

Semi-natural Grassland Vegetation Database of Latvia

Solvita Rūsiņa

Abstract: The Semi-natural Grassland Vegetation Database of Latvia (GIVD ID EU-LV-001) was first developed in 1999 as part of the PhD Thesis on syntaxonomy and diversity of dry and mesic grasslands of Latvia. The database includes the original relevés established by the author as early as 1997. The majority of relevés belongs to the *Filipendulo-Helictotrichion (Festuco-Brometea)* and *Arrhenatheretalia* communities, but *Molinietalia*, *Nardetalia*, *Caricion nigrae*, *Koelerion glaucae* and *Plantagini-Festucion* are covered, as well. The total number of relevés stored is 2,500 and there are approximately 700 relevés to be digitised. Plot size varies from 1 to 125 m², the majority of relevés are 4-9 m² large. Relevés contain records of vascular plants, bryophytes, and lichens (excl. non-terrestrial taxa) percentage cover values. The database holds information on geographic localisation, slope inclination and aspect, management type, soil type etc. Part of the relevés are included in the large-scale database: Dry Grasslands in the Baltic and Nordic Region. Several publications are based on the database dealing with Latvia's vegetation classification at regional and local scale and with long-term changes of vegetation. The Laboratory of Geobotany at the Institute of Biology of the University of Latvia is planning to develop a joint database of vegetation of Latvia and the current database will be a part of that database.

Keywords: Eastern Baltics; meadow; pasture; relevé.

GIVD Database ID: EU-LV-001		Last update: 2012-05-02	
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Scope: The aim of the database was to contribute to the development of semi-natural grassland syntaxonomy of Latvia. The only sources are original relevés established by S.Rusina (<i>Molinio-Arrhenatheretea</i> , <i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i> , <i>Festuco-Brometea</i> , <i>Trifolio-Geranietea</i> , <i>Magnocaricion</i> , <i>Caricion nigrae</i>). Other possible sources to be included are no more than 10 publications with approx. 30-60 relevés.			
Status: ongoing capture		Period: 1997-2011	
Database manager(s): Solvita Rusina (rusina@lu.lv)			
Owner: Solvita Rusina (private)			
Web address: [NA]			
Availability: according to a specific agreement		Online upload: no	Online search: no
Database format(s): TURBOVEG		Export format(s): TURBOVEG, Excel, CSV file, plain text file	
Publication: [NA]			
Plot type(s): normal plots; time series		Plot-size range: 1-125 m ²	
Non-overlapping plots: 2,165	Estimate of existing plots: 3,200	Completeness: 68%	
Total plot observations: 2,500	Number of sources: 1	Valid taxa: 950	
Countries: LV: 100.0%			
Forest: 0% — Non-forest: aquatic: 0%; semi-aquatic: 0%; arctic-alpine: 0%; natural: 0%; semi-natural: 100%; anthropogenic: 0%			
Guilds: all vascular plants: 100%; bryophytes (terricolous or aquatic): 80%; lichens (terricolous or aquatic): 80%			
Environmental data: slope aspect: 90%; slope inclination: 90%; soil depth: 100%; surface cover other than plants (open soil, litter, bare rock etc.): 10%; soil pH: 10%; other soil attributes: 90%			
Performance measure(s): cover: 100%			
Geographic localisation: GPS coordinates (precision 25 m or less): 100%			
Sampling periods: 1990-1999: 35.0%; 2000-2009: 65.0%			
Information as of 2012-07-12; further details and future updates available from http://www.givd.info/ID/EU-LV-001			

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