
Pouzdřany Steppe and Kolby Forest: Botanical Excursion Guide

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The Pouzdřany Steppe and Kolby Forest are parts of the National Nature Reserve Pouzdřanská step-Kolby. The reserve is situated in southern Moravia above the village of Pouzdřany, about 25 km south of Brno and 6 km west of the town of Hustopeče.



Area around the Pouzdřany Steppe and Kolby Forest

The complex of Pouzdřany Steppe and Kolby Forest represents one of the best preserved remnants of subcontinental forest-steppe communities in the Czech Republic. Despite its limited area (47 ha), the nature reserve harbours much of the species richness of the now widely depleted Pannonian flora and fauna.

The surrounding hilly landscape belongs to the southernmost outskirts of the Central Moravian Carpathians. From the hilltop of Pouzdřany Steppe, there is a great view of the Pavlov Hills across the lower Dyje valley, partly flooded by the Nové Mlýny reservoirs. Fringes of the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands enclose the view to the west, while lowlands of the Pannonian basin stretch to the southeast. The bedrock is mostly formed of Palaeogene calcareous claystones and sandstones of the Carpathian flysch, partly covered by Pleistocene loess. Climate of the region is relatively warm (mean annual temperature 9.1 °C) and dry (mean annual precipitation 490 mm).

The reserve comprises steep sunny slopes with dry grassland vegetation (*Festucion valesiacae*; *Cirsio-Brachypodion pinnati*), scattered shrubs and solitary trees, and a plateau and shady slopes with a mesic forest (*Carpinion betuli*). The species-rich dry grasslands of sunny slopes (*Koelerio macranthae-Stipetum joannis*) are dominated by feather grasses (mostly *Stipa pennata* and *S. pulcherrima*), narrow-leaved fescues (*Festuca valesiaca*, *F. rupicola*), *Koeleria*

macrantha or *Carex humilis*. Many drought-tolerant herbs and dwarf-shrubs are admixed, e.g. *Teucrium chamaedrys*, *Thymus pannonicus*, *Potentilla arenaria*, *Galium glaucum*, *Cytisus procumbens* and *Campanula sibirica*. In disturbed (grazed, trampled, mown or formerly ploughed) places on deeper soils, rare species of continental steppe (*Crambe tataria*, *Jurinea mollis* and *Astragalus exscapus*) are particularly abundant. In more mesic sites, broad-leaved grasslands (*Polygalo majoris-Brachypodietum pinnati*) with less drought-tolerant species (*Peucedanum cervaria*, *Centaurea scabiosa*, *Geranium sanguineum*, *Adonis vernalis*, *Viola hirta* and *Orchis militaris*) occur. Scattered shrubs and solitary trees include *Crataegus monogyna*, *Prunus spinosa*, *P. fruticosa*, *Quercus pubescens* and a rare continental element *Prunus tenella* (syn. *Amygdalus nana*). From the floristic point of view, the occurrence of a small population of a Pannonian endemic *Artemisia pancicii* is the most valuable. This putative glacial relict has a maximum of 20 localities across Pannonia, in Moravia, eastern Austria and in the Deliblatska peščara in northern Serbia.

Kolby Forest on the plateau provides a nice example of Central European mesic oak-hornbeam forest (*Primulo veris-Carpinetum betuli*), though recently somewhat damaged by illegal logging. The closed canopy is dominated by *Quercus petraea*, *Acer campestre* and *Carpinus betulus*, with *Ligustrum vulgare*, *Euonymus verrucosa* or *Crataegus laevigata* in the shrub layer. The species-rich herb layer is characteristic by colourful spring aspect with *Corydalis cava*, *C. solida*, *Anemone nemorosa*, *A. ranunculoides*, *Isopyrum thalictroides* or *Viola mirabilis*. Later on, *Melica uniflora*, *Poa nemoralis*, *Convallaria majalis*, *Galium odoratum*, *Dactylis polygama* and other nemoral species become dominant. On sunny forest edges, forest-steppe species are more abundant, including *Quercus pubescens*, *Brachypodium pinnatum*, *Lithospermum purpurocaeruleum*, *Dictamnus albus*, *Euphorbia epithymoides*, *Peucedanum cervaria*, *Geranium sanguineum*, *Polygonatum odoratum*, *Carex michelii* and *Iris variegata*.

