

VASCULAR PLANTS AND GEBOTANICAL CHARACTER OF THE BESKID MAŁY RANGE (POLISH WESTERN CARPATHIANS)

by

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The aim of the work was to develop a list of the Beskid Mały vascular plants and to work out the geobotanical character of the area. The investigated area was the Beskid Mały Range covering a surface of 401 square kilometers. From a morphological point of view, the Beskid Mały Range is the extension of the Beskid Śląski Chain. Czupel is the highest point. Its absolute height is 933 meters. From 1979 to 1980 and from 1984 to 1987 site investigations supported by the data taken from the professional literature and from herbariums were done. In order to present the localities, a square network of the Vascular Plants Spacing Atlas (ATPOL) in Poland was used. On the basis of a floristic list of 746 species, including 130 anthropophytes and 192 new species, the geobotanical character of the Beskid Mały Range is to be worked out.

The above characteristics comprise the following species: mountain species, vertical species arrangement and some chosen ecological groups (calciphilous species, acidophyte species, xerothermic species, water and bog species). Special attention will be paid to anthropogenic flora transformations with consideration of the prognosis and suggestions connected with the method of management in forest and non-forest ecosystems. Remarks on the environmental protection of the most precious areas in the Beskid Mały Range i. e. Zasolnica, Szeroka and Łamana Skała reserves, will also be given.