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THE LICHEN FLORA OF TELKIBÁNYA AND ITS SURROUNDINGS, NE HUNGARY

Telkibánya és környéke zuzmóflórája

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Previous lichenological studies in the Zemplén Mountains (NE Hungary) focused mainly on the southern part of the range, whereas the municipal area of Telkibánya remained comparatively poorly explored despite its numerous lichen-rich habitats. Although several prominent cryptogam botanists visited the area during the 1950s, the first published lichen records from Telkibánya originate from Klára Verseghy's collections made in 1955 and published in 1958.

This study is based on 269 herbarium and 266 literature records, supplemented by our own collections made since 2007, providing the first comprehensive overview of the lichen flora of the area. After excluding five doubtful records, the lichen flora within the municipal boundaries of Telkibánya comprises 158 species, including 49 species based on our own collections.

Crustose lichens dominate (41%). The fruticose genus *Cladonia* is represented by 27 species, while the foliose genus, *Xanthoparmelia* is also diverse. Six protected species have been recorded (*Cladonia arbuscula, C. mitis, C. rangiferina, Peltigera leucophlebia, Umbilicaria hirsuta* and *Xanthoparmelia pokornyi*), although three are known only from historical records. Most of these species, however, still maintain extant populations elsewhere in the Zemplén Mountains.

The flora includes several suboceanic species (*Cetrelia monachorum, C. olivetorum, Nephroma resupinatum, Normandina pulchella* and *Parmotrema perlatum*) and indicators of long-term forest continuity (*Chaenotheca chrysocephala* and *Varicellaria hemisphaerica*). Particularly noteworthy is *Xanthoparmelia mougeotii*, which is currently only known in Hungary from Fövenyes Hill near Telkibánya.

Recent fieldwork has revealed several species previously unrecorded from the Zemplén Mountains, including *Absconditella lignicola, Coenogonium pineti, Evernia divaricata, Flavoparmelia soredians, Massjukiella polycarpa, Nephromopsis chlorophylla, Oxneria huculica, O. ulophyllodes* and *Punctelia jeckeri*. Our results demonstrate that the Telkibánya area is one of the most important centres of lichen diversity in the Zemplén Mountains (17.9% of the Hungarian lichen flora confirmed on approximately 0.05% of Hungary's territory) and remains a promising area for further floristical discoveries.