

The species of the genus *Crataegus* L. in the National Nature Park 'Podilskyi Tovtry' (Podolian Hills, Western Ukraine)

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Abstract. The paper presents an inventory of hawthorns occurring in the National Nature Park 'Podilskyi Tovtry'. 8 taxa were recorded based on the field studies during the years 2009-2013, as well as on the published data. Four of them are new for the flora of the Park's area: *C. ×macrocarpa* Hegetschw., *C. ×subsphaericea* Gand., *C. ×media* Bechst., and the triple hybrid *C. monogyna* Jacq. × *C. laevigata* (Pior.) DC. × *C. rhipidophylla* Gand.

Key words: hawthorns, hybrids, inventory, new data

1. Introduction

The genus *Crataegus* is taxonomically a very difficult group of plants. High polymorphism within this genus is the result of hybridisation and apomixis, however, in case of Euro-Asiatic hawthorns, the main identification problem results from hybridization, while for American species – mainly from apomixis (Muniyamma & Phipps 1979; Christensen 1992; Talent & Dickinson 2005). Apart from such a high morphological differentiation, also the previous numerous changes in classification criteria sorted out many species. For instance, *C. monogyna* – the most variable species, considering its leaf blade shape, was divided into a few taxa. Therefore, the data records contained in former papers, require revision based on recent taxonomic studies, e.g. Christensen (1992), Phipps *et al.* (2003) or Kurtto *et al.* (2013), which present the solution to most taxonomic problems.

The general knowledge of hawthorn distribution in the National Nature Park 'Podilskyi Tovtry' (NNPPT) is fairly poor. Although, the studies of Park's flora have been carried since the 19th century, they focused mainly on general distribution of vascular plants. Hence, only a few species of *Crataegus* were recorded. Besser (1882) published the first reports on two hawthorn species

of occurring in the Park's area: *Crataegus monogyna* Jacq. and *C. laciniata* Stev. (= *C. rhipidophylla* Gand.). In 1999, the complete list of NNPPT flora (Lyubinska *et al.* 1999) was published, that included six hawthorn species: *Crataegus curvisepala* Lindm. (= *C. rhipidophylla*), *C. leiomonogyna* Klokov (= *C. monogyna*), *C. lipskyi* Klokov (= *C. monogyna*), *C. pentagyna* Waldst. et Kit., *C. praearmata* Klokov (= *C. monogyna*) and *C. pseudokyrstostyla* Klokov (= *C. rhipidophylla*). Within this group, five species are considered synonymous according to the recent taxonomic nomenclature (Christensen 1992, 1997; Janjić 2002). The mentioned species were also reported by Klokov (1954) in the Flora USSR and by Novosad *et al.* (2009). The list of hawthorns occurring in the Park's area was completed by *Crataegus coccinea* L. (Levanets *et al.* 2004).

In conclusion, based on the newest nomenclature (Christensen 1992, 1997; Janjić 2002), it is possible to say that until 2009, three native and one antropophyte hawthorn species were found in the NNPPT area. Afterwards, more studies on the Park's hawthorn species were conducted. The goal of this paper was to provide a comprehensive list of hawthorns presently occurring within the Park's limits, based on the current taxonomic terminology of Christensen (1992, 1997) and Janjić (2002), complemented by the list of their localities.

2. Study area

The National Nature Park 'Podilskyi Tovtry' (NNPPT) was established in 1996. It is situated on the territory of Kamianets-Podilskyi, Chemerovtsi and part of Horodok districts of Khmelnytskyi Oblast (province) in the southern region of western Ukraine. The Park covers 261,316 ha. Considering the geophysical division, the southern part of the Park belongs to the Prut-Dniester highland region, while its middle and northern parts belong to the West Podilskyi highland region (Pylypyuk 2008; geomap.land.kiev.ua/zoning1.html; tovtry.com).

The Tovtry are the mountain range attaining a height of 401 m a.s.l. within the Park's limits. The ridge was formed 40-25 million years ago. It was formed of coral reef, water plants and mollusks, and consists of different types of limestone, elevated due to tectonic movements. 2977 plant species requiring different ecological conditions occur in the NNPPT area. Among them, there are about 30 endemic species. The microclimate of the Transnistria region is shaped by the Tovtry Ridge and canyons of the Dniester River and its tributaries (Pylypyuk 2008; tovtry.com). The 'Podilskyi Tovtry' National Nature Park plays an important role in protecting the biodiversity of the Polodia region.

