BULGARIAN DATA
ACCOMPANYING REPORT

Assessment of ground vegetation

The phytocenotic studies were performed in the following three stations- Yundola, Vitinia and Staro Oriahovo. They include:

- Visual assessment of the differentiation of the plant communities into layers;
- Assessment of the species cover in the separate layers;
- Average height of the layers.

In each stationary sample plot 10 (1x1 m) sample subplots were established, thus achieving more precise quantitative measurements of the ground synusia. The subplots were established in a way that represents the existing floristic variety. In each sample subplot the total projective cover and the projective cover of the separate species (in %) were determined. The total projective cover was determined in % representing the projection of the above-ground parts of the plants per unit area.

In addition to the above mentioned the number of the seedlings was determined as well.

The observations were performed in every two years, at the end of August and the beginning of September.

The 2009 survey allows the following conclusions:

Vitinia

- There is a trend for decrease of the total projective coverage of grass synusias with about 5%; the reduction between the different micro-groups reaches 10%;
- The projective coverage of the dominant species *Luzula Luzuloides (Lam.) Dandy* and *Festuca Drymeja Mert and Koch* has decreased by about 1%;
- While maintaining the proportion of *Fagus sylvatica* and *Carpinus betulus* undergrowth, a simple change is observed in the phytocenotic importance of the species from different micro-groups.

Staro Oriahovo

- An increase of the total projective coverage of bush synusias by about 10% is observed; the proportion between the different micro-groups has a variable changing;
- There is a trend for reduction of the phytocenotic significance of the species from grass synusias, as many species disappear from the composition of the majority of micro-groups.
- With the increase of the projective coverage also increases the phytocenotic importance of the general undergrowth, which at this stage of the phytocenose development partially prevents the natural course of the restoration process.

Yundola

- The predominant part of the observed species is the same;
- The average total coverage reduces by about 5%. This is combined with a reduction of the coverage of species from different subplots by 5 to 30%. Against the backdrop of an overall declining, a trend for increase can be found in two subplots, by a total coverage of 5%;
- There is a reduction in the coverage of the majority of species, except for mosses, where *Pleurozium Schreberi (Brid.) Mitt.* has an increased coverage by 2% and *Mnium Undulatum Hedw.* retains his existing coverage since 2008. Minor increase in the average coverage by about 1% was found in *Hieracium Murorum L.;*
- There is a reduction of the coverage and number of *Picea abies* undergrowth.