

# 14<sup>th</sup> EDGG Field Workshop: Ukrainian steppes along climatic gradients

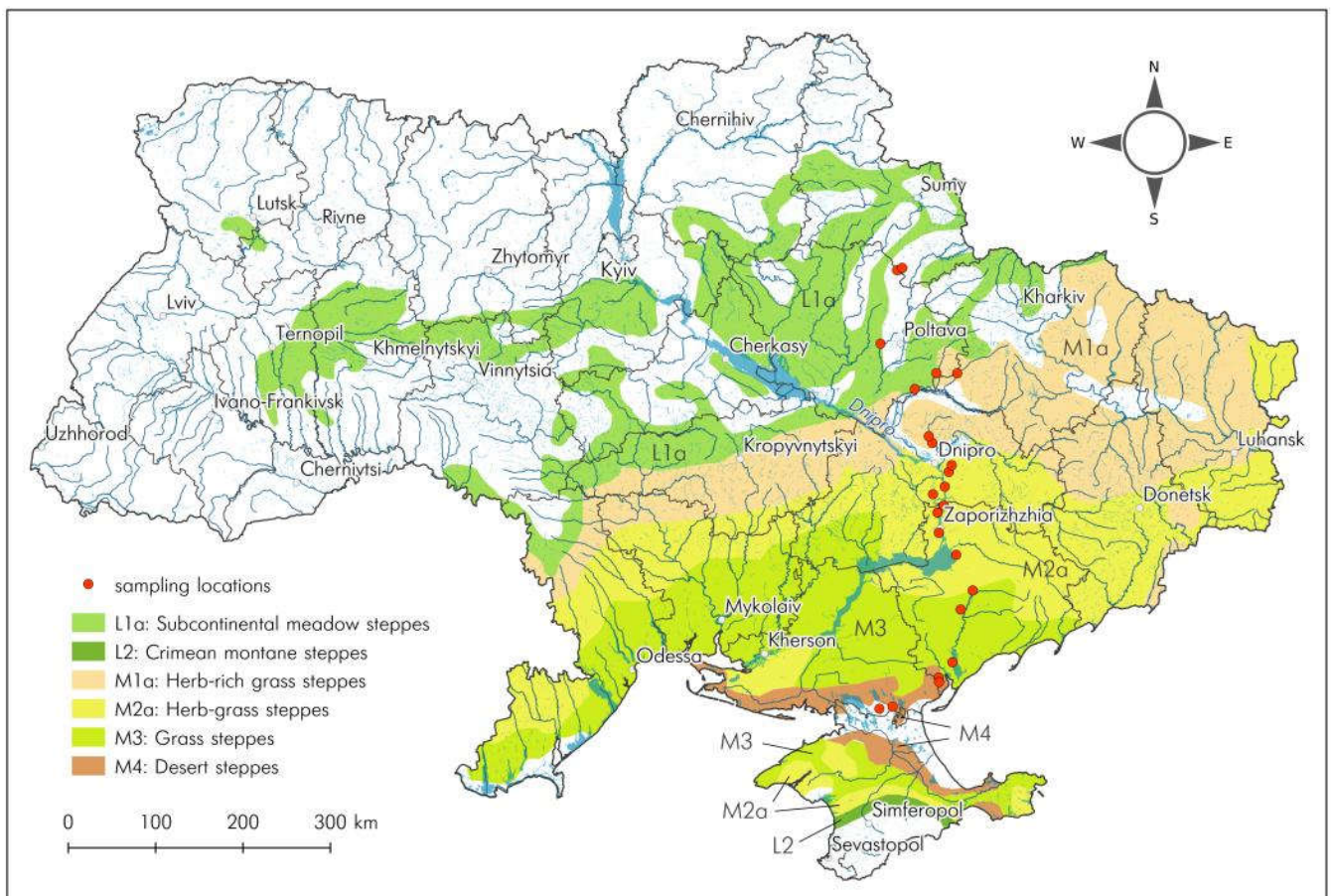
Ukraine, 25 May – 3rd June 2020

## First call

The 14<sup>th</sup> EDGG Field Workshop will take place in Ukraine from 25<sup>th</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020. The aim of the workshop is to sample steppe grasslands along climatic gradients (precipitation and temperature) using a standardized sampling approach (Dengler et al. 2016).

We will start in Kherson city in Southern Ukraine, moving northward to Poltava region, and ending the workshop in Kyiv (Fig. 1). We will sample five different climatic types of steppes: desert steppes, grass steppes, herb-grass steppes,

herb-rich grass steppes and meadow steppes. During the first day we will focus on the desert steppes of the Syvash Lake (Churiuk Island or Kuyuk-Tuk Island, Syvashyk Liman). This type of steppe is classified as *Artemisia tauricae-Festucion valesiaca* (Kolomiychuk & Vynokurov 2016). Annual precipitation of this locality is 350 mm and the mean annual temperature is 10.5°C. In the following two days we will continue sampling in grass steppes (Troitska gulley, Molochna River Valley, Zaporizhzhia region). Thereafter, we will



**Fig. 1.** Map of Ukraine with approximate sampling locations. Vegetation types based on the potential natural vegetation map of Europe (Bohn et al. 2000).

move northward, sampling herb-bunchgrass and herb-rich grass steppes in Zaporizhzhia, Dnipro, Poltava and Kharkiv regions. The possible preliminary localities are: Khortytsia Island, Dnipro River Valley, Dniprovi Porohy Regional Landscape Park (Fig. 2) and the Oril River Valley. The last type we will sample is the meadow steppes of the Forest-Steppe zone in Poltava region, with annual precipitation of 600 mm and mean annual temperature of 7.3°C.

We expect up to 20 (exceptionally up to 25) participants in total, including 3-4 organizers.

Approx. costs: 800 € (postdoc/professor, non IAVS member), 700 € (postdoc/professor & IAVS member OR student/PhD student & non IAVS member), 600 € (student/ PhD student & IAVS member). IAVS travel grants will be available upon application based on motivation letter and financial need.

A detailed call with information on how to register for the workshop will follow in the next issue of *Palaeartic Grasslands*. If you have questions before that, please send an email to [denys.vynokurov@gmail.com](mailto:denys.vynokurov@gmail.com).

#### References

Bohn, U., Gollub, G. & Hettwer, C. 2000. *Karte der natürlichen Vegetation Europas / Map of the Natural vegetation of Europe*. Bundensamt für Naturschutz, Bonn, DE.

Dengler, J., Boch, S., Filibeck, G., Chiarucci, A., Dembicz, I., Guarino, R., Henneberg, B., Janišová, M., Marcenò, C., (...) & Biurrun, I. 2016. Assessing plant diversity and composition in grasslands across spatial scales: the standardized EDGG sampling methodology. *Bulletin of the Eurasian Grassland Group* 32: 13-30.

Kolomiychuk, V. & Vynokurov, D. 2016. Syntaxonomy of the *Festuco-Brometea* class vegetation of the Azov sea coastal zone. *Hacquetia* 15/2: 79-104.

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Fig. 2. Forb-bunchgrass steppe in "Dniprovi Porohy" Regional Landscape Park, Ukraine. Photo: V. Maniuk.