

- Šefrová, H., 2001a: *Phyllonorycter platani* (Staudinger) - a review of its dispersal history in Europe (Lepidoptera, Gracillariidae). Acta Univ. Agric. Silv. Mendel. Brun., 49, 5, p. 71-76.
- Šefrová, H., 2001b: Control possibility and additional information on the horse-chestnut leafminer *Cameraria ohridella* Deschka & Dimić (Lepidoptera, Gracillariidae). Acta Univ. Agric. Silv. Mendel. Brun., 49, 5, p. 121-128.
- Šefrová, H., 2002a: *Phyllonorycter robiniella* (Clemens 1859) - egg, larva, bionomics and its spread in Europe (Lepidoptera, Gracillariidae). Acta Univ. Agric. Silv. Mendel. Brun., 50, 3, p. 7-12.
- Šefrová, H., 2002b: *Phyllonorycter medicaginella* (Gerasimov 1930) - larval morphology, bionomics and spread in Europe (Lepidoptera, Gracillariidae). Acta Univ. Agric. Silv. Mendel. Brun., 50, 3, p. 85-90.
- Šefrová, H., 2002c: *Phyllonorycter issikii* (Kumata 1963) - bionomics, ecological impact and spread in Europe (Lepidoptera, Gracillariidae). Acta Univ. Agric. Silv. Mendel. Brun., 50, 3, p. 99-104.
- Šefrová, H., Laštůvka, Z., 2001: Dispersal of the horse-chestnut leafminer, *Cameraria ohridella* Deschka & Dimić 1986, in Europe: its course, ways and causes (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae). Entomol. Ztschr. Stuttgart, 111, p. 194-198.
- Šefrová, H., Skuhřavý, V., 2000: The larval morphology of *Cameraria ohridella* Deschka & Dimić compared with the *Phyllonorycter* Hübner (Lepidoptera, Gracillariidae). Acta Univ. Agric. Silv. Mendel. Brun., 48, 4, p. 23-30.
- Whitebread, S. E., 1990: *Phyllonorycter robiniella* (Clemens 1859) in Europe (Lepidoptera, Gracillariidae). Nota Lepid., 12, p. 344-353.

Received 8.11.2002

Šefrová H.: **Invaze druhů podčeledi Lithocolletinae v Evropě – příčiny, způsoby, limity a ekologický vliv.**

Provedli jsme analýzu evropských invazí druhů *Phyllonorycter platani* (Staudinger 1870), *P. leucographella* (Zeller 1850), *P. issikii* (Kumata 1963), *P. medicaginella* (Gerasimov 1930), *P. robiniella* (Clemens 1859) a *Cameraria ohridella* Deschka & Dimić 1986 vycházející z literárních údajů i vlastních víceletých výzkumů. Jsou diskutovány možné společné vlastnosti těchto druhů, jejich předpoklady k invazi, způsoby jejich šíření, faktory ovlivňující rychlost invaze a vlivy na hostitele. Je zhodnocen pozitivní i negativní význam těchto druhů, tj. vliv na zvyšování druhové diverzity i jejich možná škodlivost.

DEGRADATION OF SEMINATURAL PASTURES BY LOCAL OVERMANURING WITH CATTLE OR SHEEP EXCRETA

JÁN NOVÁK, PAVOL SLAMKA

Department of Forage Crop Production, Faculty of Agronomy, Slovak Agricultural University in Nitra, Tr. A. Hlinku 2, 949 76, The Slovak Republic, e-mail: Novak.Jan@uniag.sk
Department of Agrochemistry and Plant Nutrition, Faculty of Agronomy, Slovak Agricultural University in Nitra, Tr. A. Hlinku 2, 94976, The Slovak Republic, e-mail: Pavol.Slamka@uniag.sk

Abstract

Novák J., Slamka P.: Degradation of seminatural pastures by local overmanuring with cattle or sheep excreta. Ekológia (Bratislava), Vol. 22, No. 2, 143–151, 2003.

