Uroczysko Lipnik – a valuable nature site in Lublin town

Uroczysko Lipnik, with the surface about 5,5 ha, is localised in north-eastern part of Lublin agglomeration, in Rudnik District. This area is a loes valley, surrounded by agricultural lands, with three water-reservoirs (two of them astatic, one permanent) of maximal surface about 25 a in the bottom. During researches, conducted in the years 1999-2005, interesting, almost natural xerothermic plant associations from Festuco-Brometea class (with associated elements from Trifolio-Geranietea class), meadows (from Molinio-Arrhanatheretea class) and water-plants communities from Glycerietum aquaticae association were found. Interesting and rare pannonian-pontic plant species, such as Carex michelii, Festuca valesiaca, Peucedanum alsaticum, Phleum phleoides, Seseli annum and Veronica austriaca were detected. In water pools 16 species of dragonflies, 32 species of waterbeetles and 8 species of water-bugs were collected. The occurence of ten species of amphibians was recorded also, with high number of smooth newt Triturus vulgaris and spade-foot Pelobates fuscus specimens. Uroczysko Lipnik is a place of presence of 13 protected animals species, including two invertebrate species, one reptile and 10 species of amphibians; four species are included in Polish Red List of threatened animals in various categories. The area has important scientific and didactic value and should be treated with particular care, according to directives from Bern Convention and EU Council directive on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. For these reasons, it is desirable to protect this area in the form of ecological interest.