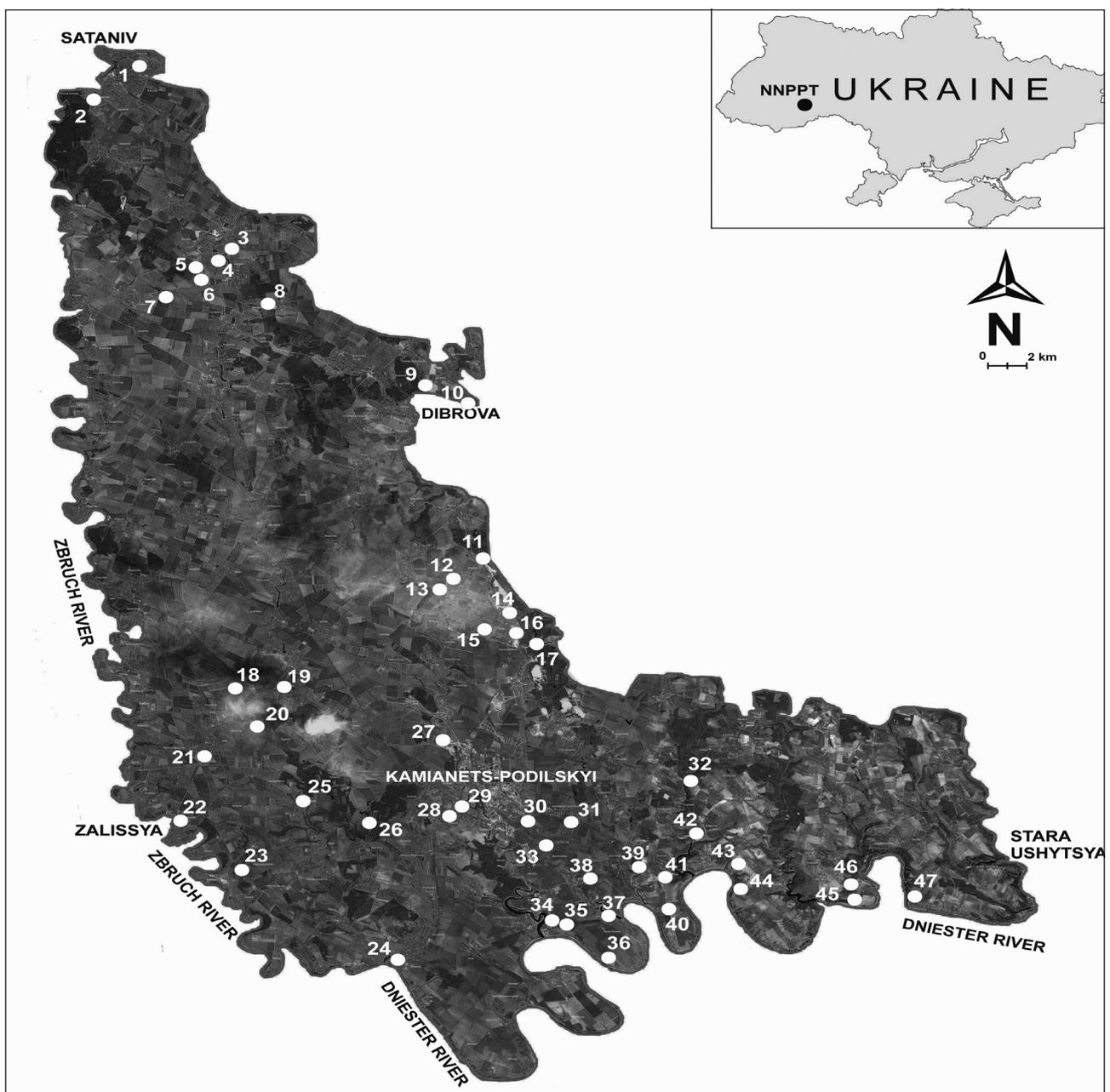


Fig. 1. Location of localities in the study area
Explanation: list of localities cf. Appendix 1

The biggest part of the Park (ca 75%) is occupied by agricultural areas, while forests and natural vegetation cover nearly 15% of the Park's territory. The natural vegetation cover is formed by oak, mixed hornbeam-oak-ash and beach forests, patches of xerothermic grasslands and meadows (Lyubinska 2013).

3. Material and methods

Herbarium material, containing flowering short shoots, was collected in 2009-2013. The localities of common and easy to identify in the field taxa, such as *Crataegus monogyna* were only sporadically collected. The correctness of identification of atypical forms was verified by Prof. K. I. Christensen from the Natural History Museum of Denmark. All herbarium materials were deposited in the Herbarium of the Ojców National Park (Ojców, Poland).

Data were collected in 47 localities (Fig. 1, Appendix 1). The names of places were based on google.pl/maps. The names of localities were supplemented with the abbreviation of the author's name and the year when field observations or specimen collection were conducted. Data from the literature were also included. Taxonomic approach was based on the works of Christensen (1992, 1997) and Janjić (2002), while the nomenclature is after Christensen (1992, 1997), Janjić (2002), Phipps *et al.* (2003) and the International Plant Names Index (IPNI) (ipni.org/index.html).

The geographical elements for each species follow Christensen (1992), Kurtto *et al.* (2013) and Zajac & Zajac (2009). For an anthropophyte, its native range was given.

4. Results

The list contains 8 taxa of hawthorns, belonging to the series: *Pentagynae* (C. K. Schneid.) Russanov (1 species), *Crataegus* (6 taxa) and *Coccineae* (Loudon) Rehder (1 species). Among them, 6 native taxa (including 3 native hybrid forms at the level of species), 1 anthropophyte and 1 triple-hybrid form.

