Short Database Report

VIOLETEA – heavy metal grasslands

Thomas Becker

Abstract: The VIOLETEA database (GIVD ID EU-00-007) of heavy metal grasslands (*Violetea calaminariae*) i.e. grasslands on soils containing high concentrations of heavy metals, comprises 656 relevés from seven German regions (federal states: Lower-Saxony, North-Rhine-Westphalia, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, Thuringia). This number represents more than 90% of the total relevé stock existing from heavy metal grasslands in Germany. It was created in the mid of the 2000s combining own relevés with datasets from the literature (in total 17 sources). There are environmental data available for many relevés including measurements of heavy metals. Mosses and lichens are determined mostly in detail. The data base was created for a survey of heavy metal vegetation in Germany and will be used to analyse geographic patterns within plant communities. Hosted by the department of Geobotany of the University of Trier, the data are available for collaborative research.

Keywords: biodiversity; *Festuco-Brometea*; heavy metal; informatics; phytosociology; pollution; soil data; *Violetea calaminariae*; vegetation classification.

GIVD Database ID: EU-00-007		**Last update:** 2012-04-28
VIOLETEA		
Scope: Aim of the database is collecting all relevés of central European heavy metal grasslands for vegetation survey. Besides species data the database contains various soil measurements.		
Status: ongoing capture	**Period:** 1970-2012	
Database manager(s): Thomas Becker (beckerth@uni-trier.de)		
Owner: Thomas Becker (private)		
Web address: http://www.uni-trier.de/index.php?id=43822		
Availability: free upon request	**Online upload:** no	**Online search:** no
Database format(s): Excel	**Export format(s):** [NA]	
Publication: [NA]		
Plot type(s): normal plots	**Plot-size range:** 1-100 m²	
Non-overlapping plots: 656	**Estimate of existing plots:** 1,000	**Completeness:** 66%
Total plot observations: 656	**Number of sources:** 17	**Valid taxa:** 401
Countries: BE: 1.0%; DE: 99.0%		
Forest: [NA] — **Non-forest:** [NA]		
Guilds: all vascular plants: 100%		
Environmental data: altitude: 100%; slope aspect: 91%; slope inclination: 91%; soil depth: 66%; surface cover other than plants (open soil, litter, bare rock etc.): 70%; soil pH: 44%; other soil attributes: 30%		
Performance measure(s): cover: 100%		
Geographic localisation: point coordinates less precise than GPS, up to 1 km: 50%; small grid (not coarser than 10 km): 100%; political units or only on a coarser scale (>10 km): 100%		
Sampling periods: [NA]		
Information as of 2012-07-12; further details and future updates available from http://www.givd.info/ID/EU-00-007		

Thomas Becker (beckerth@uni-trier.de)

Department of Geobotany, Faculty of Geography and Geosciences, University of Trier, Behringstr. 21, 54296 Trier, GERMANY