

SUMMARY

Ostericum palustre **Besser in the Małopolska Upland**

The paper presents the general description, distribution and comments about protection of the *Ostericum palustre* Besser in the Małopolska Upland.

Ostericum palustre (Fig.1), the protected, rare species in Poland, belongs to the Apiaceae family. It grows mainly in the wet meadows community from the class *Molinio-Arrhenatheretea*. This taxa has only four stations in the Małopolska Upland – three of them have been published and the last one is new to this region (Fig. 2). The new station has been found on the Szydłowskie Foothills, in the vicinity of Stawiany (Fig. 3).

Ostericum palustre has grown in the *Cirsietum rivularis* and *Filipendulo-Menthetum longifoliae* associations. This population is the most abundant in the Małopolska Upland and counts over one thousand individuals. Because of this fact, it is necessary to undertake protection this enormous station.