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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



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"Agrosym 2025"
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GROWTH CHARACTERISTICS OF THREE-YEAR-OLD SESSILE OAK SEEDLINGS ON FRUŠKA GORA (SERBIA)

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Abstract

The study examines the height of three-year-old seedlings in the sessile oak forests of Fruška Gora National Park in Serbia. The studied stands (a total of 9) were classified into two ecological units: a sessile oak forest with hairy sedge (*Quercetum petraeae caricetosum pilosae* Jov. 1975) on ilimerized soil (luvisol) on sandstone and a sessile oak forest with forest fescue (*Festuco drymeiae* - *Quercetum petraeae* Jank. 1974) on acid brown and ilimerized soil on sandstone. The stands are even-aged, of high quality, of vegetative origin, aged from 96 to 127 years. They are located between 385 m and 475 m above sea level, on all exposures and terrain slopes ranging from 6° to 32°. The canopy cover of stands ranges from 0.5-0.7. In the experimental areas covering 0.5 ha (50x50 m), sections measuring 20x20 m were selected for studying regeneration elements. Within these sections, 25 quadrant sampling units, measuring 1x1 m (for a total of 225 units), were established. The number, height (measured to an accuracy of 1 cm), and quality of the seedlings were studied within these units. The average heights of three-year-old seedlings for the first ecological unit range from 16.4 cm to 21.5 cm, with a maximum height of 43 cm. In the second ecological unit, the average height of three-year-old seedlings ranges from 13.7 cm to 15.7 cm, and the maximum height is 31 cm. Given that the light and canopy conditions are similar during this phase of seedling development, the height is likely influenced by the soil conditions.

Key words: seedling, height measurement, ecological unit, sessile oak, Fruška Gora.