The aim of the research was to investigate the effect of overmanuring by NPK nutrients on soil and sward degradation within the framework of 10 sites of pasture ecosystems during the years 1995-2000. The sites were situated in submountain and mountain areas of Slovakia (the Western Carpathians), where Walachian way of grazing still survives. Soil samples from strongly overmanured sites where animals stayed long while having regular rest from the overgrazed pastures (young cattle) and the areas folded by sheep were analysed. There were found the high contents of NPK nutrients in them. The contents of nutrients fluctuated within the following range: from 3912 to 8652 mg.kg⁻¹ for total nitrogen (N_t), 131 to 216 mg.kg⁻¹ for phosphorus (P) and 527 to 1880 mg.kg⁻¹ for potassium (K). Content of humus on the investigated areas ranged from 5.3 to 13.6 %. Low ratio of C:N (6.9:1 to 9.9:1) resulting from C_{ox} and N_t values reflects good nutrient pool. However the concentration of K in soil exceeding 500 mg.kg⁻¹ is considered to be negative in pasture ecosystem. There is no need to fertilise soils degraded in this way with K and P as has been recommended in the older agricultural literature, because the content of K and P in these soils is high. The high concentrations of NPK in soil were tolerated mainly by ruderal weeds (*Rumex obtusifolius*, *Arctium lappa*, *Urtica dioica*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Aegopodium podagraria*, *Anthriscus sylvestris*, *Capsella bursa-pastoris*, *Chenopodium bonus-henricus*, *Anthemis arvensis*, *Stellaria media*, *Geranium pusillum*, *Geranium pratense*, *Glechoma hederacea*) and by some good quality forage grasses. During the years weed grassland communities by dominance of *Rumex obtusifolius* (6-43 %) has been established at the overmanured sites. There is a need for seeking methods suitable for soil and botanical degradation removing.

Key words: animal excreta, botanical degradation, livestock resting place, NPK nutrients, overmanuring, pasture ecosystem, soil degradation

No.	Site	Region	Geographical region	Altitude [m]	Parent rock	Soil type	Soil kind	Inclination [°]	Exposition	Average sum of precipitation [mm]	Average temperature [°C]
										growing season	year
1.	Chvojnica I. - Rajčula	Homá Nitra	Strážovské vrchy	600	crystaline rock	cambisol	sandy-loam	5	NE	500	13
2.	Chvojnica II. - Hluchá dolina	Homá Nitra	Strážovské vrchy	680	crystaline rock	cambisol	sandy-loam	6	E	500	8
3.	Párnica - Strungy	Orava	Mala Fatra	1150	crystaline rock	ranker	skeletal	12	E	800	13
4.	Zázrivá - Pod Kýčerou	Orava	Mala Fatra	1007	crystaline rock	ranker	skeletal	6	N	800	9
5.	Oravská Poruba - Jamy	Orava	Oravská vrchovina	600	flysch sediments	podzol	clay-loamy	8	E	500	2
6.	Zubrohlava - Pod dvorom	Orava	Západné Beskydy	670	flysch sediments	podzol	clay-loamy	3	SE	700	12
7.	Mýto pod Ďumbierom - Pri dvore	Horehronie	Nízke Tatry	580	crystaline rock	ranker	clay-loamy	4	SE	600	11
8.	Liptovský Ondrej - Jochy	Liptov	Vysoké Tatry	820	crystaline rock	podzol	skeletal	5	S	600	10.5
9.	Spišský Štvrtok - Čarna dolina	Spiš	Levočské vrchy	630	flysch sediments	podzol	sandy-loam	8	E	400	11
10.	Rokytov - Pod Plešom	Sariš	Východné Beskydy	370	flysch sediments	podzol	sandy-loam	7	N	450	12

Introduction

The oldest, traditional way of sheep and young cattle grazing, so called rough grazing controlled by herdman or shepherd in the mountain regions has survived up to now. Under this grazing style, the animals are during night and noon break closed in the enclosures, which are either removing regularly to the other place (folds) or stay for a long time (sometimes even several consecutive years) on the same place (resting places, staying cots). At the same time, folding is utilized for fertilising of the grassland and for that the folds have to be shifted everyday to a new place. If not, overfolding has strongly negative effects on the pasture as well as regular resting of animals on the same area for a longer time. Thus, overmanuring of the pasture and progressive soil degradation take place. Excessive input of NPK nutrients into soil and heavy sod trampling by grazing animals lead to development of vigorous and competitively strong ruderal weeds as *Rumex obtusifolius*, *Arctium lappa*, *Anthriscus sylvestris*, *Urtica dioica*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Stellaria media*, *Aegopodium podagraria*, *Anthemis arvensis*, *Geranium pusillum*, *Chenopodium bonus-henricus* and others (Klapp, 1963; Lichner et al., 1983; Voigtländer, Jacob, 1987; Novák, 1992, 1997; Šúr, 1994).

