

MONUMENTAL TREES IDENTIFIED IN THE COUNTIES ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE PRUT RIVER

Vasile Diana¹, Scărlătescu Virgil², Petrișan Any-Mary¹, Dumitru-Dobre Constantin¹, Ștefan Florin², Coman Simona¹

¹National Institute of Research and Development in Forestry, Brasov, Romania

²National Institute of Research and Development in Forestry, Mihaesti, Romania

E-mail: diana_vasile@ymail.com

Monumental trees are important elements for landscape design, by their presence in a certain place they can contribute to the creation of a positive city or village image, by influencing the tourists to visit a lot of places.

The researches took place in four counties from the right side of the Prut river, respectively in Botosani, Iasi, Vaslui and Galati.

The aim of this research is: identification and localization of the monumental trees of these four counties, to contribute to the inventory of monumental trees in Romania.

Sources of information for all the monumental trees has been bibliographic sources, inhabitants, local authorities, and the specimens found directly in the field.

For each monumental tree was recorded relevant information, respectively: tree localization by GPS), morphology, physiological and biomechanical aspects and the state of health. To establish tree age, it has been discussed with the inhabitants or with local authorities for estimated, not to use the Pressler drill, to avoid the extraction of the increment core, in order not to damage the trees

The inventory identified 86 specimens, belonging to 20 different genera, 84 being deciduous trees and two resinous trees. The most numerous species are *Quercus* sp. with 36 individuals, *Populus* with 14 specimens and from the other species there were identified only 1 or 2 individuals, except genera *Aesculus* and *Morus* with 4 specimens.

More than a half of the identified monumental trees are in a good and very good health status. These inventoried monumental trees represent a part of the county heritage that could be useful in the context of the tourist visitation.

Acknowledgments: This study was supported by the research project number 19070505 „Health status and conservation of monumental trees in Romania in the conditions of climate change”, within the BIOSERV program and project number 23090301 „Assessment of specific, structural and functional diversity in natural and quasi-natural forests to protect biodiversity in the context of climate change” within the FORCLIMSOC program, funded by the Romanian Ministry of Research and Innovation.

Keywords: diameter, health, height, measures, monumental tree, species.