Abstract. This paper presents the results of biodiversity studies on the critical genus Rubus (Rosaceae) in the eastern part of the Polish Carpathians. In the study area, 35 Rubus species representing three subgenera and 15 series were found, including four newly described species (R. ambrosius, R. flos-amygdalae, R. parthenocissus, R. pericrispatus). For each species a distribution map using ATPOL 2 × 2 km cartogram squares is provided. For 32 species the information given includes detailed characteristics of the vertical distribution, phytocoenoses and habitats, including slope orientation, soil conditions (moisture, reaction, nitrogen content), insolation and temperature, some of them estimated using Ellenberg’s bioindices. All of those parameters are presented in diagrams. The assessment of habitat conditions showed that Rubus species occur in somewhat different conditions in the study area than in areas west of Poland. The vertical distribution of most Rubus species in this area is limited by climatic conditions and is confined to lower elevations, mostly the submontane belt. Many species have a specific pattern of horizontal distribution. The results of numerical analysis indicate that the Rubus flora of the eastern part of the Carpathians is impoverished in comparison to the Rubus flora of the western part.

Key words: Rubus, distribution, ecology, phytosociological groups, anthropopressure, Carpathians, Poland

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Contents

INTRODUCTION 1
MATERIALS AND METHODS 4
STUDY AREA 6
LOCATION AND BORDERS 6
LANDFORM 7
GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE 8
SOILS 11
CLIMATE 11
VEGETATION 13
ANTHROPOGENIC ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES 14
RESULTS 15
CHARACTERISTICS OF SPECIES 15
FACTORS EFFECTING THE DISTRIBUTION OF RUBUS 55
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIES 56
VERTICAL DISTRIBUTION 56
PLANT COMMUNITIES DOMINATED BY RUBUS SPECIES 56
SLOPE ORIENTATION 56
CHARACTERISTICS OF SPECIES USING ELLENBERG INDICATOR VALUES 56
EFFECT OF HUMAN ACTIVITY 58
BRAMBLES AND THE GEOBOTANICAL DIVISION OF THE POLISH CARPATHIANS 59
DISCUSSION 61
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION 61
VERTICAL DISTRIBUTION 62
PLANT COMMUNITIES DOMINATED BY RUBUS SPECIES 62
SLOPE ORIENTATION 64
ESTIMATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES USING BIOINDICES 64
CHARACTERISTICS OF SPECIES USING ELLENBERG INDICATOR VALUES 64
EFFECT OF HUMAN ACTIVITY 65
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS 65
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 67
REFERENCES 67