

## SUMMARY

### **The chosen aspects of the common yew *Taxus baccata* occurrence in the Tatra National Park**

The studies were conducted in the Western Tatra Mts, in the range of Strażyska Valley Conservation District of the Tatra National Park. According to Zembrzusi (1968, 1975), common yew *Taxus baccata* L. occurs there on 29 natural sites. At present, 27 of them have been found. There are 39 specimens in this area and 35 natural sites with at least 47 specimens in the whole Tatra NP. Most of the yews are present at the range of Lower Montane Forest zone. Heavily exploited in the past, the remaining trees and shrubs grow mostly on steep terrain, in harsh conditions. For the first time the new seedlings were found. They are few and there is very little chance they will survive. Comparing to the research conducted 35 years ago, much more specimens produce fruits now. It gives a chance for the natural regeneration. Out of 17 fruiting yews, only 3 to 4 produce seeds that germinate under their canopy, where the seedlings are being observed.

Most of the yews in the past were shrubby. At present, almost a half of them grow as the trees (or biogroups of trees). Their height increased substantially over the years. The highest size was reached by the specimen, that grow in the stands with spruce, beech, fir and the other trees. Then, their sprouts are covered hidden from damaging winds and frost. The highest yew in the Polish Tatra is 6.40 m high.

Because the range of *Taxus baccata* L. in the Polish Tatras was wider in the past, it is proposed to recover the population through its inclusion to the process of rebuilding natural lower montane forests.