Diagnostic, constant and dominant species of the higher vegetation units of Slovakia

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This study represents the statistical revision of phytosociological data stored in the Slovak national vegetation database - SNVD. The affinities of vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens occurring in Slovakia to the major syntaxa (alliances and classes) are calculated using a statistically defined coefficient of fidelity. In addition, constant and dominant taxa of particular syntaxa are identified. A revised list of syntaxa (vegetation units) of Slovakia is also presented.
The evaluation of vegetation units by sharpness and uniqueness criteria allows us to identify well delimited alliances and classes or to point out those, for which delimitation is problematic and which are more difficult to define by statistical principles. The syntaxonomical revision and delimitation of some units with low values of sharpness and uniqueness should be considered in future.
The presented results are important not only for scientists (botanists, zoologists, and ecologists), but also for nature conservation institutions. They represents a valuable and essential source of floristic data on the occurrence of vascular and non-vascular plants in plant communities with specific environmental characteristics.