Four new taxa for the flora of the National Nature Park were found during the study. These are: *C. ×macrocarpa* Hegetschw., *C. ×subsphaericea* Gand., *C. ×media* Bechst. and a triple hybrid *C. monogyna* Jacq. × *C. laevigata* (Pior.) DC. × *C. rhipidophylla* Gand.

C. ×media, *C. pentagyna* and *C. pedicellata*, found in single localities, were the rarest hawthorns occurring in the studied area, while the most frequent were: *C. monogyna* (46 localities) and *C. ×subsphaericea* (12 localities).

Taxonomic list of species of the genus *Crataegus* L.

Abbreviations and symbols: SL – Anna Sołtys-Lelek, leg. – legitimate, obs. – observation, OPN – Herbarium of the Ojców National Park

Geographical elements: CE – European-temperate sub-element, M – Mediterranean element, NS – Nearctic-Subatlantic element, IR – Irano-Turanian element, PAN-PONT – Pontic-Pannonian sub-element. Additional symbols: e – eastern, w – western.

Ser. *Pentagynae*

Crataegus pentagyna Waldst. & Kit. ex Willd.

Geographical element: PAN-PONT

Distribution in the Ukraine: The range limited to Podolia and the north-eastern and eastern parts of the country (Christensen 1992; Kurtto *et al.* 2013).

Study area: Reported from only one locality – Zhvanets (Klokov 1954).

Ser. *Crataegus*

Subser. *Crataegus*

Crataegus rhipidophylla Gand. (Syn.: *C. curvisepala* Lindm., *C. laciniata* Stev., *C. pseudokyrstostyla* Klokov)

Geographical element: CE-M(e)-IR(w)

Distribution in the Ukraine: Numerous localities in the whole area of the country (Kurtto *et al.* 2013).

Study area: The species reported as widespread in the study area under the names: *C. laciniata* Stev. (Besser 1822), *C. curvisepala* Lindm. and *C. pseudokyrstostyla* Klokov (Lyubinska *et al.* 1999; Klokov 1954; Novosad *et al.* 2009). Nowadays, two varieties reported from eight localities:

- var. *rhipidophylla*

Geographical element: CE-M(e)-IR(w)

Study area: 7 localities – 17, 27 (leg. SL 2010); 6, 11, 12, 20, 40 (leg. SL 2013).

- var. *ronnigeri* (K. Malý) Janjić

Geographical element: CE

Study area: 1 locality – 36 (leg. SL 2013).

Crataegus monogyna Jacq. var. *monogyna* (Syn.: *C. leiomonogyna* Klokov, *C. lipskyi* Klokov, *C. praearmata* Klokov)

Geographical element: CE-M(e)-IR(w)

Distribution in the Ukraine: the species occurs in large numbers in localities distributed throughout the country, especially common in western Ukraine (Kurtto *et al.* 2013).

Study area: One variety reported from 46 localities scattered in the whole study area. 44 localities: 2 (leg. SL 2009); 33 (leg. SL 2010); 5, 6, 11, 13, 14, 16, 20, 22, 23, 25, 31, 34, 35, 37, 40, 42, 44, 45 (leg. SL 2013); Observations: 17, 27, 30, 32 (obs. SL 2010); 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 18, 19, 21, 26, 36, 38, 39, 41, 43, 46, 47 (obs. SL 2013); Literature: Dovzhok

(Klokov 1954), Kamianets-Podilskiyi (Levanets 2004).

Crataegus × *macrocarpa* Hegetschw. [*C. laevigata* × *C. rhipidophylla*] (Fig. 2)

Geographical element: CE

Distribution in the Ukraine: the taxon endemic in Europe, reported earlier from the Ukraine by Klokov (1954) as *Crataegus calycina* Peterm. from the Carpathians and Zakarpacie and the Lviv area. *Crataegus calycina* Peterm. was reported by Tzvelev (2001) from the Crimea as a cultivated plant and *C. ×macrocarpa* occurs in natural habitats. The later data on the occurrence of this nothospecies in Ukraine come from the western part of Podolia and Roztocze regions (Sołtys-Lelek 2012; Sołtys-Lelek & Barabasz-Krasny 2013). However, it should be

noted, that distribution of this taxon in Ukraine requires further study.

Study area: A new taxon for the Park's flora, reported in two nothovarieties:

- *C. ×macrocarpa* nothovar. *macrocarpa* [*C. laevigata* × *C. rhipidophylla* var. *rhipidophylla*]
8 localities: 17, 32 (leg. SL 2010); 9, 11, 13, 16, 20, 44 (leg. SL 2013).
- *C. ×macrocarpa* nothovar. *calycina* (Peterm.) Kerguélén [*C. laevigata* × *C. rhipidophylla* var. *ronnigeri*]
1 locality: 13 (leg. SL 2013).

