Department of Biology and Ecology,
Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics, University of Niš
Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia

13th Symposium on the Flora of Southeastern Serbia and Neighboring Regions

Stara planina Mt. 20 to 23 June 2019



13. Simpozijum o flori jugoistočne Srbije i susednih regiona

Stara planina 20. do 23. jun 2019.

ABSTRACTS
APSTRAKTI

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Department of Biology and Ecology,
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13th Symposium on the Flora of Southeastern Serbia and Neighboring Regions

Stara planina Mt., 20th to 23th June, 2019

Abstracts

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Flower in *Ornithogalum* as a taxonomic tool for species identification

Rat, M.[1], Andrić, A.[2], Anačkov, G.[1]

[1]University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Biology and Ecology, Trg Dositeja Obradovića 2, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia

[2]University of Novi Sad, BioSense Institute, Dr Zorana Đinđića 1, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia

* *milica.rat@dbe.uns.ac.rs*

Genus *Ornithogalum* is mostly described as morphologically variable („execrable“) genus, without clear morphological distinction among species. What is noticeable in *Ornithogalum* – is low number of distinctive qualitative morphological characteristics, in the first place among closely related species. Seed texture was nominated as species specific characteristic, but the latest research refuted that. The flower has the most quantitative characteristics and using morphometric analysis *Ornithogalum s.s.* species can be differentiated. To present flower differences of eight *Ornithogalum* species (*O. comosum, O. montanum, O. dalmaticum, O kochii, O. umbellatum, O divergens, O sibthorpii, O. refractum*), in total 21 characteristics were analysed. Parameters of flower length (perigon length) were correlated with scape, inflorescence and pedicel length, with an aim to merge these characteristics for plant determination key. *Ornithogalum comosum* and *O. montanum* were separated as species with „small“ flowers, while *O. kochii* has medium size flowers. All other investigated species have „large“ flowers. Different combinations of analysed flower characteristics allow species discrimination to some extant. For some species, however, additional characteristics (as scape, inflorescene and pedicel length) are needed for correct plant identification.

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