

**MORPHOLOGICAL AND RESOURCE CHARACTERISTICS  
OF *CALLUNA VULGARIS* (ERICACEAE) IN DISTURBED  
PHYTOCOENOSIS IN THE NORTH WEST OF BELARUS**

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**SUMMARY**

Population studies of heather *Calluna vulgaris* (L.) Hull in Gozha-Porechie military ground habitats (Grodno region of Belarus) was conducted to identify patterns of morphological and coenotic as well as resource and phytochemical characteristic variability of *C. vulgaris* coenopopulations in disturbed phytocoenoses. Ten *C. vulgaris* coenopopulations in environmental gradients were studied. The classical techniques in geobotany and plants population biology were used in the study. It was revealed that light and hydrological regimes, as well as soil fertility were the limiting factors in relation to morpho-coenotic and phytochemical parameters in *C. vulgaris*. The maximal yield, abundance and the total flavonoids content were detected in plants from populations growing under maximal illumination. The greatest variability of *C. vulgaris* population parameters was noted on the gradient of phytocoenoses recovery after human impact. Resource and phytochemical optimum of *C. vulgaris* medicinal raw material harvesting was revealed. This optimum was formed at the first stages of phytocenoses recovery (3–6 years after the violation) in disturbed dry pine forests. Regression relations of resource biomass and projective cover, shoot length, the length of the resource part of the shoot, projective and resource volumes were established; it allowed to assess the productivity of *C. vulgaris* by its morphological and cenotic parameters.

**Key words:** population, *Calluna vulgaris*, yielding, phytoindication, biologically active substances, plant raw materials, environmental factors.