

The genus *Empetrum* (Empetraceae) in Ukraine

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ABSTRACT: Herbarium material studies and field investigations show that two taxa of the genus *Empetrum* L. occur in Ukraine – the dioecious *E. nigrum* L. and the monoecious *E. hermaphroditum* Hagerup. Maps of their geographical distribution in the Ukrainian Carpathians are presented.

KEY WORDS: *Empetrum*, taxonomy, chorology, ecology, Carpathians

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INTRODUCTION

The genus *Empetrum* L. is represented in Europe by two species – the dioecious *E. nigrum* L. and the monoecious *E. hermaphroditum* Hagerup, the latter treated as an independent species (e.g., Mirek *et al.* 1995) or subspecies *E. nigrum* subsp. *hermaphroditum* (Hagerup) Böcher (e.g., Webb 1972). Both occur in Central European mountains – the Alps, Sudety and the Carpathians – but *E. hermaphroditum* is more frequent than *E. nigrum*, especially at higher elevations. The latter species was observed first on peat-bogs, as a rule at lower altitudes (Favarger 1959; Zarzycki & Guzik 1975; Meusel *et al.* 1978; Welten & Sutter 1982; Boratyński 1986; Boratyński & Vera de la Puente 1995).

Empetrum nigrum and *E. hermaphroditum* have not been recognized in Ukraine so far. Nor has the taxonomy of the genus *Empetrum* been revised in Ukraine, and the distribution of taxa is not known sufficiently (Kotov & Chopik 1960; Chopik 1976; Barbarich 1987). Only Zarzycki and Guzik (1975) published species distribution maps prepared on the basis of Polish herbarium materials (KRA and KRAM), which include some material from Ukrainian territory.

We were able to collect some new material of *Empetrum* in several locations of the Ukrainian Carpathians, and to study Ukrainian, Polish and Czech herbaria. The field investigations gave an opportunity make a brief description of the ecological conditions in which *E. nigrum* and *E. hermaphroditum* occur in the Ukrainian Carpathians (Didukh & Boratyński 2000).

MATERIAL AND METHOD

The main features allowing *Empetrum nigrum* sensu stricto to be distinguished from *E. hermaphroditum* are the flowers and fruits. The latter species has monoecious flowers and preserves stamens at the base of the fruits, while *E. nigrum* is dioecious. Other characteristics, such as length and shape of sprouts, dimensions and length/width proportions of the leaves, and form of growth, were also helpful (Zarzycki & Guzik 1975; Boratyński 1986; Villar 1993; Boratyński & Vera de la Puente 1995). Material from KOR, KRA, KRAM, KW, KWU, KWHA, LW, LWD, PR, PRC and UU herbaria have been studied. Acronyms of herbaria follow Holmgren *et al.* (1990) and Vassier (1995).

RESULTS

Empetrum hermaphroditum prevailed in all of the herbarium collections studied. It is distributed mainly in the most elevated mountain ranges such as the Charnokhora, Svidovec and Buzhora (Fig. 1). In other localities only small populations were found, mostly of relict character. The species occurs in the high mountain, subalpine and alpine zones, mostly between 1700 and 1900 m altitude. Its lowest locations are reported at about 1400–1450 m on a small peat-bog below Prut falls in the Charnokhora Mts and at 1300–1400 m in the Bieschady and Polonina Rivna Mts, while the highest one was found at about 2000 m, somewhat below the summit of Pop Ivan (Fig. 2). *E. hermaphroditum* forms, with *Vaccinium gaultherioides* Bigelow, the specific association *Empetro-Vacci-*

