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Moist Meadow Vegetation of the Argözü Valley in Kibriscik, Bolu, TURKEY

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Aim of the study: The aim of this study is to analyse the moist meadow vegetation of Argözü Valley in Kibriscik, Bolu (Turkey).

Material and Methods: The study area is located in Euxine province of Euro-Siberian Flora Region and on the southern slopes of Köroğlu Mountains. Study area is covered with andesite, tuff and agglomerate materials which are elements of the Köroğlu volcanic massif. The climate of the region changes from less rainy Mediterranean to rainy Mediterranean type. Annual precipitation varies from 700 mm to 1200 mm depending on altitudinal zones and mean annual temperature is 11°C. For vegetation analysis, a total of 12 sample plots were taken from moist meadow vegetation of the study area. Vegetation data were classified using TWINSPAN (Hill, 1979) under JUICE software and indirect ordination analysis were applied to the data.

Results: As a result of classification and ordination, one moist meadow communities were defined. According to this definition, following scheme were proposed for shrub communities.

Order: MOLINIO-ARRHENATHERETEA Tüxen 1937
Alliance: MENTHO-JUNCION INFLEXI De Foucault 1984
Assosiation 1: Mentho -Caricetum nigrae Ass. nov.

This society distributes between 1960-1985 m elevations in Köroğlu Tepesi in Argozu Valley. So its habitat is high mountain ecosystem. And high mountain habitats are very sensitive and fragile. In the study area high mountain ecosystem is under pressure by grazing, hiking and mountaineering activities. In this region, most of the endemic species distribute where exposed to this activities. Human activities must be reduced or performed in controlled manner, should minimize the damage in such sensitive ecosystems.

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