

PARTICULARITĂȚI BIOLOGICE LA UNELE SPECII ALE GENULUI *CLAVICEPS*, PRODUCĂTOARE DE ALCALOIZI ERGOTICI

ȘTEFANIA SURDU¹, ZENOVIA OLTEANU² și ELENA TRUȚĂ¹

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BIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS FEATURES OF SOME ERGOT ALKALOID PRODUCING SPECIES OF *CLAVICEPS* GENUS. The *Claviceps* genus is known because his numerous species synthesize biological active substances, which, consumed by accident, causes, depending on concentration, the more or less grave manifestations of ergotism.

The identification of compounds biosynthesized by *Claviceps purpurea* (rye ergot) and *Claviceps paspali*, the most known species, as well the study of the effects of their administration in different diseases oriented the researches from the general biological knowledge of these to the thorough going study of the producing strains features, with the aim to increase the *in vivo* and *in vitro* biosynthetic efficiency. There are presented the stages of ontogenetic cycle, the structural, ultra structural and biochemical complexity, the diversity of manifestations depending on the cultivation conditions, the accumulated adaptations which allow the survival and the wide spreading of the species of this genus. A synthesis of the informations concerning the metabolic process development emphasises the complexity that characterises the *Claviceps* genus. The ergot alkaloid biosynthesis is a characteristic feature for the species of this genus, the compounds being considered both by their role of biological active substances for the producing organism and by their pharmaceutical action, determined by the structural analogy with some neurotransmitters.