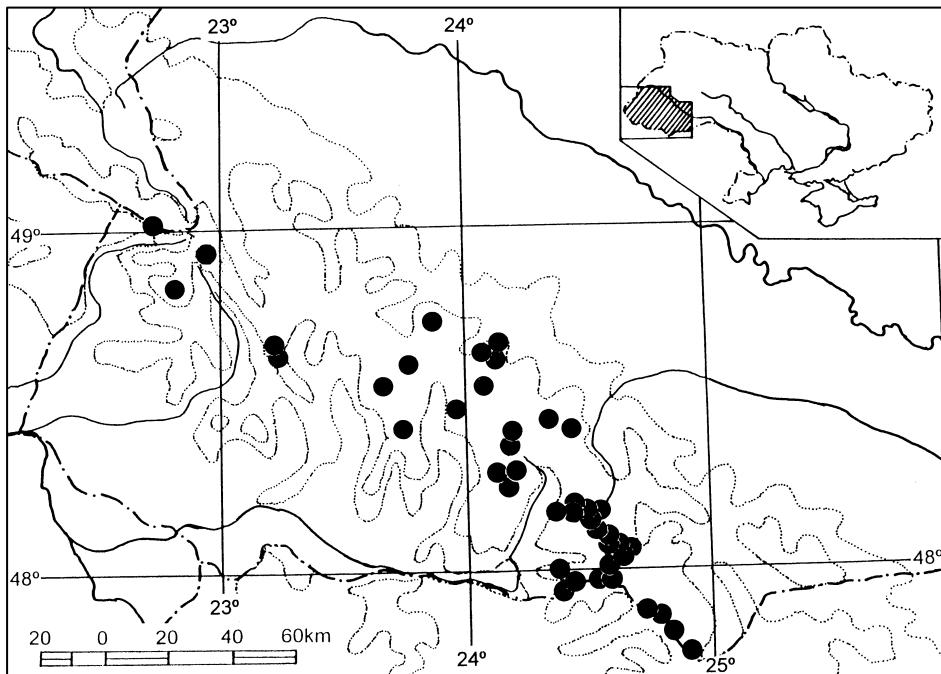


Fig. 1. Distribution of *Empetrum hermaphroditum* Hagerup.

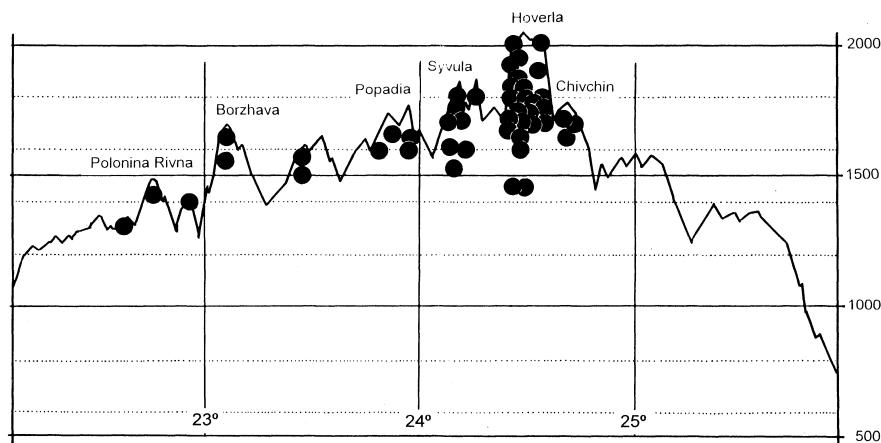


Fig. 2. Vertical distribution of *Empetrum hermaphroditum* Hagerup in the Ukrainian Carpathians.

nietum, which covers sloping mountain sides, mostly convex and north-facing (Fig. 3), especially exposed to wind and frosts. It also enters plant communities with *Loiseleuria procumbens* (L.) Desv. and can be found on peat-bogs and on rocks among *Pinus mugo* Turra thickets.

Empetrum nigrum occurs in two types of habitats. The first of them are peat-bogs, mostly of high moor character, formed on flat terrain in stream valleys at elevations between 500 and 1000 m. The second type are subalpine communities of *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* and *V. myrtillus* developed on rocks at the summits of mountains. The species also sometimes grows in subalpine *Pinus mugo* communities. Populations of *Empetrum nigrum* are not so numerous as *E. hermaphroditum* and are more scattered (Fig. 4).

