

SUMMARY

Cirsium decussatum Janka in the Przemyskie Foreland (Polish Eastern Carpathians)

Contemporarily *Cirsium decussatum* occurs exclusively in the Przemyskie Foreland in the Polish Eastern Carpathians. The stations are situated in the following villages: Arłamów, Brylińce, Cisowa, Gruszowa, Huwniki, Huta Łodzińska, Kalwaria, Kopysno, Łodzinka Dolna, Posada Rybotycka, Rybotycze and Żurawiec (forest by the chapel). In the past the species was noted in the vicinity of Żywiec (Krupa 1879) and Chełmno towns (Jastrzębowski 1829). It reproduces generatively; mean height is 150-180 cm. Plants exceed 250 cm in fertile habitats.

The vast and most numerous populations were observed at the end of the 20th century in Brylińce and Kopysno, particularly in its last decade, when mowing and pasturage were given up. Nevertheless, with diminution of pasturage old stations in Brylińce and Posada Rybotycka disappear in consequence of natural forest succession. The dynamic development of *Cirsium decussatum* populations in the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries was due to changes in land management. It is well illustrated by the localities in Brylińce and Cisowa with many thousands of individuals. Altogether 90% of contemporary populations are plants growing on fallowing arable fields, abandoned meadows or pastures. The density of flowering seedlings varies from 20 to 80 per square meter. In case of seedlings and perennial rosettes it can achieve much again. *Cirsium decussatum* grows very well in gardens. Plants moved from Brylińce to the Bolestraszyce Arboretum and Botanic Garden in Wrocław develop well for over 30 years.