

Current techniques in the alpine ecological research III., St. Lesná, Slovakia, 18 - 21 August 1997

M. JANIGA

TANAP Research Centre, 059 60 Tatranská Lomnica,
Slovak Republic, e-mail: janiga @ tanap. ta3. sk.

The 2nd "Current techniques..." were held from August 27 through August 30, 1996. There were participants from 10 different European countries. The organizers received many thank you letters on return of participants from West as well as East European countries. The researchers did enjoy meeting for hospitality, quality of conference hall, interpreting of some lectures from East-European languages to English, reprints of papers available at the conference, good meal, cheap accommodation, and wonderful trips in the Tatra mountains. The papers published in the 5th volume of *Oecologia Montana*, was the result of cooperative efforts of participants of 2nd conference, the journal with these papers was available at the conference.

One of the primary purposes of this annual meeting is to bring together specialists from around the world to address state of the current ecological methods in the high altitude areas. The third meeting and the meeting tours will be held over four days, August 18 through 21, 1997, and will be again held at the Felicia Hotel in Stara Lesna in the High Tatras region, Slovakia. This hotel is a good quality and low-rise hotel with outside forest area, and is away from the downtown areas, within 10 miles of the Poprad airport. Those participants who will visit the 3rd conference on marmots in Russia, 25 - 29th August 1997, may continue in their tours by express train "Slovakia" from Poprad to Moscow, or they can use airport in Poprad, and fly through Bratislava to Moscow. We also add that by September 1st, 1997, the First European Beaver Symposium will begin at the Comenius University in Bratislava, capital of Slovakia.

We hope that Slovakian hospitality insures that all participants will be warmly welcomed and courteously treated. New friendships will be made and old friendships expanded during lively discussions on scientific matters, convivial talks, and friendly conversations during days of excursions. Because many researchers who attended the first and second conference, plan to attend the third meeting, the conference excursions will be arranged to the next valuable localities of the Tatra nature.

Program

August 17, afternoon
arrival and registration

August 18, lectures

Session ALPINE FLORA I.

Plant communities as subjects in methods; pollution; evaluation of biodiversity; touristic industry and plant succession; relict and endemic species and ecosystems

Session ALPINE FAUNA I.

field techniques - telemetric monitoring, video techniques; field data - software, marking, ringing, catching, etc.

August 19, excursion

to the high altitude area - zoology, Tatra alpine vertebrates and invertebrates (marmots, chamois, accentors, ...)

August 20, lectures

Session ALPINE FLORA II.

autecology, population ecology; regional endemism; synanthropic species; bioindicators species; field mapping

Session ALPINE FAUNA II.

methods of evaluation - multivariate statistics; measuring of human impact; communities; succession; growth studies

August 21, excursion

to the high altitude area - botany

evening - closing ceremony

August 22, departure

The lecture days and excursion days may be exchanged in dependence on weather conditions. Post-conference tours will be available on special request. Payment for the post-conference excursions will be specified the day before the route, and will depend on selected subject and type of route.

A commercial exhibition, mainly of the Olympus company, is planned to take place during the conference. Those participants interested in new trends in video-microscopy-software are recommended to mail to the organizers of the conference for more information.

Papers

Persons who want to present lectures should submit a manuscript of the paper for publication in the 6th Volume of *Oecologia Montana*. The articles may be in a form of "Techniques and strategies", "Reports", but organizers prefer "Standard articles". "Instructions for authors" will be sent on request. The journal is abstracted and indexed in *BIOSIS database*, *CAB Abstracts*, *Current Awareness in Biological Sciences*, *Ecology Abstracts*, *Ecological Abstracts*, *GEObase*, *Key-Word-Index of Wildlife Research*. Two copies of the manuscript should be submitted to the Editors, and an additional copy on diskette in any of available text editors is needed. The articles may be mailed or send

on diskettes, PC compatible (no Macintosh).

Deadline for receipt of articles is by 31 March 1997.

The articles will be reviewed, and if accepted, they will be sent to the participants for check in the form of proofs. The proofs will be sent to the authors by 28 April 1997, the latest date. The corrected proofs must be returned not later than three days after receipt. If possible, use e-mail or FAX.

Deadline for receipt of corrected proofs is 23 May 1997.

Volume 6, No. 1 of *Oecologia Montana* and 30 free reprints will be provided to the contributors at the registration desk.

Lectures

Oral papers will be 15 minutes plus 5 minutes for questions for a total of 20 minutes per presentation. Slide, overhead projectors and video will be available. Although the participants may prepare the posters (1 x 1 m), they will be scheduled in the scheme of oral sessions, or at least, they must be able to introduce and discuss their posters with the help of an interpreter. Although all sessions will be in English, large number of proposed participants from Eastern Europe will surely ensure the mutual cooperation in understanding of details.

Conference registration and accommodations

Attendees can advance register by returning the "Conference Registration Form" (will be sent on request), or directly, paying the registration fee and sending the xerox copy of the confirmation of payment to the address of organizers. The suggestion of the theme of lecture may be attached.

Advance payment, until April 15, 1997 - 4,700 Sk (Slovak crowns)

Payments include: excursion transport, publications, meal, accommodation, guides, etc. Rooms for one, two, and three persons are available. Costs for five nights are included in the payment. Two full-day-meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) and two day-meals without lunch (excursions) will be served. Currency course: One DM is approximately 20 Sk.

Regular payment, until July 1, 1997 - 5,000 Sk.

Late payment, until August 8, 1997 - 6,000 Sk.

Please understand that many prices will be arranged by organizers as "out of touristic season"

prices, although by the end of August, there is still touristic season. This means that late or at the conference payment will be in higher, standard prices.

Payment after August 8, 1997 or at the meeting - 6,700 Sk

The participants may send the payment by international money order, cheque or by SWIFT (SWIFT code = VUB SUBACSBA) at the account in Všeobecná úverová banka Poprad, for PRUNELLA, 30525764, Jarmočná st. 16, 058 01 Poprad, Slovakia.

Account No.: 627544-562/0200.

A full list of world banks in direct contacts with VÚB Banka Poprad may be sent on request. Rooms will be immediately reserved after receipt of the payment. Cancellation must be made to the organizers. Cancellation by May 15, 1997 - full refund minus administrative costs. Cancellation by July 15, 1997, 50 % refund, cancellation after July 15, 1997, no refund.

Social events, travel and transportations

Information on local tours will be available at the meeting. Prepare clothing for variable weather in high altitude area. Formal dress is not required during the meeting. Access to Poprad is most convenient by air. The local airport Poprad-Tatry is connected by service with the international airports in Bratislava and Prague. But the flights to Wien, then by bus to Bratislava, and then by fast train to Poprad are cheaper. There are regular train services from Bratislava, Prague, Budapest, Kiev, Moscow to Poprad.

The participants will be expected in the hall of railway station in the afternoon, August 17, 1997, and then transported to the Felicia Hotel. Departure from the railway station will be at 6 p.m. From the airport, the regular buses connect the railway station. Stara Lesná is also connected to Poprad by regular buses and trains, direction from Poprad to Starý Smokovec, and then to Tatranská Lomnica.

Contacts

Mailing address: Dr. Marián Janiga, TANAP Research Centre, 059 60 Tatranská Lomnica, Slovak Republic. FAX: 0042-969-967124; phone: 0042-968-61165; 0042-969-967124; 0042-969-967951; e-mail: JANIGA@TANAP.TA3.SK.

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