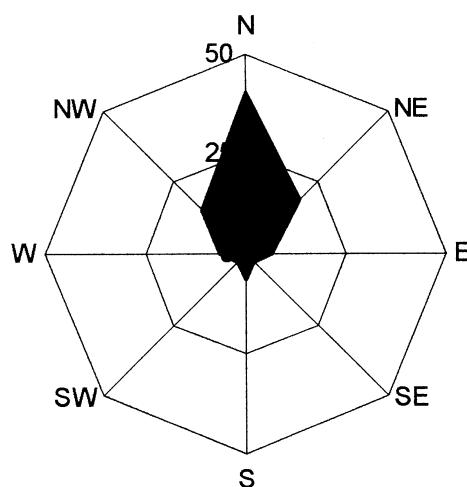


Fig. 3. Exposition of localities of *Empetrum hermaphroditum* Hagerup (on the basis of the authors' field observations and data gathered from herbarium labels).

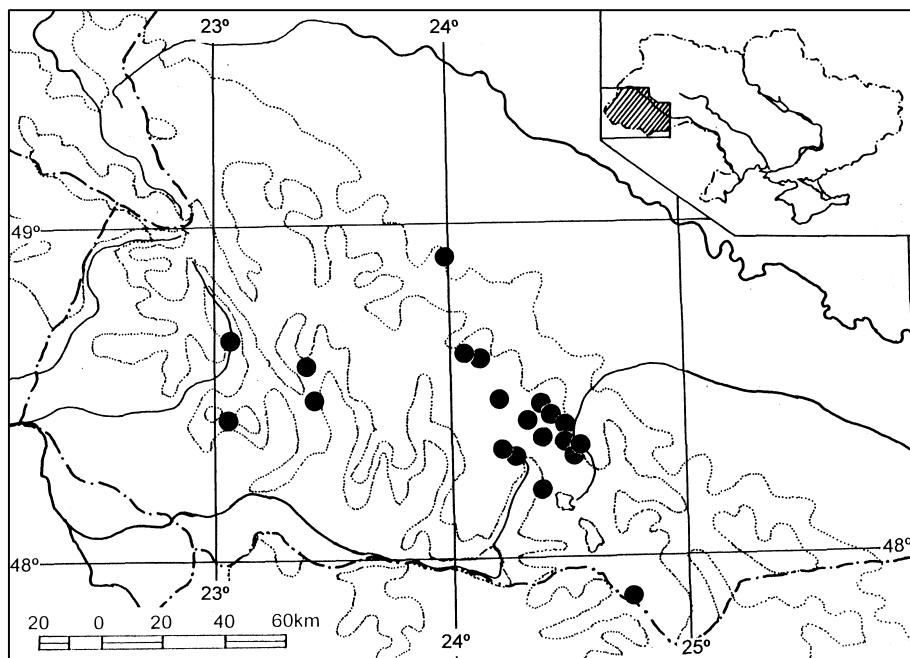


Fig. 4. Distribution of *Empetrum nigrum* L.

The vertical distribution of *Empetrum nigrum* extends from 500 m elevation at Pod Borem peat-bog in Strutich Vizhni near Dolina and 650 m at Glukhan' peat-bog near Sinevir village, up to about 1700 m at the summit of Mt. Doboshanka in the Gorgany Mts (Fig. 5). The localities of *E. nigrum* also are relict in character. A number of them can easily be destroyed by peat exploitation.

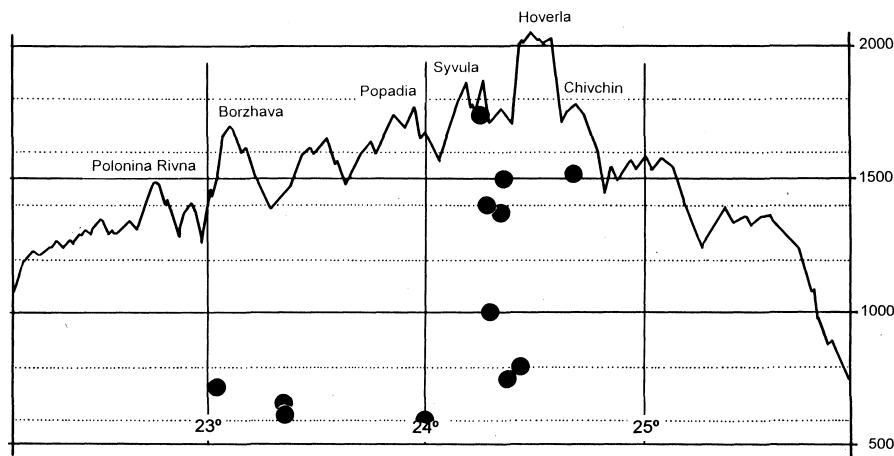


Fig. 5. Vertical distribution of *Empetrum nigrum* L. in the Ukrainian Carpathians.

