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Additional literature data on the flora of Crna Gora (Montenegro)

Abstract

Pulević, V. & Karaman, V.: Additional literature data on the flora of Crna Gora (Montenegro). – *Bocconea* 5: 53-54. 1996. – ISSN 1120-4060.

Rohlena's *Conspectus florum montenegrinae* of 1942 covers only the flora of the pre-1913 territory of Crna Gora, i.e., it excludes the north-eastern and Dalmatian portions of the country. It is therefore necessary to supplement it accordingly by the inclusion of c. 500 additional species and c. 200 infraspecific taxa.

The flora of Crna Gora has attracted the interest of European botanists since the beginning of the 19th century when they began to explore it, and when intense research on the flora of other Mediterranean and Balkan areas was started.

Botanists embarking on monographic work or phytogeographical analyses of the Balkan flora will, among other sources, use Rohlena's (1942) *Conspectus florum montenegrinae*, published in Prague. This work includes the results of its author's own, life-long experience of the flora of Crna Gora which he explored during more than 40 years, along with data by others working on the same subject. The *Conspectus* was rated by contemporary botanists as one of the best regional Floras in Europe. However, it suffers from at least one major shortcoming, a limitation that must be borne in mind since it may easily mislead those unfamiliar with the country's changing boundaries into drawing wrong conclusions.

The geographical coverage of Rohlena's *Conspectus* is the same as that defined for "Mt." ("Montenegro ad fines, quales erant ante annum 1913") by Hayek (1924-1933) in his *Prodromus florum peninsulae balcanicae*. The pre-World-War-I Kingdom of Crna Gora excluded significant parts of the present-day territory of Crna Gora: that portion of the Adriatic coast which formerly belonged to the Austro-Hungarian Province of Dalmatia (Boka Kotorska with large parts of Mt Orjen and its hinterland, Grbalj, Pastrovići, and further down the coast to near the city of Bar); and large parts in the N. and N.E. of the country which then belonged to the Turkish Empire (the territories of Gusinje, Plav, Rožaje, Berane, Bijelo Polje, and Pljevlja).

Rohlena missed out some important previous publications on the flora of his territory, in particular a paper of Adamović (1913) with data of about 1000 plant species. Moreover, numerous papers with data on the flora of Crna Gora were published after 1942, widely scattered in local or foreign journals and books and easily overlooked by botanists.

The plan of collecting and analysing all these sources on the Montenegrin flora took shape in 1964, the year when the first volume of *Flora europaea* was published. As a result, a comprehensive bibliography on the flora and vegetation of Crna Gora, with a supplement, was published (Pulević 1980, 1987). Both together include about 1500 annotated references on the subject, and list data that are additional to Rohlena's *Conspectus*.

The manuscript of an "Appendix to Rohlena's *Conspectus florum montenegrinae*", by V. Blečić, R. Lakušić and V. Pulević, was ready by 1979 but remains unpublished to date. This "Appendix" basically uses Hayek's and Rohlena's taxon definitions, updated to meet modern taxonomic and nomenclatural standards. It lists over 500 species and about 200 infraspecific taxa (subspecies, varieties, forms) that are to be added to Rohlena's *Conspectus*. Thereby, the total number of higher plant taxa known from the country has risen from 2817 to almost 3500, and the total number of species, from 2623 to over 3100.

This high total of species, found in a territory of a mere 13,820 km², as well as the high number of endemics among them, confirm the reputation of Crna Gora as one of the floristically most interesting areas of Europe. No less than 174 species, and over 400 infraspecific taxa, were originally described on the basis of plant material from this country.

Yet, the flora of Crna Gora is still only partially studied and incompletely known. Present and future work by ourselves and others will doubtless result in many further data and publications on the country's flora and vegetation.

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