At the higher altitudes of the Veľká Fatra Mts, at the sites overfolded by sheep the ruderal species *Rumex alpinus* has been described by Kliment (1989, 1991) and Jarolímeček et al. (1997) on places, previously overfolded by sheep.

The aim of the research was to investigate the influence of overmanuring by NPK nutrients from animal excreta (young cattle and sheep) on the soil and botanical degradation of pasture in the submountain and mountain regions of Slovakia.

Material and methods

In 1995–2000, ten degraded pasture sites (370–1150 m a. s. l.) situated mainly on flysch sediments and weathered layers of crystalline rock (granite, paragneiss and others) were studied. The brief ecological characteristics of the analysed sites is shown in Table 1, brief characteristics of their utilisation is given below.

1. Chvojnica I. – Rajčula (overmanuring by young cattle excreta as a consequence of 5-year resting of animals on the same area)

- 2. Chvojnica II. – Hluchá dolina** (overmanuring by young cattle excreta as a consequence of 6-year resting of animals on the same area)
- 3. Párnica – Strungy** (overmanuring by young cattle excreta as a consequence of 5-year high stocking rate on the pasture)
- 4. Zázrivá – Pod Kýčerou** (overmanuring by sheep excreta as a consequence of an inappropriate sheepfolding)
- 5. Oravská Poruba – Jamy** (overmanuring by sheep excreta as a consequence of an inappropriate sheepfolding)
- 6. Zubrohlava – Pod dvorom** (overmanuring by young cattle excreta as a consequence of 2-year resting of animals on the same area)
- 7. Mýto pod Ďumbierom – Pri dvore** (overmanuring by young cattle excreta as a consequence of 4-year resting of animals on the same area)
- 8. Liptovský Ondrej – Jochy** (overmanuring by young cattle excreta as a consequence of 3-year resting of animals on the same area)
- 9. Spišský Štvrtok – Čarna dolina** (overmanuring by young cattle excreta as a consequence of 2-year resting of animals on the same area)
- 10. Rokytov – Pod Plešom** (overmanuring by young cattle excreta as a consequence of 3-year resting of animals on the same area).

Eight of the investigated sites (1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10) were overmanured by young cattle and in two cases by sheep (4, 5). Grassland overmanuring by sheep is quite common in Slovakia (for example covers of *Rumex alpinus* in higher mountain locations). However, this overmanuring is a consequence of sheep folding, but not sheep grazing or resting as it is with cattle. Resting of sheep, i. e. their long-term staying on the same place, is very seldom.

Soil samples in four replications were taken twice a year in spring and autumn (once during the period of investigation) from the depth of 0–0.2 m. In the samples following characteristics were determined: content of total nitrogen (N_t) according to Kjeldahl method, content of available phosphorus according to Egner method, content of potassium according to Schachtschabel method, content of humus and pH/KCl. Ratio of C:N was calculated on the basis of oxidizable carbon (C_{ox}) and total nitrogen (N_t). The values of PK nutrients in soil were compared with standard values according to Neuberg (1990). Botanical analysis was made according to the Klapp's method (1965), based on projective dominance assessment of the species in the sward.