Empetrum nigrum

SPECIMENS EXAMINED. **BUZHORA.** Babun Pusztara (= Babia Pusztara), leg. Khrshanovskiy, 1946 (KW); Volovec, Pusztara peat-bog, leg. Kontny, 1946 (LWD); *ibidem*, 750 m, leg. Chopik, 1968 (KW). **GORGANY.** Mt. Khomiak (Chomiak), leg. E. Turczyński, 1880 (LWD); *ibidem*, slopes, leg. Kuzyarin, 1986 (LWD); *ibidem*, 1500 m, *Vaccinium myrtillus*-*V. vitis-idaea* community in *Pinus mugo* thicket, leg. Boratyński, 1997 (KOR); *ibidem*, 1350 m, *Vaccinium myrtillus*-*V. vitis-idaea* community on rocks, leg. Boratyński, 1997 (KOR); Mt. Doboshanka (Doboszanka), 1720 m, turf on rocks, leg. Środoń, 1938 (KRAM); Mt. Synyachka (Synyaczka), 1400 m, in *Vaccinium myrtillus*-*V. vitis-idaea* community, leg. Boratyński, 1997 (KOR); Koločava, 617 m, in turfosis secus riam in vico Koločava – Imšady, leg. Lánska, 1933, 1936 (PR, PRC); Sinevir – Nehrovec, 650 m, Glukhan' peat-bog, leg. Boratyński & Didukh, 1998 (KOR); Mt. Tyapes near Koločava, on *Sphagnum* clumps in *Pinus mugo* thicket on rocks, leg. Vajnaj, 1965 (LWD); Nadwórna, village Bistrica, Javirchik range, leg. Morozyuk, 1970 (KW); Mt. Berezna, near Zelene, leg. Krys', 1968 (KWHA); Zelene, Bredulec range, pine forest on rocks, leg. Melnichuk, 1949 (LWD); Chernik village, Bredulec range, leg. Morozyuk, 1970 (KW); Osmoloda, Molgawa peat-bog, leg. Fotyniuk, 1935 (LWD); *ibidem*, leg. Bedej, 1962 (LWD); Perechinsk, Limnica river valley, leg. F. Griń, 1941 (KW); Mt. Synyak (Siniak), Małe Tarterowe, leg. E. Wołoszczak, 1888 (KRAM); Mt. Jajko, leg. Herbich, ? (LW); Dolina, Strutych Vyzhny (Strutycz Wyżny), "Pod Borem" peat-bog, leg. B. Pawłowski, 1921 (KRA); *ibidem*, leg. Seidl, 1930 (LW); *ibidem*, leg. Iwanickij, 1930 (LWD); *ibidem*, leg. J. Wendelerowna, 1934 (LW); *ibidem*, leg. Mlicivska, 1951 (LW). **CHARNOKHORA.** Peat-bog above Worokhta, leg. excursion, 1910 (KRA); *ibidem*, commonly, leg. Środoń, 1939 (KRAM); Malyi Bakhonchik, near sawmill in Worokhta, pine-spruce forest on peat-bog moor, leg. Kharkiewich, 1961 (KWHA); *ibidem*, leg. Chopik, Dubovik, 1967 (KW); *ibidem*, peat-bog in Prut valley 5 km above Worokhta, 800 m, leg. Boratyński & Didukh, 1998 (KOR); Zheniec (Zeniec), in pine forest, on Prut river bank, leg. Środoń, 1934 (KRAM). **SVIDOVEC.** Jasinya, Charne Bagno (Czarne Bagno) moor above Charna Tisa (Czarna Tisa) river, leg. Bradis, 1947 (KW); *ibidem*, leg. Komendar, 1953 (KW); *ibidem*, leg. Chopik, 1966 (KWHA); *ibidem*, leg. Barbarich, 1967 (KW); *ibidem*, 750 m, leg. Chopik, Verenko & Ornst, 1970 (KW); *ibidem*, 800 m, leg. Lovelyus, 1984 (KW); *ibidem*, leg. S. Mosyakiy, 1985 (KW); *ibidem*, leg. Zagulskiy & Davidyuk, 1986 (LW); Mt. Menčul, comitati Maramoras, ad pagum Jasinia, 1000 m, leg. Margittai, 1926 (PRC). **CHIVCHIN – MARMAROS MTS.** Mt. Mokryn, 1520 m, peat-bog moor on mountain ridge, leg. Pawłowski, 1934 (KRA). NOT LOCALIZED. Velike Kulniki village near Dolina, leg. Melnichuk 07.08.1949, LWD.

