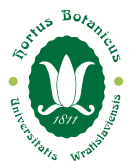# 27th Congress
of the European Vegetation Survey
23-26 May, 2018
Wrocław, Poland

Vegetation survey 90 years
after the publication
of Braun-Blanquet's textbook
– new challenges and concepts

Book of Abstracts

Uniwersytet Wrocławski

Hortus Botanicus Universitatis Wratislaviensis 1811

Regionalna Dyrekcja Lasów Państwowych we Wrocławiu

IAVS

European Vegetation Survey

The European Boreal Forest Vegetation Database

Pyykönen A.[1], Braslavskaya T.Yu.[2], Churakova E.Yu.[3], Diekmann M.[4],
Genikova N.V.[5], Halvorsen R.[6], Kirichok E.I.[7], Knollová I.[1], Korotkov V.N.[8],
Laiviņš M.[9], Lugovaya D.L.[2], Paal J.[10], Potapov P.V.[11], Prokazina T.S.[2],
Rūsiņa S.[12], Schei F.H.[13], Shevchenko N.E.[2], Sidorova O.V.[14], Smirnov N.S.[15],
Smirnova O.V.[2], Tikhonova E.V.[2], Turubanova S.A.[11] & Chytrý, M.[1]

[1]Department of Botany and Zoology, Masaryk University, Brno (Czech Republic)
[2]Centre for Forest Ecology and Productivity, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow (Russia)
[3]N. Laverov Federal Center for Integrated Arctic Research, Russian Academy of Sciences, Arkhangelsk (Russia),
[4]Faculty of Biology/Chemistry (FB 02), Institute of Ecology, Vegetation Ecology and Conservation Biology,
 University of Bremen, Bremen (Germany),
[5]Forest Research Institute of Karelian Research Centre, Russian Academy of Sciences, Petrozavodsk (Russia)
[6]Natural History Museum, University of Oslo, Oslo (Norway)
[7]Lyceum 'Vorobyovy Gory', Moscow (Russia)
[8]Department for monitoring of greenhouse gas flows in natural and anthropogenically disturbed
 ecosystems, Institute of Global Climate and Ecology, Moscow (Russia)
[9]Latvian State Forest Research Institute Silava, Salaspils (Latvia)
[10]Department of Botany, University of Tartu, Tartu (Estonia)
[11]Department of Geographical Sciences, University of Maryland, College Park (United States)
[12]Department of Geography, University of Latvia, Riga (Latvia)
[13]Department of Forestry and Forest Resources, Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research, Fana (Norway)
[14]Department of Biology, Ecology and Biotechnology, Northern (Arctic) Federal University named
 after M.V. Lomonosov, Arkhangelsk (Russia)
[15]Pechora-Ilych State Nature Biosphere Reserve, Yaksha, Komi Republic (Russia)

Presenting author's name and surname: Anni Pyykönen
Presenting author's e-mail: annipyy@mail.muni.cz

The European Boreal Forest Vegetation Database aims to cover the forests of the boreal and the hemiboreal (boreonemoral) zones of Europe, comprising the following countries and regions: Iceland, Scotland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, north of the 52nd parallel in Poland and in European Russia, west from the Ural Mountains. Vegetation plot records of all types of forests occurring within the zone are included, zonal as well as azonal forest communities, e.g. wooded bogs and alder carrs. For the first time, this database will enable detailed investigation of vegetation patterns of boreal and hemiboreal forests on the European scale.

First, we requested data from the European Vegetation Archive EVA. Currently, boreal forests are poorly represented in EVA: particularly few vegetation plot records are available from Sweden, Norway, Estonia, Russia and Belarus. To fill in these gaps, we started cooperation within an international team of vegetation scientists to compile the European Boreal Forest Vegetation Database. Currently, we have managed to obtain significant amounts of data from Estonia, Latvia, Norway and large parts of Russia, but data are still missing or have insufficient quality especially from Sweden, Denmark and Belarus. Therefore, we are still looking for potential collaborators, from all of the countries within the study area, to contribute with vegetation-plot data and local expertise. Our ambition

is to digitalize already published vegetation-plot records from literature and to encourage complementary field surveys to cover the most obvious gaps.

The European Boreal Forest Vegetation Database can serve wide range of purposes in vegetation ecology. One of the intended aims is to create a unified classification of boreal forest types in accordance with both the EuroVegChecklist and the EUNIS (European Nature Information System) habitat classification, with formal definitions of the types, and to create corresponding Expert Systems for assigning new vegetation-plot data into the unified classifications. Currently, there exists only local or regional vegetation typologies with varying approaches to vegetation classification, which impairs the efforts of European-scale habitat conservation. Moreover, the database can also be used for gradient analyses of species-environment relationships and studies of species richness patterns. The database can, potentially, also be useful for addressing biogeographical tasks such as sharpening the definition of the border between the hemiboreal and boreal vegetation zones. Our clear ambition is that once established, the database will enhance the use of these data by a wide range of researchers.