Crataegus × *subsphaericea* Gand. nothovar. *subsphaericea* [*C. monogyna* × *C. rhipidophylla* var. *rhipidophylla*]

Geographical element: CE-M(e)-IR(w)

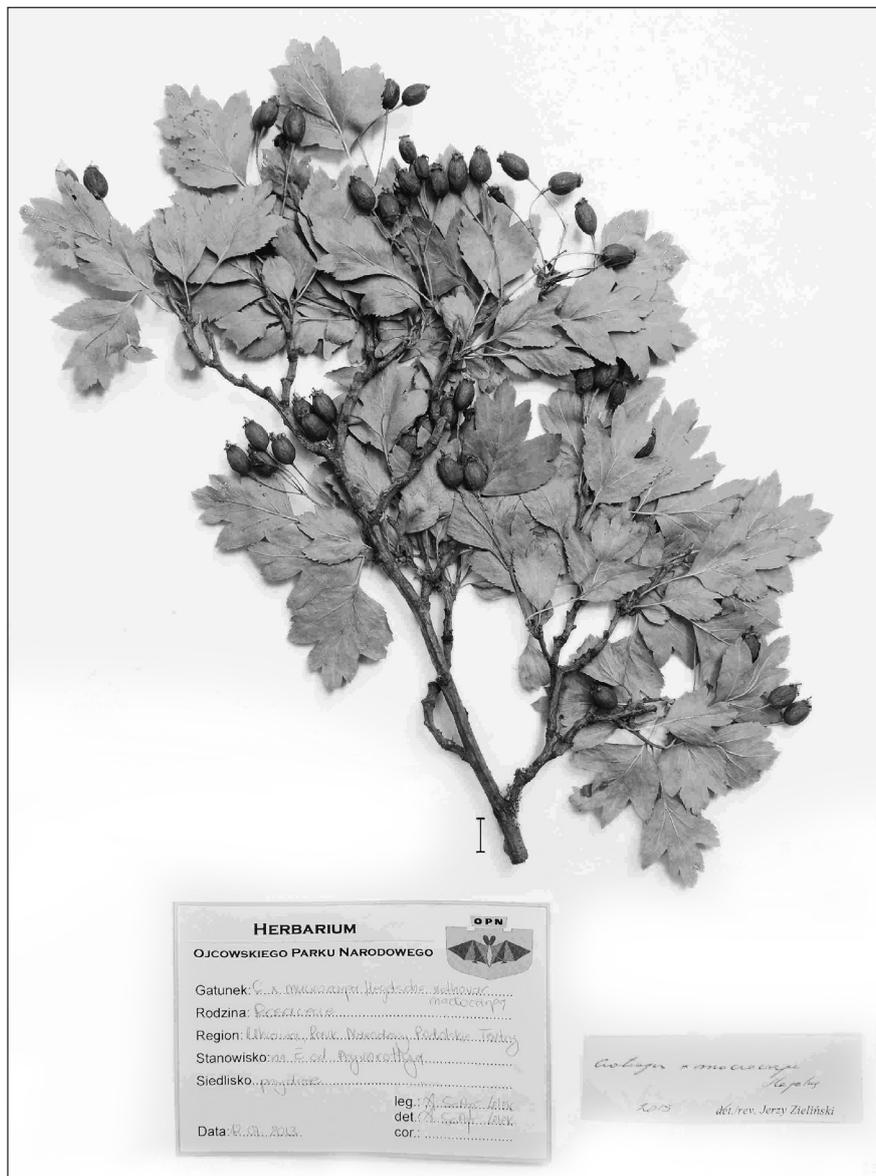


Fig. 2. *Crataegus* × *macrocarpa* nothovar. *macrocarpa* – a flowering shoot. The National Park 'Podilskiyi Tovtry', E of Pryvorottia. Solid bar = 1 cm (Herbarium of the Ojców National Park, Ojców)

Distribution in the Ukraine: the nothospecies occurs in few localities scattered in the whole country (Christensen 1992).

Study area: A new taxon for the Park's flora, reported in one nothovariety from 12 localities scattered in the whole study area. 12 localities: 2 (leg. SL 2009); 17, 27, 30, 32, 33 (leg. SL 2010); 5, 8, 12, 13, 41, 42 (leg. SL 2013).

Crataegus × *media* Bechst. nothovar. *media* – [*C. laevigata* × *C. monogyna*] (Fig. 3)

Geographical element: CE-M

Distribution in the Ukraine: the nothospecies occurs in few scattered localities (Kormilitsin 1960; Sołtys-Lelek 2012; Sołtys-Lelek & Barabasz-Krasny 2013). The taxon was reported earlier as *Crataegus oxyacantha* f. *rosea* (Kormil-

itsin 1960). Distribution of *C.* × *media* in Ukraine requires further study.

Study area: The new nothospecies for the Park's flora, reported only from one locality – 33 (leg. SL 2010). *Crataegus monogyna* Jacq. × *C. laevigata* (Pior.) DC. × *C. rhipidophylla* Gand.

