

**Subalpinski bukov gozd z dlakavim slečem (*Polysticho lonchitis-Fagetum rhododendretosum hirsuti* subass. nova) na Snežniku (Liburnijski kras, Dinaridi)**

**Subalpine beech forest with Hairy Alpenrose (*Polysticho lonchitis-Fagetum rhododendretosum hirsuti* subass. nova) on Mt. Snežnik (Liburnian karst, Dinaric Mts)**

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Subalpine beech stands with Hairy Alpenrose (*Rhododendron hirsutum*) were phytosociologically studied on Mt. Snežnik (Dinaric Mts). They thrived on stony and steep slopes of northern exposure. Comparisons with other subalpine Beech stands (*Polysticho lonchitis-Fagetum* s. lat.), Fir-Beech stands with Hairy Alpenrose (*Omphalodo-Fagetum* s. lat. *rhododendretosum hirsuti*), and prealpine fir-beech stands with Hairy Alpenrose (*Homogyno sylvestris-Fagetum* s. lat. *rhododendretosum hirsuti*), stands of Hairy Alpenrose and Beech (*Rhododendro hirsuti-Fagetum* s. lat.), as well as Austrian subalpine beech stands (*Saxifraga rotundifoliae-Fagetum* s. lat.) showed their unique floristic composition due to ecological conditions, and thus distinct syntaxonomical position within the association *Polysticho-Fagetum*. Therefore, a new subassociation *Polysticho-Fagetum rhododendretosum hirsuti* subass. nova was described, and as differential species for the subassociation *Rhododendron hirsutum*, *Rubus saxatilis*, *Rosa pendulina*, and *Clematis alpina* were chosen.