheciaceae* (6) and *Neckeraceae* (5): The other families are represented by 1-3 species only. It was observed that such taxa as *Pterigynandrum filiforme*, *Metzgeria furcata*, *Leskeella nervosa*, *Paraleucobryum longifolium*, *Radula complanata*, *Hypnum cupressiforme* s.l., *Bryum subelegans*, *Isothecium alopecuroides*, *Frullania dilatata*, etc. are frequent in the park. Many of these

taxa are common epiphytes on the territory of the whole Ukraine, some however (*P. filiforme*, *P. longifolium*, *I. alopecuroides*, *Brachythecium reflexum*) occur more frequently in the western part of the country, above all in the Ukrainian Carpathians.

According to Rose (1992) the more or less "faithful" bryophyte species found in *Lobarion* communities in old woodlands of England include *Neckera crispa*, *Porella arboris-vitae*, *Frullania tamarisci*, *F. fragilifolia*, *Antitrichia curtipendula*, *Leucodon sciuroides*, *Orthotrichum lyellii*, *O. stramineum*, *Neckera pumila* and others. *N. crispa*, *F. fragilifolia* do not occur in the RLP "Stuzhytzia" and the other mentioned taxa (excluding *L. sciuroides*) are rare. It seems therefore that the bryophyte species content of the *Lobarion* communities of the investigated forests had declined under the influence of men's activities, though further studies on this topic are required.

## References

Rose, F.(1992): Temperate forest management: its effects on bryophyte and lichen floras and habitats, p.211-233. In Bates, J.W., Farmer, A.M. (eds.), *Bryophytes and lichen in a changing environment*. Oxford.