

Flora and Vegetation in the vicinity of castle of Koroghli
Student Tornike Pankvelashvili
Instructor associate professor Shamil Shetekauri
Email: tornike.pankvelashvili528@ens.tsu.edu.ge
Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University
Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences, Department of Biology
Chair of biodiversity

The study of flora and Vegetation has a long history, it begins in the 18th century. Part of the contributors were Georgians, as well as foreigner scientists. Among the Georgians, Vakhushti Bagrationi was one of the first, Niko Ketskhoveri, Aleksandre Makhashvili and others also did their fair share of information gathering and studying. Among the foreigners, Joseph Pitton de Tournefort's work is remarkable. From the vicinity of Tbilisi there are 25 new plants described, and there are known 1631 total species around this area.

We are observing Kojori area for flora and verdure diversity, during the summer period. Broadleaf mixed forest are present here, which mainly consists of Hornbeam, Maple, Georgian Oak, etc. Shrubs are present with several species: Hawthorn, Medlar, Swida, Cherry plum, Euonymus, Honeysuckle and Rosa canina. On this territory we also observed *Taxus baccata*. In terms of distribution the most dominant plants near castle of Koroghli, are succulent plants from Crassulaceae family (*Sedum album*, *Sedum hispanicum*, *Sedum acre*), *Sempervivum transcaucasicum*. This species are not present on Greater Caucasus, we can only find it on Lesser Caucasus. Here we can observe *Astragalus caucasicus*, *Thymus t flisiansis*, *Rubus ibericus*, *Astragalus kadshoransis*, *Lactuca georgica*, *Alchinilla valdehirsuta*, *Medicago brachycarpa*.

In total we have registered up to 100 species, including: *Alium album*, *Asplenium septentrionale*, *Astrodaucus orientalis*, *Campanula collina*, *Campanula ochroleuca*, *Carduus natans*, *Cirsium kosmelii*, *Cirsium spheroccephalum*, *Delphinium schmalhauseni*, *Dianthus calocephalus*, *Dianthus ruprechtii*, *Galium verum*, *Helictotrichon sp*, *Lysimachia vulgaris*, *Mespilus germanica*, *Origanum vulgare*, *Phrangos ferulaceae*, *Potentilla recta*, *Pulsatilla violaceae*, *Sedum acre*, *Sedum album*, *Sedum hispanicum*, *Sempervivum transcaucasicum*, *Swida australis*, *Teucrium nuchense*, *Trifolium alpestre*, *Xeranthemum squarosum etc.*

We have produced a herbarium of registered plants and we took the photos of them.

Literature used

Makashvili A. 1952, 1953: Flora of environs Tbilisi, vol.1-2 Tbilisi

2.R.Gagnidze, S.Kutateladze. 2002: Botanical expedition in the vicinity of city of Tbilisi