References

Podpěra J. (1928): Steppe und Waldsteppe des Hutberges oberhalb Pouzdřany (Pausram). – *Preslia* 7: 153–167.

Appendix. Selected species of vascular plants in Pouzdřany Steppe and Kolby Forest

<i>Acer campestre</i>	<i>Achillea pannonica</i>
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	<i>Ajuga chamaepitys</i>
<i>Acinos arvensis</i>	<i>Ajuga genevensis</i>
<i>Adonis flammea</i>	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
<i>Adonis vernalis</i>	<i>Allium oleraceum</i>
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	<i>Allium rotundum</i>
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	<i>Allium scorodoprasum</i>
<i>Achillea collina</i>	<i>Allium sphaerocephalon</i>

<i>Allium oleraceum</i>	<i>Campanula bononiensis</i>
<i>Allium rotundum</i>	<i>Campanula glomerata</i>
<i>Allium ursinum</i>	<i>Campanula persicifolia</i>
<i>Alyssum alyssoides</i>	<i>Campanula sibirica</i>
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	<i>Campanula rapunculoides</i>
<i>Anemone ranunculoides</i>	<i>Campanula trachelium</i>
<i>Anemone sylvestris</i>	<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>
<i>Anthericum ramosum</i>	<i>Cardaria draba</i>
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	<i>Carex caryophyllea</i>
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	<i>Carex digitata</i>
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	<i>Carex humilis</i>
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	<i>Carex michelii</i>
<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>	<i>Carex montana</i>
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i> agg.	<i>Carex muricata</i> agg.
<i>Aristolochia clematitis</i>	<i>Carex praecox</i>
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	<i>Carex supina</i>
<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>	<i>Carlina vulgaris</i> s. lat.
<i>Artemisia paniculata</i>	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>
<i>Artemisia pontica</i>	<i>Caucalis platycarpos</i>
<i>Artemisia scoparia</i>	<i>Centaurea jacea</i>
<i>Asarum europaeum</i>	<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>
<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>
<i>Asperula cynanchica</i>	<i>Centaurea triumfettii</i>
<i>Aster amellus</i>	<i>Cerastium arvense</i>
<i>Aster linosyris</i>	<i>Cerinthe minor</i>
<i>Astragalus austriacus</i>	<i>Clematis recta</i>
<i>Astragalus glycyphyllos</i>	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>
<i>Astragalus exscapus</i>	<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>
<i>Astragalus onobrychis</i>	<i>Conringia orientalis</i>
<i>Avenula pratensis</i>	<i>Convallaria majalis</i>
<i>Avenula pubescens</i>	<i>Cornus mas</i>
<i>Betonica officinalis</i>	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>
<i>Betula pendula</i>	<i>Corydalis cava</i>
<i>Bothriochloa ischaemum</i>	<i>Corydalis pumila</i>
<i>Brachypodium pinnatum</i>	<i>Corylus avellana</i>
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	<i>Crambe tataria</i>
<i>Briza media</i>	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
<i>Bromus benekenii</i>	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>
<i>Bromus erectus</i>	<i>Crepis praemorsa</i>
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	<i>Crepis foetida</i> subsp. <i>rhoeadifolia</i>
<i>Bromus japonicus</i>	<i>Cruciata glabra</i>
<i>Bupleurum falcatum</i>	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>
<i>Bupleurum rotundifolium</i>	<i>Cytisus nigricans</i>
<i>Calamagrostis arundinacea</i>	<i>Cytisus procumbens</i>
<i>Calamagrostis epigejos</i>	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
<i>Camelina microcarpa</i>	<i>Dactylis polygama</i>

