

Terricolous lichens in the Ukrainian Steppes: assessment, conversation, perspectives

ed. by *O. Khodosovtsev, O. Nadyeina*.

reviewers: Prof. *S. Kondratuyk* (Kyiv); Prof. *M. Boyko* (Kherson); Dr. *A. Akulov* (Kharkiv).

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Introduction: about aim of our ideas, studying and project "Arid lichens from the Red Data Book of Ukraine: studying, conservation and perspectives" – *O. Nadyeina*

1. Steppes of Ukraine: past and modern. Change in native vegetation, ecological assessment. – *M. Peregrym, I. Korotchenko*.

2. Terricolous lichens in the Ukrainian Steppes.

a. Check-list, floristic including data about modern vs. previous occurrence, total range distribution. – *O. Nadyeina, L. Dymytrova, Yu. Nazarchuk, A. Gromakova, O. Khodosovtsev*.

b. Arid ecologically and arid geographically (distributed in the Eurasian Steppe zone only) lichen species. – *O. Nadyeina, O. Khodosovtsev*.

c. Reproduction strategy of terricolous arid lichens, their distribution in Ukraine and conservation state. – *O. Nadyeina, A. Vojtsekhovich, O. Khodosovtsev*.

d. Secondary chemistry study of terricolous arid lichens and conservation state. – *O. Nadyeina, T. Lutsak*.

e. Assessment of terricolous arid lichens of Ukraine according to IUCN criteria, proposals for including to new edition of Red Data Book of Ukraine. – *O. Nadyeina, L. Dymytrova, Yu. Nazarchuk, O. Khodosovtsev*.

3. "Geolichenology" – associations of terricolous arid lichens of Ukraine, state of their population in different regions of Ukrainian Steppes.

a. Prodrum of terricolous arid lichen associations in the Ukrainian steppes. – *O. Khodosovtsev*.

b. Key role of terricolous lichens in weathering intensity with emphasis to psammophyte associations of the lower Dnieper sand dunes. – *O. Khodosovtsev*.

c. Succession pattern depending of photobiont circulations in the terricolous arid associations (Nostoc-Collema, Leptogium-Cladonia, Catapyrenium-Diploschistes, Toninia, Endocarpon-Psora, Fulgensia). – *A. Vojtsekhovich*.

d. Proposals for the "Green Book of Ukraine" – lichen associations. – *O. Khodosovtsev, O. Nadyeina*.

4. Protection state of the terricolous arid lichens in the Ukrainian Steppes – the network of existing protected and perspective to be protected areas. – *O. Nadyeina, L. Dymytrova, Yu. Nazarchuk, N. Rusina, G. Naumovich, T. Boyko, A. Gromakova, O. Khodosovtsev*.

5. Computer Database, based on MsAccess, which was created during project exploration. – *O. Nadyeina*.

6. Social part of the project – first feedbacks (*O. Nadyeina, Yu. Nazarchuk, O. Khodosovtsev*):

- information in the internet including social networks (<http://www.lichenologist.net>, <http://www.lichens.od.ua/events.shtml>, <http://vkontakte.ru/club29217268>, <http://www.facebook.com/groups/150880938305901/>)
- collaboration with social group "Save Ukrainian Steppes" (<http://pryroda.in.ua/step/biblio/lichens/>)
- Brochure "What do you know about steppe lichens? Minute world under your foot": feedback from scholars, amateurs, colleagues who is not lichenologist and their involvement into the project
- photo exhibition on arid terricolous lichens during conference "Plant Kingdom in the Red data Book of Ukraine: Implementing the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation" (Kyiv, 2010)
- Publications about steppe lichens and their conservations in kid`s and historic-cultural journals ("Parostok", "Biology for inquisitives", "Saint business"), and in specific steppe-oriented journal "Steppe Bulletin"
- Objectives for new protected areas creating and dealing with Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine

Conclusions and proposals – *O. Nadyeina, O. Khodosovtsev*.

Persons, contributed as authors in the Monograph:

Boyko T., Msc, Senior Lecture, Kherson Agricultural University (Kherson, lichenologist)

Dymytrova L., Dr., M.H. Kholodny Institute of Botany National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Kyiv, lichenologist)

Gromakova A., Dr., V.N. Karazin National University (Kharkiv, lichenologist)

Khodosovtsev O., Prof., Kherson State University (Kherson, lichenologist)

Korotchenko I., Dr., M.H. Kholodny Institute of Botany National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Kyiv, ecologist)

Lutsak T., Msc., National Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv (Kyiv, lichenologist)

Nadyeina O., Dr., M.H. Kholodny Institute of Botany National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Kyiv, lichenologist)

Naumovych G., Msc, Senior Lecture, Kherson State University (Kherson, lichenologist)

Nazarchuk Yu., Msc, Senior Lecture, I.I. Mechnykov National University (Odessa, lichenologist)

Peregrym M., Dr., O.V. Fomin Botanical Garden, National Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv (Kyiv, botanist)

Rusina N., Msc, PhD student, Luhansk Nature Reserve (Stanychno-Luhansk, lichenologist)

Vojtsekhovich A., Msc, PhD student, M.H. Kholodny Institute of Botany National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Kyiv, algologist – specialist on lichen`s photobionts)