

ENTOMOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF NATURAL FOREST AREA GÂRBOAVELE (GALAȚI COUNTY- ROMANIA)

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ABSTRACT: The purpose of this paper is to make a characterization of the insects fauna from Gârboavele Forest Reserve Forest. The investigated area is located near the city of Galați (about 14 km), with an area of 230 ha. Taking into account that entomofauna is strictly dependent on the vegetation, the protection of the latter is a prerequisite for any conservation initiatives entomofauna. An

important group of insects found in this area represents those whose existence is linked to the presence of nature steppe vegetation habitats, most of which are included in various lists and annexes of laws that protect them.

It should be noted that 19.16% of the species identified in these studies, are protected at national level and are included in the IUCN and Red List of diurnal butterflies of Romania (Rakosy, L. 2003). Among the endangered species, with a high risk of becoming extinct, we mention: *Hyponephele lycaon* (Kuhn, 1774), *Pyrrhia purpurina* (Esper, 1804), *Mazaria incarnate* (Freyer, 1838), *Conistra ragusae macedonica* Pinker, 1956, *Cleoceris scoriacea* (Esper, 1789), *Hadula stigmosa* (Cristoph, 1887) *Agria tau* Linnaeus, 1761, *Apatura ilia* (Dennis et Schiffermuller, 1775), *Eudia pavonia* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Papilio machaon* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Saturnia pyri* (Dennis et Schiffermuller, 1775) and the critically endangered species, with extremely high risk of extinction include: *Tomares nogelii dobrogensis* Caradja, 1895 and *Polyphaenis viridis* (Villers, 1789).

Between the Coleoptera (beetles), the observations made in the Forest Gârboavele, identify species *Cerambyx cerdo* Linnaeus 1758, *Lucanus cervus* Linnaeus 1758 *Morimus funereus* Mulsant, 1863 și *Osmoderma eremita* (Scopoli, 1763) as being vulnerable species, they being encountered in EU Habitats Directive (EU Directive 92/43/EEC), and were included in the species of Community interest requiring strict protection and that need the establishment of special protection areas. Red List of species of flora and fauna of the border Romania-Republic of Moldova, mentions for the Forest Gârboavele, from studies conducted in this area, *Aromia moscata* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Calambus bipustulatus* (Linnaeus, 1767), *Calosoma sycophanta* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Carabus (Hydrocarabus) variolosus* Fabricius, 1787 și *Oryctes nasicornis* Linnaeus, 1758 as endangered species, with a very high risk of becoming extinct, and include this species together with beetles included in the Habitats Directive, *Bolbelasmus unicornis* Schrank 1798 as being vulnerable. The same list includes giant fly (*Satanas gigas* Eversmann, 1855) valga bee (*Xylocopa valga* Gerstaecker, 1872), purple bee (*Xylocopa violacea* (Linnaeus, 1758)), clay bumblebee (*Bombus argillaceus* (Scopoli, 1763)) and the bumblebee step (*Bombus fragrans* (Pallas, 1771)) as endangered species and steppe wasp (*Scolia hirta* Schrenck, 1781) and the giant hornet (*Scolia maculata* (Drury 1773)) are included in the list of vulnerable species for Gârboavele Forest entomofauna.

Heteroptera fauna (bugs) in Forest Gârboavele brings together 39 species (Marcu A. 1982; Serban C. 2009, 2010), the majority are widespread in all regions of Romania, except species: *Carpocoris mediteraneus* (Tamanini, 1958) of family Pentatomidae has been found localized in Constanta, Tulcea and Caras-Severin, point locations, *Rhopalus rufus* Shilling 1821 known by two female specimens collected in 1964 Kis. B Dubova Craiova Dolj and confirmed as new species for the Romanian fauna from studies carried out in 2004-2009 (Serban C. 2009a, 2009b, 2010), *Stictopleurus pictus* (Fieber 1861) known only from

Dolj, Bihor Tulcea and *Maccevethus errans caucasicus* (Kolen 1845) a rare species, found in lowland regions.

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