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First author: Bartha Dénes

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Abstract

The past, present and future tasks of Hungarian dendrological research
D. Bartha

Hungarian dendrological research (research of living woody plants) has more than 200 years old history; the first general work by János Keresztély Grossinger was published in 1797. Further basic works in our time yet are: Forest Botany by Lajos Fekete and Sándor Mágócsy-Dietz (1896); and the chorological work, Distribution of trees and shrubs of sylvicultural importance in the region of Hungarian State by Lajos Fekete and Tibor Blattny (1913). A few dendrologists and many botanists have helped to get better knowledge of Hungarian dendroflora. From the point of view of taxonomy, chorology and habitat - which are interested by field botanists - it can be said that knowledge is fairly heterogeneous. There are sufficient information about most of the rare (protected/endangered) woody plants (an about 50 species) and the important adventives, above all invasive trees and shrubs (an about 10 species). From these two groups beyond there are only few taxa which can be said thoroughly worked up and known (e.g. *Castanea sativa*, *Cornus mas*, *Fraxinus* spp., *Quercus* spp.). List of the dendrotaxa, hardly known in the abovementioned point of view is rich in species that are important for forestry or horticulture (e.g. *Alnus glutinosa*, *Acer* spp., *Betula pendula*, *Corylus avellana* and most of *Salix* spp.), supplemented with other species (e.g. *Clematis vitalba*, *Colutea arborescens*, *Lonicera xylosteum*, *Padus avium*, *Sambucus nigra*, *Staphylea pinnata*, *Viburnum* spp.).

Followings can be asked from our field botanists: i) look for a specialist in cases of critical dendrotaxa; ii) a circumspect identification is necessary - especially in the case of leaves - by right of great number of samples from the adequate part of shoot; iii) keep in view frequent hybridization (e.g. in the case of *Betula*, *Crataegus*, *Pyrus*, *Tilia*), and frequent appearance of hybrids (e.g. *Betula* x

rhombifolia, *Cerasus x eminens*, *Salix x rubens*); iv) appearance of interim forms are usually typical in the cases of species classified into aggregate species (e.g. *Quercus petraea* agg., *Qu. pubescens* agg.); v) take intraspecific taxa according to various ecological demands, area, morphological differences into consideration; vi) culture variations cannot be treated as an equal with the species (e.g. *Populus* spp., *Salix* spp.); vii) natural -> artificial area have to be separated; viii) lend a helping hand in getting taxonomical knowledge of hardly known dendrotaxa.

dendrology, tree ring, dendrocronology
taxonomy

Notes

Adventive, dendrology, dendrotaxa, endangered, hybrids

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