

CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORY OF SELECTED PLANT SPECIES IN THE QUATERNARY OF POLAND

by

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The occurrence of *Hippuris vulgaris* L., *Ligustrum vulgare* L., *Picea excelsa* (Lam.) Lk. and *Caricoidea globosa* (C. et E. M. Reid) Mai in the Polish Quaternary is investigated on the basis of my own studies on macrofossil floras and published data.

The distribution map for *Hippuris vulgaris* showing 62 Pleistocene localities in the stratigraphic sequence of fossil finds points to their concentration in the zones of distinct climatic changes, illustrating thus the pioneer role of *Hippuris* in the early successional stages of aquatic vegetation development (1).

Various views on the status of *Ligustrum vulgare* in the modern flora of Poland are discussed and compared with the results of palaeobotanical studies (2). According to the author's opinion, this shrub, broadly distributed by man, belongs to the native plants of our flora which have been present in Poland since the younger Tertiary.

The postglacial history of the distribution of common spruce in Poland has been discussed in our literature for several years and the concept of disjunction separating its West and East Carpathian ranges, first formulated by Wierdak (5), has been broadly accepted. The fossil record, however, does not confirm this view because spruce needles, seeds and pollen grains were described from the late glacial sediments of the last glaciation in eight localities from the Low Beskid mountains.

Fruits of an interesting plant, *Caricoidea globosa*, were found in an interglacial flora from Katowice in Silesia. It is a taxon of unknown affinity, previously described from the younger Tertiary and middle Pleistocene times up to the Masovian interglacial (4).

References

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3. Środoń, A. (in press). Postglacial history of the common spruce (*Picea excelsa* (Lam.) Lk.) in the Low Beskid separating the East from the West Carpathians. Acta Palaeobot. 30(1).
4. Środoń, A. (in press). A fossil trace of the interglacial flora from Katowice on Silesia. Acta Palaeobot. 30(1).
5. Wierdak, S. 1927. Distribution of the pine, birch, and beech in the Małopolska District. (in Polish) Sylwan 45(5) : 1-23.