

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASSESSING THE PRODUCTIVITY OF GRASSLANDS FROM THE MESEȘ MOUNTAINS

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Abstract. *The Meseș Mountains with altitudes lower than 400 - 980 m are part of the Western Carpathians of Romania, the northern branch. 123 floristic surveys were carried out on grasslands with an average of 63 species per survey and 20 associations belonging to 13 alliances, 9 orders and 6 phytosociological classes were outlined. The average coverage with vegetation was 85%, of which 36% was represented by forage species and 49% by species harmful to the grass carpet, being grasslands in an advanced stage of degradation. The average pastoral value of the practical associations is 24.3 (poor) and green mass production of 3.9 t/ha (poor) which allows a load of 0.35 LU/ha in a season of 170 days of grazing. At the level of the most important and valuable phytosociological alliances (=habitats), *Agrostion stoloniferae*, *Cynosurion*, *Danthonio-Brachypodion* and *Festucion valesiacae* were assessed on average 9.2 t/ha of green mass, a load of 0.83 LU/ha, a pastoral value of 49 and a production of 5,000 liters of cow's milk per hectare.*

Keywords: mountain grasslands, grassland classification, pastoral value, production of green mass and milk

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1. Introduction

Knowing the productivity of permanent grasslands in the mountain area is one of the main economic objectives necessary for their optimal management over a longer period of time [2].

The current and perspective projects for the development of our mountain area in various stages of abandonment will have to take into account the production of green fodder mass and the pastoral value of the grasslands in order to apply the appropriate

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