

An Evaluation for the Biodiversity in the Albanian Alps

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Abstract: Green area is very important and covers some 59.3% of the total area, of the Albanian Alps. This area shows a large diversity of natural habitats, there are such types of ecosystems⁷ which gives very special values to that zone. The zone as whole shows a great complexity, but we have classified some of most important habitats: i) the forestry of oak and some other different high trees, ii) alpine and subalpine pastures, iii) very slope sites of carbonate mountains and natural lakes, iv) small streams which brings water to the rivers and surrounding areas, v) gave and other similar zones, vi) land with high moisture, vii) arable land, viii) very high (pick of mountain) lakes, ix) river and other streams, etc. This very high diversity of the habitats in the zones of Albanian Alps together with the indication of mountain Mediterranean climate conditions during the centuries “elaborate” a quite high range of diversity of the natural plants. At the Albanian Alps, the landscape has the very high ecological and other values, which are related with high density of ecosystems and habitats: mountainous, river, forestry, pasture, alpine pasture, and other types of ecosystems, characteristic for the area. Some of the characteristic types of spontaneous plants of the middle Europe and North Balkan dominate the area. The Albanian Alps are very mountainous zone, very sloped and relatively very wide, somehow isolated from other zones, there are quite proper conditions to be grow some typical and sometime endemic plants. Exactly these types of plant which brings more beauty to the zone, which shows the interest not only for the inhabitants or visitors, but especially for scientists and other researchers of different subjects. There are some natural ecosystems in the area, samo of most importa ones can be mentioned: Runicë, Jezercë, Dënell, Bigë e Gimajve, Lesniqe, Cukal, Valbone, etc. In these ecosystems there is growing up a very diverse world of plants and animals. Flora of the Albanian Alps shows quite a large scale of diversity; only within the territory of National Park of Theth there are 1,600 different plants. If we take into consideration whole zone of the Albanian Alps, total number of plants is higher. Within total area covered by plants, we can detect some sub groups which have high importance for the studies and for protection of the biodiversity for the zone: a) natural monuments; b) Plants which can disappear (dead forever in this zone); c) Plants in dangerous; d) Rare plants; e) Plants which have been worst; f) Endemic plants. Since all above mentioned situations appears for plants in the zone of Albanian Alps, by this study we try to present a shot panorama for the actual conditions and for the necessary measurements aiming to have the situation under control. If the measurement will be efficient, that will have a great indication for protection of natural biodiversity in the zone; that saves the beauty and have the scientific importance as well.

Key words: *rare plants, endemic plants, plants in risqué, medical herbs, biodiversity, ecosystem, alpine pastures, monument of nature, Albanian Alps.*

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