A triple hybrid form that occurs within its parent species range. The hybrid was reported also, among others, from Poland, Czech and Slovak Republic (Holub 1992; Marciniuk & Oklejewicz 2012; Oklejewicz & Vončina 2012; Oklejewicz *et al.* 2013, 2014; Sołtys-Lelek *et al.* 2014). Its distribution and determination of geographical range requires further study.

Distribution in the Ukraine: The hybrid not previously reported from the Ukraine.

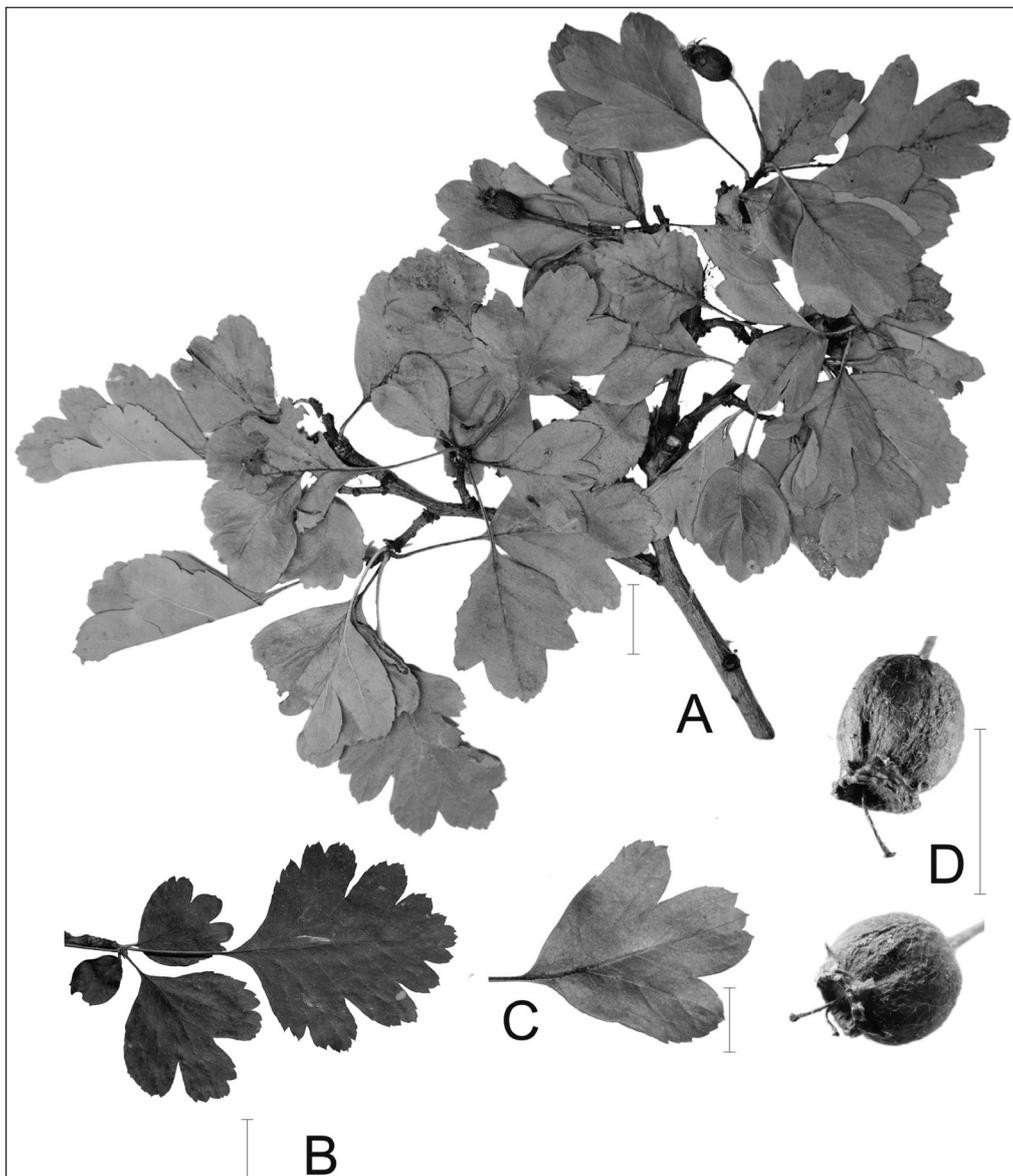


Fig. 3. *Crataegus* × *media* nothovar. *media*. A: part of flowering shoot, B: short shoot, C: subterminal leaf of flowering short shoot, D: pome. Solid bar = 1 cm (Herbarium of the Ojców National Park, Ojców)

Study area: Found in only one locality – 12 (leg. SL 2013, OPN).

Ser. *Coccineae*

Crataegus coccinea L. (Syn.: *C. pedicellata* Sarg.)

Anthropophyte, native range: NS
Distribution in the Ukraine: an exotic species cultivated in botanical gardens and parks (Mosyakin & Fedoronchuk 1999).