Results and discussion

After minimum two-years resting of animals on the same place (sites 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10), overmanuring by high stocking rate of young cattle (site 3) or overmanuring by sheep fold-

Table 2. Agrochemical characteristics of the soil of overmanured sites in the depth of 0–200 mm (average of 4 replications)

No.	Investigated stands *	N_t [mg.kg ⁻¹]	P [mg.kg ⁻¹]	Exceeding of upper limit of P	K [mg.kg ⁻¹]	Exceeding of upper limit of K	C_{ox} [%]	Humus [%]	pH _(KCl)	C:N
1.	Chvojnica I. - Rajčula	5810	190	4.2x	840	3.6x	4.4	7.6	6.7	7.6
2.	Chvojnica II. - Hluchá dolina	5627	216	4.3x	627	2.7x	3.9	6.7	6.1	6.9
3.	Párnica - Strungy	5928	102	2.3x	527	2.3x	5.5	9.5	6.4	9.2
4.	Zázrivá - Pod Kýčerou	8652	142	3.1x	1880	8.2x	7.9	13.6	7.2	9.1
5.	Oravská Poruba - Jamy	4752	150	3.3x	1531	6.6x	4.7	8.1	6.9	9.9
6.	Zubrohlava - Pod dvorom	5125	139	3.1x	742	3.2x	4.3	7.4	6.3	8.4
7.	Mýto pod Ďumbierom - Pri dvore	5197	195	4.3x	850	3.7x	4.9	8.4	5.3	8.4
8.	Liptovský Ondrej - Jochy	5420	163	3.6x	830	3.6x	4.5	7.7	5.5	8.3
Investigated stands **										
9.	Spišský Štvrtok - Čarna dolina	4280	149	3.3x	705	3.1x	3.6	6.2	6.8	8.4
10.	Rokytov - Pod Plešom	3912	131	2.9x	650	2.8x	3.1	5.3	6.7	7.9

* this stand was overmanured by high stocking rate of cattle

** this stand was overmanured by inappropriate folding with sheep

The content of humus in soil of cattle resting places ranged from 5.3 to 9.5%, and on the site folded by sheep (Zázrivá - Pod Kýčerou) it was 13.6%. The C:N ratio calculated on the basis of C_{ox} and N_t values fluctuated from 6.9 to 9.9 and it reflects to a good nutrient pool which is very similar to that of the arable land (Table 2). The ratio over 12, which is typical for grassland, will be reached later after withdrawing the excessive supply of nutrients in soil (Novák, 1997).

In the sward of degraded pasture dominated *Rumex obtusifolius* and other weed species as *Arctium lappa*, *Anthriscus sylvestris*, *Urtica dioica*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Stellaria media*, *Aegopodium podagraria*, *Anthemis arvensis*, *Geranium pusillum*, *Geranium pratense*, *Glechoma hederacea*, *Capsella bursa-pastoris* and *Chenopodium bonus-henricus*, which tolerated the high N and K content in soil. Weeds were accompanied by some good quality forage grasses as *Dactylis glomerata* and *Poa trivialis*, by legumes as *Trifolium repens* and herbs like *Carum carvi* and *Taraxacum officinale* (Table 3). The most degraded site was Párnica - Strungy where *Rumex obtusifolius* formed 43% of area (Table 3, Fig. 1). The botanical degradation of analysed sites depended not only on content of nutrients in soil, but it was influenced also by other conditions decisive for the ruderal weeds propagation (formation and dissemination of seeds, seed pool in soil) and on site utilisation.

Conclusion

Excessive NPK input from animal excreta and heavy sod trampling resulted in soil and sward degradation of pastures. Typical meadow species were replaced by wide-leaves weeds mainly *Rumex obtusifolius*, which covered 6–43% of degraded grassland. The high NPK content in soil is very negative also from the environmental point of view because the nutrients can be leached to the water resources and pollute them. There is a serious need to investigate some appropriate and effective methods to eliminate the negative consequences of overmanuring, mainly in the protected landscape areas and national parks.

The following recommendations can be drawn from this study:
on degraded sites

- to omit fertilisation by P and K till their contents in soil decrease. It is assumed that high supply of nutrients, especially K will be reduced during approximately 10 years. According to Novák (1997), it took approximately 10 years when omission of any fertilisation manifested in reduction of *Rumex obtusifolius* dominance in the cover from 30 to 6%
- to apply the total herbicide Roundup Bioactive ($3 \text{ l} \cdot \text{ha}^{-1}$) to eliminate *Rumex obtusifolius*. Similar procedure was used by Jiříšťa, Mládková (1999) in Krkonoše national park (KRNP) to eliminate covers of *Rumex alpinus*. However, this radical solution is conditioned by the permission of relevant environmental institution. After herbicide treatment it is favourable to resow the site by grass – clover mixture based on $15 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{ha}^{-1}$ of *Dactylis glomerata* and $3 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{ha}^{-1}$ of *Trifolium repens* and subsequently to cut or graze it regularly. Withdrawing of the nutrients from soil by *Dactylis glomerata* and regular removal of