Empetrum hermaphroditum

SPECIMENS EXAMINED. **BIESZCZADY.** Mt. Pikuj com. Bereg, in subalpibus, 1400 m, leg. Margittai, 1917 (PRC); *ibidem*, leg. Popov, 1930 (KW); *ibidem*, leg. Khrschanskii, 1946 (LWD); Bonin, Husyne village, (Mt. Pikuj), leg. Chopik, 1955 (KW); Mt. Kińczyk Bukowski, leg. Chopik & Ornst, 1969 (KW). **POLONINA RIVNA.** N slopes, leg. Chopik, 1956 (KW). **POLONINA BORZHAVA.** Mt. Stogi, on rocks with *Vaccinium*, leg. Melnichuk, 1949 (LWD); Velikiy Verkh, 1550 m, leg. ?, 1927 (PR); *ibidem*, 50–70 m below summit, subalpine belt, leg. Barbarich, 1947 (KW); *ibidem*, leg. Melnichuk, 1949 (LWD). **GORGANY.** Mt. Bratkowska (na Bratkowskiej w Stanisławowskich Karpatach), leg. Wołoszczak, 1886 (KRAM); Mt. Doboshanka (Doboszanka) leg. Wołoszczak, 1886 (KRAM); Mt. Grofa near Osmoloda, at tree-line on S slope and at summit, leg. Sichak & Maksimchuk, 1987 (LW); Mt. Ihrovec, Ihrovishche (Ihrowiscze), 1780 m, N slopes, leg. Środoń, 1939 (KRAM); Mt. Jawornik near Mikulichyn (Mikuliczyn), on rocks, leg. Turczyński, 1884 (KWBG); Mt. Kanch near Sinevirska Polana, 1500 m, (in monte Kancz prope vicum Sinovir), Lánska, 1933 (PR); *ibidem*, 1550 m, rocks among *Pinus mugo* thicket, leg. Boratyński & Didukh, 1998 (KOR); Mt. Negrovec near Sinovir, 1500 m, (in monte Negrovec prope oppidum Sinovir), leg. Lánska, 1931, 1932 (PRC); Mt. Polonina Krasna near Sinovir, 1500 m, (in monte Polonina Krasna prope oppidum Sinovir), leg. Lánska, 1931 (PRC); Mt. Sywula, (na Sywuli przy Mszańce), leg. Wołoszczak, 1890 (KRAM); Mt. Polonina Charna, above stream Jalovec, 1600 m,

