



FLORISTIC AND VEGETATION CHANGE ON THE *SPHAGNUM*-DOMINATED MIRE OF EGERBAKTA

Az egerbaktai tőzegmohás láp flórájának és vegetációjának változása

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Compared to 1988, open *Menyanthes trifoliata* stands have vanished, *Carex rostrata* communities have declined, and the *Sphagnum* willow carr has expanded. The mire's central associations include *Caricetum rostratae*, *Salici cinereae-Sphagnetum recurvi sphagnetosum squarrosi*, and *Calamagrosti-Salicetum cinereae*. In the mainly nudex lagg zone, communities are: *Bidenti-Polygonetum hydropiperis*, *Bidenti-Polygonetum hydropiperis urticetosum dioicae*, *Caricetum acutiformis*, *Juncetum effusi*, *Glycerietum maximae*, and a *Poa nemoralis*-dominated one. We recorded 77 vascular plant species, 62 new to the site. Rare species declined: *Menyanthes trifoliata* and *Cicuta virosa* are now absent, and of the former eight *Sphagnum* species (*S. recurvum* agg., *S. obtusum*, *S. acutifolium*, *S. squarrosum*, *S. teres*, *S. fimbriatum*, *S. palustre*, *S. centrale*), only *Sphagnum squarrosum* remains. The original *Salici cinereae-Sphagnetum recurvi sphagnetosum recurvi* subassociation transitioned into *Salici cinereae-Sphagnetum recurvi sphagnetosum squarrosi* after the mire's completely dry, peat-moss-free state lasting for years around 2000. Central communities indicate a cool, moderately acidic, oligotrophic environment. The water here was properly low pH and conductivity for them. In contrast, lagg vegetation indicates warmer, nutrient-rich, less acidic conditions. The mire's most conservation-worthy zone remains its central *Sphagnum*-rich area. Its preservation depends on maintaining natural water supply via continuous forest cover in the catchment and keeping large game populations at or below current levels.