



Invasive vascular plant species of limnocrenic karst springs in Poland

Krzysztof Spałek

Laboratory of Geobotany and Plant Conservation, Department of Biosystematics University of Opole, Oleska 22, 45-052 Opole, Poland

Natural water reservoirs are very valuable floristic sites in Poland. Among them, the most important for preservation of biodiversity of flora are limnocrenic karst springs. The long-term process of human pressure on habitats of this type caused disturbance of their biological balance. Changes in the water regime, industrial development and chemisation of agriculture, especially in the period of last two hundred years, led to systematic disappearance of localities of many plant species connected with rare habitats and also to appear numerous invasive plant species. They are: *Acorus calamus*, *Echinocystis lobata*, *Elodea canadensis*, *Erechtites hieraciifolia*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Solidago canadensis*, *S. gigantea* and *S. graminifolia*. Fieldworks were conducted in 2010-2014.