Study area: Reported from only one locality – Kamianets-Podilskiyi (Levanets 2004).

5. Discussion

In this study, the eight taxa of the genus *Crataegus* L. are reported from the National Nature Park 'Podilskiyi Tovtry' and a new taxonomic classification is presented based on Christensen (1992, 1997) and Janjić (2002). Christensen listed the criteria for species identification and introduced a new taxonomic nomenclature for the hawthorns in Europe, while Janjić corrected the nomenclature of *Crataegus rhipidophylla*.

clature of *Crataegus rhipidophylla*.

The hawthorn species known so far from the NNPPT area were identified based on Klokov (1954). The very narrow taxonomic study of species reported in the paper required the detailed investigation of these taxa. According to the recent taxonomic nomenclature of hawthorns by Christensen (1992, 1997), most of previously classified taxa are currently categorised as synonymous ones. Based on the above papers – only the taxonomic status of *Crataegus monogyna* Jacq., *C. pentagyna* Waldst. et Kit. and *C. coccinea* L. has not changed on the NNPPT list of hawthorns. The *Crataegus leiomonogyna* Klokov, *C. lipskyi* Klokov and *C. praearmata* Klokov were incorporated into *C. monogyna* Jacq., while *C. laciniata* Stev., *C. curvisepala* Lindm., and *C. pseudokyrstostyla* Klokov into *C. rhipidophylla* Gand.

A triple hybrid *C. monogyna* × *C. laevigata* × *C. rhipidophylla* seems to be one of more interesting taxa in the studied area. The precise range of its occurrence has not been defined yet. It might be supposed that its distribution approximately coincides with the paren-

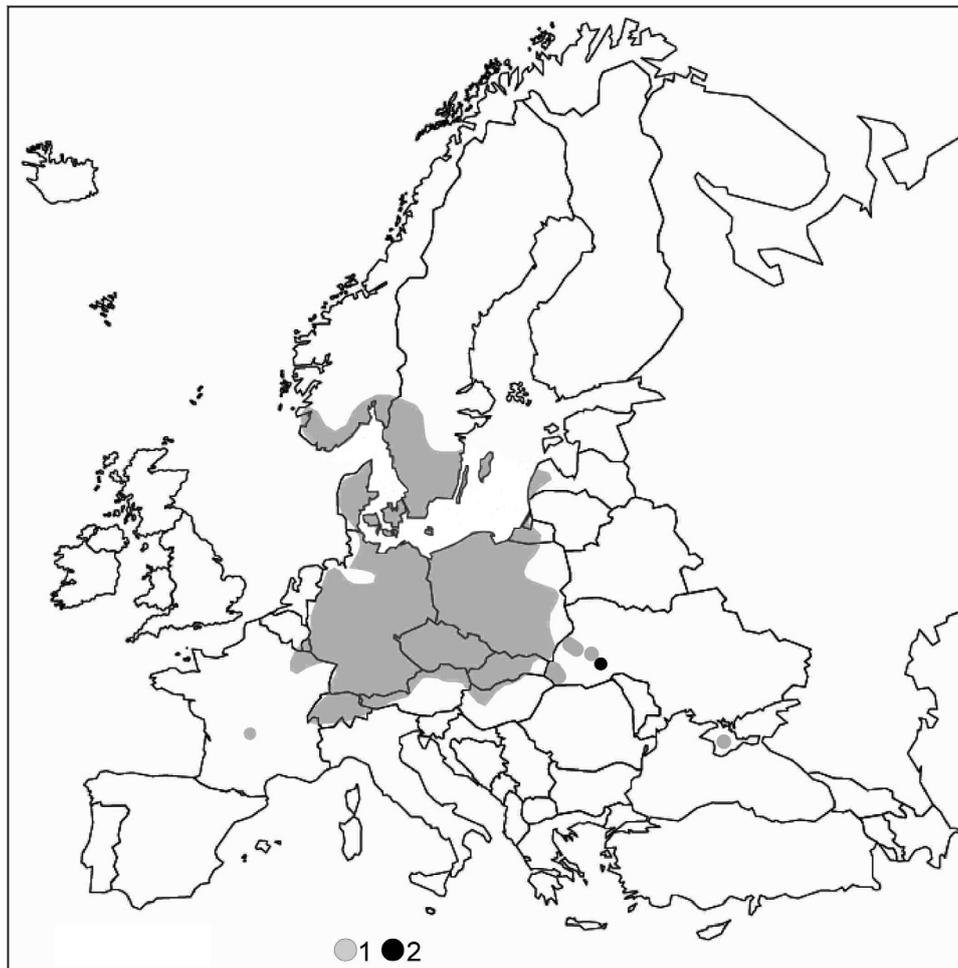


Fig. 4. Geographical range of *Crataegus macrocarpa* in Europe (according to Klokov 1954; Christensen 1992; Tzvelev 2001; Sołtys-Lelek 2011, 2012; Kurtto *et al.* 2013; Sołtys-Lelek & Barabasz-Krasny 2013; Oklejewicz *et al.* 2014, 2015)
Explanations: 1 – range, 2 – locality in NNPPT

