

Two days workshop (**Februar 9th -10th 2015**) on ETHNOBOTANY (PROSPECTS OF ETHNOBOTANICAL RESEARCH IN CROATIA) – lecturer Lukasz Luczaj, PhD, Assoc. Prof.

#### FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Monday (Feb 9th 2015): 9 – 13 workshop, lunch break, 16-20 workshop

1. What is ethnobotany. Its short history, basic methods, scientific arena, journals etc. - 2 hrs
2. Collecting data in ethnobotany – archival sources, questionnaires, interviews, participant observation, freelisting, transect walks etc. - 3 hrs
3. Numerical and statistical aspects of ethnobotany - 1 hr
4. What is out there in the traditional use of plants in Croatia which could be researched? 2 hrs

Tuesday (Feb 10th 2015) – Discussion (contact/coalitions/cooperation/consultations arouse..)

Summary:

#### PROSPECTS OF ETHNOBOTANICAL RESEARCH IN CROATIA AND SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

Ethnobotany is a discipline on the edge of botany and ethnology. Because of this there are many misconceptions about it and the people who want to get involved in it do not know how to organize their research and career. This workshop will try to answer these questions.

The use of plants in Europe is undergoing dramatic changes. Due to modernization most of the traditional ecological knowlegde is forgotten. Few countries (like Poland or Hungary) have long traditions of ethnobotanical research and managed to preserve large parts of its ethnobotanical traditions in written ethnographic research since the 19th century.

The countries of former Yugoslavia, due to a combination of mainly political and historical reasons have less written sources when matched with their rich plant folklore. This is the last moment to capture the remaining scraps of it and document them in a systematic way.

These are the main aspects which will be discussed:

1. What is ethnobotany. Its short history, basic methods, scientific arena, journals etc.
2. Collecting data in ethnobotany – archival sources, questionnaires, interviews, participant observation, freelisting, transect walks etc.
3. Numerical and statistical aspects of ethnobotany
4. What is out there in the traditional use of plants in Croatia which could be researched?

The seminar will be useful for botanists, agronomists or ethnologists wanting to get involved in the ethnobotanical research.

Łukasz Łuczaj is an associate professor of botany and the head of the Department of Botany in Rzeszów University in SE Poland. He also wrote a few books about wild food and made a TV series about cooking wild plants. He is one of the leading specialists on the use of wild food plants in Eurasia and carried out ethnobotanical studies in Poland, Slovakia, Romania, Croatia, Bosnia and China (including Tibetan speaking areas).

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