Fig. 2. Localisation of sampled sites.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Chvojnica I. – Rajčula | 6. Zubrohlava – Pod dvorom |
| 2. Chvojnica II. – Hlučná dolina | 7. Mýto pod Dumberom – Pri dvore |
| 3. Párnica – Strungy | 8. Liptovský Ondrej – Jochy |
| 4. Zázrivá – Pod Kýčerou | 9. Spišský Štvrtok – Čarna dolina |
| 5. Oravská Poruba – Jamy | 10. Rokytov – Pod Plešom |

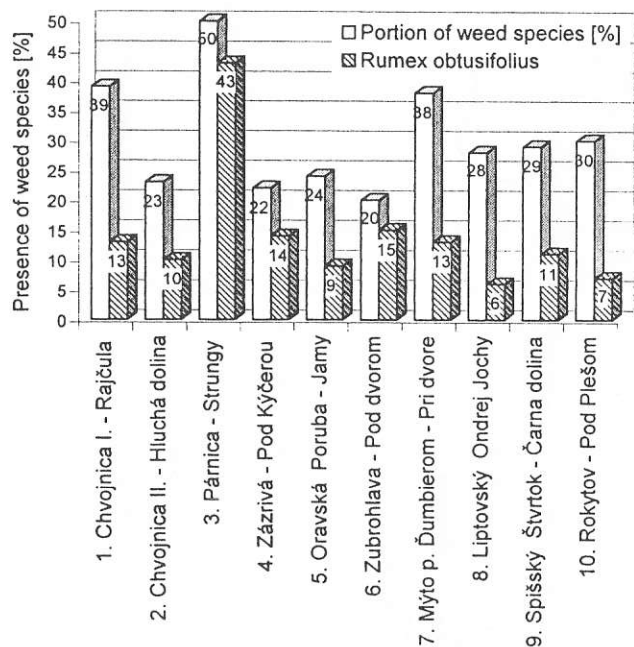


Fig. 1. Presence of weed species [%] in overmanured sites.

on non-degraded sites

- to replace young cattle grazing in protected landscape areas and national parks by grazing of herd of sheep (450–500 pieces) including at least 5–10 goats. One-day folding by sheep is supposed to be strictly held. In addition it must be stressed that besides every-day shifting of the fold it is also inevitable to keep appropriate size of it.

Translated by P. Slamka

References

- Čumakov, A., 1994: Potassium in soil and plant nutrition (in Slovak). *Agrochémia*, 34, p. 159-162.
- Jarolímeck, I., Zaliberová, M., Mucina, L. et al., 1997: Flora and Vegetation of Slovakia. 2. Synantropic Vegetation, Veda, Bratislava, 420 pp.
- Jiříšček, L., Mládková, A., 1999: Liquidation of invasion plant species in the area of KRNAP (in Czech). *Správa KRNAP, Vrchlaby*, p. 60-70, ISBN 80-902-489-85.
- Klapp, E., 1963: Heutige Probleme der Grünlandforschung und Grünlandbewirtschaftung. *Zeitschrift f. Acker und Pflanzbau*, 3, p. 257-288.
- Klapp, E., 1965: Grünlandvegetation und Standort. Verlag Paul Parey, Berlin, Hamburg, 384 pp.
- Klíment, J., 1989: *Rumicetum alpini sensu Szaf, Pawl. et Kulz. 1987* in der Grossen Fatra. *Synantropic Flora und Vegetation V.*, p. 451-457.
- Klíment, J., 1991: *Capsella bursae-pastoris - Poetum annue* Klík a 1934. *Biológia*, 46, p. 63-72.
- Lichner, S., Klesnil, A., Halva, E., 1983: Forage production (in Slovak). Bratislava, *Príroda*, 550 pp.