Juniperus thicket, leg. ?, 1948 (LWD); Zaplata ad Pagum Porohy, In montibus circuli Stanislaopoliensis, in cacumine alpis, leg. Herbich, 1834 (LW). **CHARNOKHORA.** Mt. Bałcałuł, leg. Ślendziński, 1875 (KRA, KRAM); Mt. Breskulec, 1800, *Empetrio-Vaccinietum* on NW slopes, leg. Boratyński & Didukh, 1998 (KOR); Czarnohora, leg. Rehmann, 1865 (LWD); leg. Kulczyński, 1925 (LW); leg. Wróblewski, 1926 (KOR); leg. Kozij, 1930 (LWD, KW); Mt. Dancerz, W slopes, leg. Kozij, 1930 (KW, LWD); ibidem, 1700 m, leg. ?, 1962 (LW); ibidem, 1650 m, *Empetrio-Vaccinietum* on NE slopes, leg. Boratyński & Didukh, 1998 (KOR); Mt. Dżembronia, peat-bogs in *Pinus mugo* thicket in alpine belt, leg. Łobaczewski, ? (LWD); ibidem, on ridge by the way to Pohorylec, leg. Zelenchuk, 1956 (LWD); Mt. Gadzyna (Gadzhyna), leg. Shevchuk, 1960 (LWD); Mt. Homul (Gomuł), near Zhabie, N slopes, leg. Artemchuk, 1962 (KW); ibidem, leg. Kharkevich, 1965 (KW, KWHA); ibidem, on rocks at summit, leg. Kardash, 1986 (LW); Mt. Hoverla, W slopes, leg. Malinovskiy, 1952 (LWD); ibidem, N slopes, leg. Berko, 1961 (LWD); Mt. Mala Hoverla, NE slopes above upper tree line, leg. Zagulskiy, 1987 (LW); Mt. Hoverla, N slopes near Prut-falls, 1450m, on granite rocks in *Pinus mugo* thicket, leg. Boratyński & Didukh, 1998 (KOR); glacial kettle between Mt. Hoverla and Mt. Breskulec, 1700 m, peat-bog in basal part of kettle, leg. Boratyński & Didukh, 1998 (KOR); Mt. Kizie Ulohy (in pratis montanis poloniny dictis Kizie Ulohy), leg. Mądalski, 1927 (KRAM, KW, LW); Mt. Velke Kozly (Wielkie Kozły), leg. Berko, 1961 (LWD); ibidem, 1700 m, a rocky ridge, leg. Boratyński & Didukh, 1998 (KOR); ibidem, 1900 m, *Empetrio-Vaccinietum* on NW slopes, rocks, leg. Boratyński & Didukh, 1998 (KOR); Mt. Maryshevska Velka (Maryszevska Wielka), leg. Rehmann, ? (LW); Nesamovite (Niesamowite) Lake below Mt. Turkul, 1850 m, on rocks, leg. Boratyński & Didukh, 1998 (KOR); Mt. Petros, alpine belt, leg. Komendar, 1952 (KW); ibidem, at summit, leg. Malinovskiy, 1964 (LWD); ibidem, NE slopes, leg. Komendar, 1968 (KW); Pohane Misce – one of the Charnokhora summits, cushions of mosses in *Pinus mugo* thicket, leg. Ślendziński, 1874 (KRAM, KRA); Mt. Pip Ivan (Pop Iwan), 1740 m, SW slopes, leg. Komendar, 1952 (KW); ibidem, on slopes, leg. Barbarich, Goncharov & Kukalo, 1954 (KW); ibidem, N range, 1800 m, *Pinus mugo* thicket, leg. Boratyński, 1997 (KOR); ibidem, 2010 m, on rocks below summit, leg. Boratyński, 1997 (KOR); Mt. Pip Ivan – Waskul (Pop Iwan – Waskuł), leg. Zapałowicz, 1881 (KRAM); Pozhyzhevska (Pożyżewska), leg. Miczyński, 1939 (KRAM); ibidem, NE slopes in clumps of *Sphagnum* among *Pinus mugo* thicket, leg. Zelenchuk, 1960 (LWD); ibidem, leg. Ermachenko, 1964 (LWD); ibidem, leg. Lazebna, 1967 (LWD); ibidem, 1600 m, leg. Myakushko & Chopik, 1968 (KW); ibidem, leg. ?, 1968 (KWW); ibidem, NW slopes, leg. Stankevich, 1969 (KWHA); ibidem, Cebulnik, on rocks, leg. Tasenkewich, 1977 (LWD); Mt. Smotrich (Smotrycz), above *Pinus mugo* thicket belt, leg. Ślendziński, 1875 (KRA); ibidem, N slopes above Dżembronia, 1700 m, rocks among *Pinus mugo* thicket, leg. Boratyński, 1997 (KOR); ibidem, 1750 m, leg. Boratyński, 1997 (KOR); Mt. Shpyci (Szpyci) near Zhabie (Žabie), leg. Witwicki, 1865 (KRAM); ibidem, leg. Ślendziński, 1875 (KRA); ibidem, leg. Kozij, 1935 (KRAM); ibidem, leg. Vajnaj, 1958 (LWD); grassy slopes in glacial kettle between Mt. Szpyci and Kozly, 1700 m, leg. Pawłowski, 1937 (KRA). **SVIDOVEC.** Mt. Polonina Arshichna near Tyachevo, Kedrin range, peat-bog, leg. Kharkevich, 1957 (KWHA); Mt. Dragobrat, 1760 m, leg. Deyl, 1931 (PRC); ibidem, on rocks, leg. Malinovskiy, 1954 (LWD); Mt. Apsheneska near Rakhow, E slopes, leg. Krys', 1970 (KWHA); Mt. Bliznica, 1600 m, NE slopes, leg. Bradis, 1947 (KW); ibidem, peat-bog moor, leg. Gryń, 1947 (KW); ibidem, ridge near Mt. Bliznica, leg. Gryń, 1947 (KW); ibidem, leg. Barbarich, 1947 (KW); ibidem, 1600 m, among *Juniperus nana* scrub, leg. Zapryatova, 1947 (KW); ibidem, leg. Melnik, 1947 (KW); ibidem, 1700 m, NE slopes, leg. Kosec, 1950 (KW); ibidem, 1800 m, NW slopes, leg. Kosec, 1950 (KW); ibidem, high-mountain meadows, leg. Stojko, 1956 (LWD); ibidem, rocky slopes below summit, leg. Kharkevich, 1967 (KWHA); Mt. Cherniec, 1530 m, on clumps of *Sphagnum* in *Picea abies* scrub, leg. Zelenchuk, 1955 (LWD); Mt. Zhelemen' on Vysoke (Wysoke) Poloniny, 1300 m, in saxis montanis, leg. Jirásek, 1873 (PR). **CHIVCHIN – MARMA-ROS MTS.** Chivchin (Czywczyn), rocks on S slopes, leg. Vajnaj, 1958 (LWD); ibidem, leg. Chopik, 1963 (KWHA); ibidem, rocks on NE slopes, leg. Chopik & Verenko, 1969 (KW); ibidem, E slopes, leg. Zagulskij, 1985 (LW); ibidem, N slopes, Preluka, leg. Zagulskij, 1987 (LW); Mt. Gnitesa, on rocks, leg. Berko, 1961 (LWD); ibidem, subalpine meadows on Rumanian border, leg. Chopik, 1963 (KWHA); ibidem, leg. Vajnaj, 1971 (LWD); Mt. Komanowa, on summit, leg. Kluskowna & Walas, 1934 (KRA); ibidem, 1731 m, *Empetrio-Vaccinietum*, leg. Pawłowski, 1936 (KRA); Mt. Lozdun, 1656 m, on summit,

