

## SUMMARY

### **A new locality of *Echium russicum* J.F. Gmel in the Wyżyna Zachodniowolyńska Upland (E Poland)**

*Echium russicum* is a protected species classified as critically endangered (CR) in the Polish Red Data Book. It has become extinct in 14 localities in Wyżyna Lubelska Upland and Wyżyna Zachodniowolyńska Upland. Only 2 localities have persisted: the „Skarpa Dobużańska” nature reserve near Dobużek (50°34' N, 23°44' E), and the protected steppe slope near Czumów (50°46' N, 23°58' E), both in the Bug river valley. *Echium russicum* grows in thermophilous grasslands of *Festuco-Brometea* class. In June 2006 a new locality of this species was discovered close to Posadów village (50°30' N, 23°50' E; ATPOL GF 07), which is located 12 km SE from the nearest population in the „Skarpa Dobużańska” reserve. It grows in *Thalictrum-Salvietum pratensis* plant association on a steep loess slope of the Kamionka stream together with other protected, rare, and noteworthy plants: *Gentiana cruciata*, *Primula veris*, *Salvia pratensis*, *Thalictrum minus*, *Festuca rupicola*, *Euphorbia cyparissias*, *Medicago falcata*, *Seseli annuum*, and *Elymus hispidus*. Only one flowering plant of *E. russicum* has been found. The increasing plant density in this slope and the use of pesticides and herbicides in nearby fields pose threat to the thermophilous grassland. Therefore, this new locality of *E. russicum* needs active protection.