

EUROPEAN LICHEN MAPPING PROJECT IN ROMANIA

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Understanding the importance of the "Lichen mapping in Europe" programme, I engaged myself to map the species *Gyalecta jenensis* and *Synalissa symphorea* in Romania. Not being able to be present at the Congress of Regensburg in 1990, I did not understand that actually the question was to map 42 lichen species.

In Romania this type of mapping was not used in lichenological studies. There is only one work of 1988, the mapping of *Diploschistes* genus, based on the UTM gride.

The problems are the following:

- most of the data on lichen distribution are old (before 1974) but the great majority go back to before the World War II or even World War I. I have not the necessary time and possibilities to check whether these species still exist in the mentioned places;

- not all Romanian regions have been studied from a lichenological point of view, so that the map of the distribution of species does not give the true picture. Practically, the maps will reflect at the same time the different knowledge of the Romanian lichen flora.

Up to now I succeeded mapping the lichen species only for the neighbouring countries, namely: Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the USSR, Yugoslavia and of course Romania.

Out of these 12 studied species, two of them were not found in the country: *Cladonia magyarica* and *Calicium adpersum*. After 1974, data on six species only are available.

The social and political changes in Romania have put basic research in a new light, so that we hope that the number of the Romanian lichenologists will increase and that we shall have more possibilities to take part in different international programmes and meetings.