aboveground biomass would ensure return of soil to initial status and biodiversity of grassland will increase (Lichner et al., 1983; Novák, 1997)

- the another but rather work-consuming possibility is a removal of top layer of soil which contain animal excreta mixed with soil particles and subsequent mulching on the adjacent non-degraded pastures. Mulching with this material is very similar to grassland fertilisation with well matured farm-yard manure (Novák, 1998)

- Neuberg, J., 1990: Complex method of plant nutrition (in Czech). 2. part. *Met. Závad. Výsl. Výzk. Praxe, ÚVTIZ, Praha*, 231 pp.
- Novák, J., 1992: Evaluation of stability of grass ecosystem according to features of quality (in Slovak). *Poľnohospodárstvo*, 38, p. 853-862.
- Novák, J., 1997: Biodiversity of anthropically affected ruderalized (Habilitation thesis) (in Slovak). SPU, Nitra, 180 pp.
- Novák, J., 1998: Grassland succession after mulching with eutrophicated soil (in Slovak). *Poľnohospodárstvo*, 44, p. 89-99.
- Regál, V., Krajčovič, V., 1963: Forage production (in Czech). SZN, Praha, 466 pp.
- Šúr, D., 1994: Influence of grazing of heifers and lambs on the extensive pasture stand (in Slovak). *Rostl. Výr.*, 40, p. 1077-1085.
- Voigtländer, G., Jacob, H., 1987: *Grünlandwirtschaft und Futterbau*. Verlag Eugen Ulmer, Stuttgart, 480 pp.

Received 13. 5. 2002

Novák J., Slamka P.: **Degradácia poloprírodných pasienkov lokálnym prehnojením exkrementmi dobytká alebo oviec.**

Cieľom výskumu uskutočneného v rokoch 1995–2000 bolo sledovať vplyv nadmerného prísunu NPK-živín na degradáciu pôdy a porastu pasienkov v podhorských a horských oblastiach Slovenska (Západné Karpaty), kde ešte stále pretrvávajú valašský spôsob pasenia. Analyzovali sme pôdne vzorky stanovišť, ktoré boli veľmi prehnojené v dôsledku dlhodobého stálenia mladého dobytká, prekošarovania ovcami, prípadne nadmernej pasvy. V pôdach analyzovaných stanovišť sme zistili vysoký až extrémne vysoký obsah NPK-živín. Obsah jednotlivých živín kolísal v rozsahu od 3912 do 8652 mg.kg⁻¹ celkového dusíka (N_t), od 131 do 216 mg.kg⁻¹ fosforu a od 527 do 1880 mg.kg⁻¹ draslíka. Draslík bol vo veľkých množstvách prijímaný ruderálnymi druhmi (*Rumex obtusifolius* a iné) alebo niektorými krmovínarsky hodnotnými trávami (*Dactylis glomerata*, *Poa trivialis*). Ak jeho koncentrácia v pôde prekračuje 500 mg.kg⁻¹, v pasienkovom ekosystéme sa považuje za nežiadúco vysokú. Takto degradované pôdy nevyžadujú hnojenie fosforom a draslíkom, pretože obsah týchto živín je v nich vysoký. Obsah humusu na skúmaných stanovištiach kolísal od 5,3 do 13,6 %. Nízky pomer C:N (6,9:1 až 9,9:1) vyplýva z hodnôt C_{org} a N_t a odráža dobrú zásobu živín na stanovištiach. Vysokú koncentráciu NPK-živín v pôde tolerovali mnohé ruderálne buriny, napr. *Rumex obtusifolius*, *Arctium lappa*, *Urtica dioica*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Aegopodium podagraria*, *Anthriscus silvestris*, *Capsella bursa-pastoris*, *Chenopodium bonus-henricus*, *Anthemis arvensis*, *Stellaria media*, *Geranium pusillum*, *Geranium pratense*, *Glechoma hederacea*. Po niekoľkých rokoch sa na degradovaných stanovištiach, kde stádlil dobytok, vytvorili ruderálne typy trávnych porastov s dominanciou *Rumex obtusifolius* (6–43 %). V rámci štúdia tejto problematiky je nevyhnutné hľadať metódy vhodné na elimináciu degradácie pôdy a botanického zloženia.