

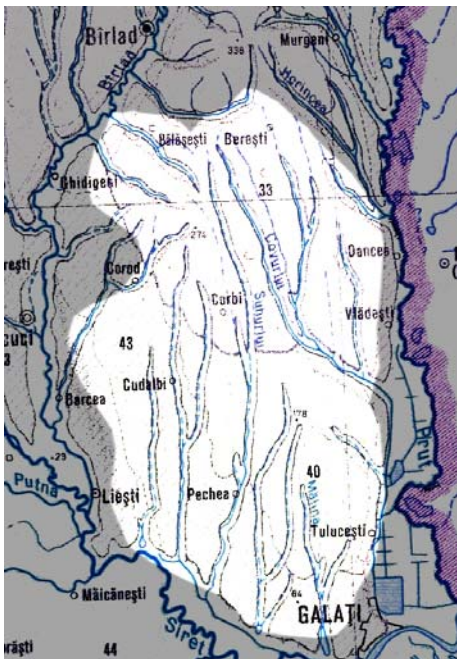
## THE FOREST VEGETATION IN THE COVURLUI PLATEAU AND PLAIN

T. CHIFU<sup>1</sup>, DIDIA POPA<sup>2</sup> and IRINA IRIMIA<sup>1</sup>

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LA VÉGÉTATION DES FORÊTS DU PLATEAU ET DE LA PLAINE DU COVURLUI. Les auteurs ont identifié six associations végétales qui sont encadrées dans la classes *Quercus – Fagetea* Br.-Bl. et Vlieger in Vlieger 1937, *Quercetea pubescentis* Doing-Kraft ex Scamoni et Passarge 1959 et *Galio – Urticetea* Passarge ex Kopecky 1969. Les associations sont décrites sous l'aspect corologique, des conditions stationnelles, de la composition floristique et de la structure phytosociologique.

The research was conducted in an area covering most of the southern Moldavian forest steppe and also the oak forest zone (Fig. 1). From an administrative point of view, the researched area is a part of Galați County.



The Covurlui Plateau has a monoclinic structure, formed on Sarmatian age sedimentary deposits, based on a crystalline foundation. Both the NW-SE inclination of the strata and the erosion of rocks of different hardness have resulted in the emergence of a structural relief, with hilly features, as a result of the consequent orientation of most of the valleys and its large fragmentation.

The Covurlui Plain has the aspect of a structural platform, covered in Pleistocene loams and cut through by deep valleys.

Fig. 1. Location of the researched territory

The relief from the southern part of the researched area is less corrugated, with 75-100 m altitudes and mostly south-eastern expositions. The relief is more fragmented in the northern part of the territory, rising up to 340 m. The climate is temperate continental with shades of excessiveness, with an annual average temperature of 9.9°C and an average annual precipitation of 433 mm. There are significant differences between the northern part and the southern part of the territory.