tal species occurrence. So far, the hybrid was found in the south-eastern part of Poland (Ciechanowska Upland, Bieszczady Mountains, Western Carpathians, Pieniny Mountains and Strzyżowskie Foothills), Slovak Republic (Low Tatras National Park) and Czech Republic (Czeskomorawski Massif, České středohoří Protected Landscape Area, Moravskoslezské Beskydy Mountains) (Holub 1992; Oklejewicz & Vončina 2012; Oklejewicz *et al.* 2013, 2014, 2015; Sołtys-Lelek *et al.* 2014). It has not been reported from the territory of Ukraine so far. Considering so numerous data provided (its distribution, taxonomic status), this hybrid requires further studies.

C. pentagyna and *C. ×subsphaericea* are very rare in Ukraine. *C. pentagyna* occurs mainly in the eastern part of the country (East from the Dnieper River: the Dnieper lowland, Central Russian Upland, Donetsk height), in Crimea and Podolia – the south part of Ukraine (Kurtto *et al.* 2013). Through Ukraine runs the western limit of the species range. *C. ×subsphaericea*, was also reported from numerous sites occurring both

in the eastern part of the country and Crimea territory, while in the western part of Ukraine – only from Volhynia (Christensen 1992). Its newly found localities in Podolia and Roztocze (Sołtys-Lelek 2012; Sołtys-Lelek & Barabasz-Krasny 2013) clearly confirm that the status of this nothospecies distribution in Ukraine has not been fully assessed yet.

The new taxa of the National Nature Park flora are very interesting, especially those, not earlier reported, like: *C. ×macrocarpa* and *C. ×media*. According to Christensen (1992) and Kurtto *et al.* (2013), the range of these species is limited mainly to the middle and western part of European territory, while through Poland runs their east range limit. *C. ×macrocarpa* occurs sporadically in scattered localities throughout the Ukraine (Klokov 1954; Tzvelev 2001; Sołtys-Lelek 2012; Sołtys-Lelek & Barabasz-Krasny 2013). It was reported earlier as *Crataegus calycina* Peterm. (Klokov 1954) In the monographs by Christensen (1992) and Kurtto *et al.* (2013), the localities of the mentioned nothospecies were not reported. This may result from the lack

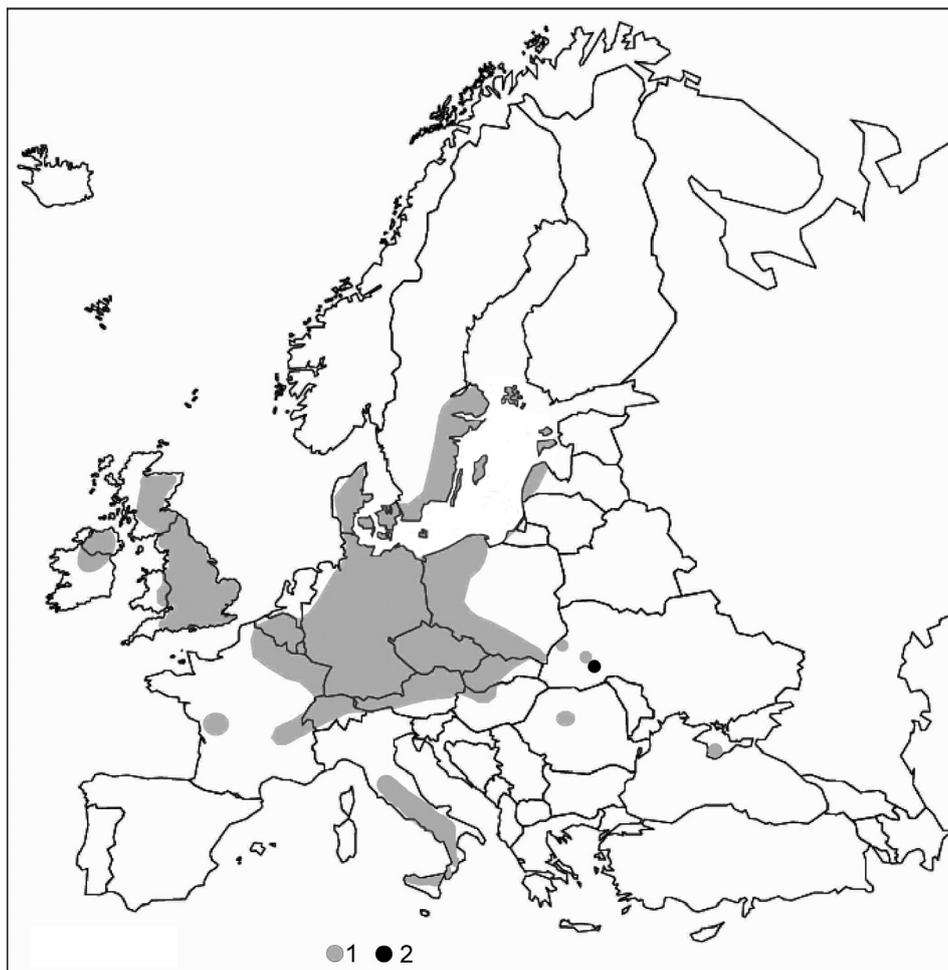


Fig. 5. Geographical range of *Crataegus ×media* in Europe (according to Christensen 1992; Sołtys-Lelek 2011, 2012; Sołtys-Lelek & Barabasz-Krasny 2013; Oklejewicz *et al.* 2014, 2015; <https://data.nbn.org.uk/Taxa/NHMSYS0001754310>)
 Explanations: 1 – range, 2 – locality in NNPPT