<i>Daucus carota</i>	<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>
<i>Dianthus pontederae</i>	<i>Geum urbanum</i>
<i>Dictamnus albus</i>	<i>Glaucium corniculatum</i>
<i>Diplotaxis muralis</i>	<i>Glechoma hirsuta</i>
<i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i> agg.	<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i>
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	<i>Helianthemum grandiflorum</i>
<i>Elymus caninus</i>	<i>Helichrysum arenarium</i>
<i>Elytrigia intermedia</i>	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>
<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	<i>Hesperis sylvestris</i>
<i>Erigeron acris</i>	<i>Hieracium auriculoides</i>
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	<i>Hieracium bauhini</i>
<i>Erophila verna</i>	<i>Hieracium densiflorum</i>
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	<i>Hieracium kalksburgense</i>
<i>Erysimum diffusum</i>	<i>Hieracium lachenalii</i>
<i>Erysimum odoratum</i>	<i>Hieracium laevigatum</i>
<i>Erysimum repandum</i>	<i>Hieracium murorum</i>
<i>Euonymus europaea</i>	<i>Hieracium pilosella</i>
<i>Euonymus verrucosa</i>	<i>Hieracium rothianum</i>
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	<i>Hieracium sabaudum</i>
<i>Euphorbia epithymoides</i>	<i>Hieracium umbellatum</i>
<i>Euphorbia exigua</i>	<i>Holosteum umbellatum</i>
<i>Euphorbia falcata</i>	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>
<i>Euphorbia waldsteinii</i>	<i>Hylotelephium maximum</i>
<i>Falcaria vulgaris</i>	<i>Hypericum hirsutum</i>
<i>Festuca heterophylla</i>	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
<i>Festuca pseudovina</i>	<i>Chaerophyllum bulbosum</i>
<i>Festuca rupicola</i>	<i>Chaerophyllum temulum</i>
<i>Festuca valesiaca</i>	<i>Chamaecytisus ratisbonensis</i>
<i>Ficaria verna</i> subsp. <i>bulbifera</i>	<i>Chamaecytisus austriacus</i>
<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	<i>Inula ensifolia</i>
<i>Fragaria moschata</i>	<i>Inula ensifolia</i> × <i>I. salicina</i>
<i>Fragaria viridis</i>	<i>Inula germanica</i>
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	<i>Inula hirta</i>
<i>Fumaria schleicheri</i>	<i>Inula oculus-christi</i>
<i>Fumaria vailantii</i>	<i>Inula salicina</i>
<i>Galanthus nivalis</i>	<i>Iris graminea</i>
<i>Galium aparine</i>	<i>Iris pumila</i>
<i>Galium album</i>	<i>Iris variegata</i>
<i>Galium glaucum</i>	<i>Isopyrum thalictroides</i>
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	<i>Jurinea mollis</i>
<i>Galium sylvaticum</i>	<i>Knautia arvensis</i>
<i>Galium tricornutum</i>	<i>Koeleria gracilis</i>
<i>Galium verum</i>	<i>Lactuca quercina</i>
<i>Genista tinctoria</i>	<i>Lactuca serriola</i>
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	<i>Lamium album</i>

<i>Lappula squarrosa</i>	<i>Orobanche alsatica</i>
<i>Lathyrus niger</i>	<i>Orobanche arenaria</i>
<i>Lathyrus pannonicus</i> subsp. <i>collinus</i>	<i>Orobanche caryophyllacea</i>
<i>Lathyrus tuberosus</i>	<i>Orobanche purpurea</i>
<i>Lathyrus vernus</i>	<i>Orthanthera lutea</i>
<i>Lavathera thuringiaca</i>	<i>Oxytropis pilosa</i>
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	<i>Papaver maculosum</i> subsp. <i>austromoravicum</i>
<i>Lilium martagon</i>	<i>Peucedanum alsaticum</i>
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	<i>Peucedanum cervaria</i>
<i>Linaria genistifolia</i>	<i>Phleum phleoides</i>
<i>Linum flavum</i>	<i>Phlomis tuberosa</i>
<i>Linum hirsutum</i>	<i>Phyteuma spicatum</i>
<i>Linum tenuifolium</i>	<i>Picris hieracioides</i>
<i>Lithospermum arvense</i>	<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>
<i>Lithospermum officinale</i>	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
<i>Lithospermum purpurocaeruleum</i>	<i>Plantago media</i>
<i>Lonicera caprifolium</i>	<i>Poa angustifolia</i>
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i> s. lat.	<i>Poa bulbosa</i>
<i>Lycium barbarum</i>	<i>Poa nemoralis</i>
<i>Lycopsis arvensis</i>	<i>Polygonatum multiflorum</i>
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	<i>Polygonatum odoratum</i>
<i>Medicago falcata</i>	<i>Populus tremula</i>
<i>Melampyrum arvense</i>	<i>Potentilla alba</i>
<i>Melampyrum pratense</i>	<i>Potentilla arenaria</i>
<i>Melampyrum cristatum</i>	<i>Potentilla patula</i>
<i>Melampyrum nemorosum</i>	<i>Potentilla recta</i>
<i>Melica nutans</i>	<i>Primula vulgaris</i> subsp. <i>canescens</i>
<i>Melica ciliata</i>	<i>Prunus fruticosa</i>
<i>Melica transsilvanica</i>	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
<i>Melica uniflora</i>	<i>Pseudolysimachion spicatum</i>
<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>	<i>Pulmonaria mollis</i>
<i>Milium effusum</i>	<i>Pulmonaria officinalis</i> agg.
<i>Moehringia trinervia</i>	<i>Pulsatilla grandis</i>
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	<i>Pyrus pyraster</i>
<i>Muscaria neglectum</i>	<i>Pulsatilla pratensis</i> subsp. <i>bohemica</i>
<i>Muscaria tenuiflorum</i>	<i>Quercus cerris</i>
<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>	<i>Quercus petraea</i>
<i>Nigella arvensis</i>	<i>Quercus pubescens</i>
<i>Nonnea pulla</i>	<i>Quercus robur</i>
<i>Odontites vernus</i> subsp. <i>serotinus</i>	<i>Ranunculus auricomus</i> agg.
<i>Omphalodes scorpioides</i>	<i>Ranunculus polyanthemos</i>
<i>Ononis spinosa</i>	<i>Rapistrum perenne</i>
<i>Orchis militaris</i>	
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	
<i>Ornithogalum kochii</i>	