leg. Mądalski, 1934 (LWD); Mt. Neneska, 1820 m, *leg. Bradis & Zapjatova*, 1948 (KW); *ibidem*, 1700 m, on rocks, *leg. Chopik, Verenko & Ornst*, 1970 (KW); Mt. Petros near Kvasy (Rakhov), *leg. Khrschanowskiy*, 1946 (LWD); *ibidem*, 1950 m, at summit, *leg. Malinovskiy*, 1948 (LWD); *ibidem*, 1900 m, *leg. Don*, 1957 (KWU); *ibidem*, rocks at summit, *leg. Vajnaij*, 1957 (LWD); *ibidem*, *leg. Klinishyn*, 1987 (LWD); Mt. Pip Ivan (Pop Iwan prope vicum Trebušany), 1650–1940 m, solo granitico, *leg. Deyl*, 1933 (PR); *ibidem*, rocky slopes covered with *Sphagnum*, *leg. Kharkevich*, 1946 (KWU); *ibidem*, rocks covered with *Sphagnum* on N slopes, 1800 m, *leg. Kosec*, 1946 (KW); *ibidem*, 1950 m, *leg. Slobodyan*, 1947 (LWD); *ibidem*, N, rocky slopes, *leg. Kharkevich*, 1968 (KWHA); Mt. Rozheska (Rožeska), near Kwasy, below summit, *leg. Zagulskiy*, 1984 (LW); Mt. Zhandarm (Žandarm) near Rachow, among meadows with *Sphagnum* on N slopes, *leg. Kardash*, 1986 (LW). NOT LOCALIZED. Urochishche Chorna Balka (Uroczyszcze Czorna Bałka), *leg. ?*, 1962 (KWU).

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