

Preface

The seventh volume of the "Chorology of trees and shrubs in South-West Asia and adjacent regions" has been prepared according to the same principles as the previous volumes. It also contains distribution maps for 50 species. They belong to 18 genera and 11 families. The largest number of species is from the following families: *Salicaceae* – 23 species, including all species from the genus *Salix* (texts prepared by J. Zieliński), *Rosaceae* – 8 species, 5 of which are from the genus *Amygdalus*, and *Oleaceae* and *Loranthaceae* each with 4 species.

There was considerable difficulty in preparing the range of *Olea europaea* L., which has been cultivated already from antiquity and in which the separation of natural stands from secondary ones is already if not impossible then at least unquestionably troublesome. No less a problem concerns such species as *Fraxinus angustifolia* Vahl and *Myricaria germanica* (L.) Desv., and this is so because of the diversity of opinions about the scope of their variability. These two species have been treated in the broad sense, which, at the present state of our knowledge about them, seems justified. There is also considerable doubt concerning the systematic value of several willow species, and consequently concerning their ranges. All the doubts and contradictions in this respect have been discussed in the respective texts.

The literature list has been supplemented by a further 35 items.

The text has been translated into English by M. Giertych from Kórnik.

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References: 94 (4), 103 (4), 156 (3), 218 (2).

1. *Ribes sibericum* Berland. ex DC.

This is an unarmed shrub, up to 2 m tall with large leaves, up to 12-13 cm in diameter, palmately 3-5 lobed. The flowers are reddish in pendulous racemes, and the fruits are red berries globose, about 5 mm in diameter. This species is closely related to the central European species *Ribes petraeum* Wulfen.

Almost the whole range of *R. sibericum* covers the Caucasus, beyond which only single scattered stands

The seventh volume of the "Chorology of Trees and Shrubs in South-West Asia and adjacent regions" has been prepared according to the same principles as the previous volumes. It also contains distribution maps for 20 species. They belong to 18 genera and 11 families. The largest number of species is from the following families: Sapotaceae - 25 species, including all species from the genus *Shorea* (taxa prepared by J. Ziz- litzki); Rutaceae - 8 species, 2 of which are from the genus *Alseodaphne*, and *Alseodaphne* and *Commersonia* each with 4 species.

There was considerable difficulty in preparing the taxa of *Alseodaphne* L., which has been cultivated already from antiquity and in which the separation of natural stands from secondary ones is already if not impossible then at least unquestionably troublesome. No less a problem concerns such species as *Alseodaphne* Vahl and *Alseodaphne* (L.) DC., and this is so because of the diversity of opinions about the scope of their variability. These two species have been treated in the broad sense, which, at the present state of our knowledge about them, seems justified. There is also considerable doubt concerning the systematic value of several willow species, and consequently concerning their ranges. All the doubts and contradictions in this respect have been discussed in the respective texts.

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