<i>Reseda lutea</i>	<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>
<i>Reseda luteola</i>	<i>Thalictrum minus</i>
<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Thesium dollineri</i>
<i>Rosa dumalis</i>	<i>Thesium linophyllum</i>
<i>Rosa gallica</i>	<i>Thlaspi perfoliatum</i>
<i>Rosa spinosissima</i>	<i>Thymus glabrescens</i>
<i>Salix caprea</i>	<i>Thymus pannonicus</i>
<i>Salsola kali</i> subsp. <i>rosacea</i>	<i>Tilia cordata</i>
<i>Salvia nemorosa</i>	<i>Tragopogon dubius</i>
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	<i>Tragopogon orientalis</i>
<i>Salvia verticillata</i>	<i>Trifolium alpestre</i>
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	<i>Trifolium medium</i>
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	<i>Trifolium montanum</i>
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	<i>Trifolium rubens</i>
<i>Scabiosa ochroleuca</i>	<i>Trinia glauca</i>
<i>Sclerochloa dura</i>	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>
<i>Scorzonera austriaca</i>	<i>Ulmus laevis</i>
<i>Scorzonera cana</i>	<i>Ulmus minor</i>
<i>Scorzonera hispanica</i>	<i>Valeriana stolonifera</i> subsp. <i>angustifolia</i>
<i>Scorzonera purpurea</i>	<i>Verbascum chaixii</i> subsp. <i>austriacum</i>
<i>Securigera varia</i>	<i>Veronica praecox</i>
<i>Sedum acre</i>	<i>Veronica prostrata</i>
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	<i>Veronica teucrium</i>
<i>Serratula tinctoria</i>	<i>Veronica vindobonensis</i>
<i>Seseli hippomarathrum</i>	<i>Viburnum lantana</i>
<i>Seseli osseum</i>	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	<i>Vicia dumetorum</i>
<i>Silene nutans</i>	<i>Vicia cracca</i>
<i>Silene otites</i>	<i>Vicia pisiformis</i>
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	<i>Vicia sylvatica</i>
<i>Sisymbrium loeselii</i>	<i>Vicia tenuifolia</i>
<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	<i>Vinca minor</i>
<i>Sorbus domestica</i>	<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>
<i>Sorbus torminalis</i>	<i>Viola ambigua</i>
<i>Stachys annua</i>	<i>Viola hirta</i>
<i>Stachys recta</i>	<i>Viola mirabilis</i>
<i>Staphyllea pinnata</i>	<i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
<i>Stipa capillata</i>	<i>Viola suavis</i>
<i>Stipa pennata</i>	<i>Viola tricolor</i> subsp. <i>saxatilis</i>
<i>Stipa pulcherrima</i>	
<i>Symphytum tuberosum</i>	
<i>Tanacetum corymbosum</i>	

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