of sufficient studies on the species distribution. Due to the extremely large area, the provided data concerning the territory of Ukraine are not sufficient. Additionally, the genus requires more studies focused on the recent taxonomic terminology. *C. ×media* hybrid occurs in few scattered localities in Ukraine. According to Christensen (1992), the eastern range limit of this taxon runs through Poland. It has been reported earlier from the Ukraine territory – Crimea (Kormilitsin 1960), Podolia (Soltys-Lelek 2012) and Roztocze (Soltys-Lelek & Barabasz-Krasny 2013). The range limits of both studied taxa were presented on Figs. 4 and 5, although their present distribution in the Ukraine requires further detailed studies.

Considering geographical elements and geographical distribution, the abundance of individual hawthorn

species in the flora of explored area is differentiated. In NNPPT dominate species belonging to the European-temperate and European-temperate-Mediterranean-Irano-Turanian elements.

C. pentagyna – represents the Pontic-Pannonian sub-element and is typical of the south-east steppe territory of Europe. It belongs to more interesting geographical elements in this part of Ukraine.

The results obtained during this study, complement the information about the distribution of hawthorns in this part of Ukraine and provide new data on the general hawthorn species distribution in Europe. However, it is important to mention, that the studies conducted so far do not exclude the occurrence of other localities of rare hawthorn species.

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Appendix 1. List of hawthorn localities in the National Park 'Podilskyi Tovtry' with geographical coordinates

No.	Locality	Coordinates
1	Sataniv – part E	N49015'33" E26015'24"
2	SE of Sataniv	N49013'58" E26014'5"
3	Zakupne – quarry	N4906'46" E26021'34"
4	Zakupne	N4906'17" E26021'11"
5	Zakupne – quarry 1	N4906'14" E26019'44"
6	S of Zakupne	N4905'41" E26019'53"
7	E of Vilhivtsi	N4904'47" E26017'32"
8	Demkivtsi	N4904'14" E26023'44"
9	N of Smotrych	N48059'46" E26033'13"
10	Horodok	N48058'18" E26033'14"
11	S of Smotrych	N48051'44" E26036'14"
12	Nihyn –N part	N48050'47" E26033'42"
13	Nihyn - tovtry	N48050'20" E26033'4"
14	Verbka – N part	N48049'9" E26037'26"
15	Verbka Tovtry	N48048'28" E26036'5"
16	Verbka – near quarry, rocks	N48047'54" E26037'28"
17	Pryvorottia II	N48047'36" E26038'57"
18	W of Orynyn	N48045'55" E26020'0"
19	Orynyn	N48045'49" E26022'7"
20	E of Pryvorottia	N48044'43" E26021'6"
21	Adamivka	N48042'55" E26018'38"
22	Chornokozyntsi	N48039'56" E26016'55"
23	W of Kizya Kudrynetska	N48037'22" E26019'20"
24	Zhvanets	N48033'0.5" E26029'28"
25	W of Liskivtsi	N48040'18" E26023'1"
26	Surzha	N48039'41" E26029'25"
27	Pudlivtsi	N48043'23" E26033'3"
28	Dovzhok	N48040'13" E26031'17"
29	Kamianets-Podilskyi	N48040'11" E26033'52"
30	Zhovtneve	N48039'25" E26037'40"
31	Slobidka-Kulchiievetska	N48039'21" E26039'58"
32	Surzhyniecky Ravine	N48040'55" E26047'25"
33	Mukshanskyi Reserve	N48038'10" E26038'40"
34	N of Ustia	N48034'44" E26038'37"
35	NE of Ustia	N48034'22" E26039'21"
36	SE of Ustia	N48032'31" E26041'57"
37	Bay of Muksha river	N48034'44" E26042'16"
38	Tarasivka	N48036'23" E26040'48"
39	W of Vrublivtsi	N48037'3" E26043'53"
40	S of Vrublivtsi	N48034'48" E26045'50"
41	Vrublivtsi	N48036'27" E26045'43"
42	Kytaihorod	N48038'20" E26047'20"
43	Demshyn	N48037'6" E26049'54"
44	Subich	N48035'41" E26049'47"
45	Kolodiivka – by the Dniester river	N48035'37" E26056'56"
46	SE of Kolodiivka	N48035'44" E26056'30"
47	Bakota	N48035'7" E2700'9"