

The flora biodiversity of the ravines of the Korchay State Nature Reserve

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The Korchay State Nature Reserve is one of the specially protected natural territories of Azerbaijan. The Korchay State Nature Reserve was established in the 4833.6 hectares area of the administrative area of Goranboy region by order No. 2745 dated on 1 April in 2008 year of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The soil cover of the reserve made up of different saline, ordinary and light brown, partly alluvial-meadow soils. The landscape of the reserve consists of the plains, hills and low mountains (Bozdag) areas. The area is semi-arid in winter and arid climate prevails. The major relief of Korchay State Nature Reserve consists depressions of Bozdag in the Korchay Valley. Korchay valley spurs are in the form "Y" and they create geomorphological zones. The small gully, ravines are characteristic for the reserve in the creeks. It was the cause of the disintegration of the plain. Trees and bushes genders are variety of depending on the location of the ravines. [5].

Vegetation cover consist of wormwood-saline, saline-wormwood plant groups, plant complex of river basins. The ephemera develop very well in the area. As a result of the research 71 families, 221 genera, 362 species have been identified in the Korchay State Nature Reserve.

METHODS:

As a result of expeditions to study wild ravines 25 geobotanical descriptions have been done in the area of 850 m². Species abundance (Braun Blanquet 1964), the species name (Флора Азербайджана 1950; 1961; Конспект Флора Кавказа 2001-2006) are due. Developing image is used of special programs (TURBOVEG, TWINSPAN, MEGATAB).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

There are found of species of an ordinary pear (*Sorbus aucuparia*), willow (*Salix Capre*) in the ravines of the Korchay State Nature Reserve. The vegetation cover of the Korchay is not ancient from the plant cover of surrounding ecosystems in comparison. The rate of formation plays a key role in its youth for geological origins, its climate and geographical conditions. Steppe, desert, semi-desert plant types are replace one-another going away from Korchay. The climatic factors played a role of the formation of vegetation cover the Korchay ravines. Poleogeographical data has shown that, abrupt climate change has not happened in Korchay. Desert plants are the basis for Korchay territory. However, increasing of amount of precipitation holds a dominant position of dry steppe elements in the ravines. 4 key zones replace each other in Korchay: steppe zones, deserts, xerophytes bushes zone, hydrophytes vegetation zone.

Typical steppe and deserts do not grow here. Between the dry steppe and dry deserts are available the transitional forms. The dry steppe forms complexes of grassy grain. The semi-desert forms wilderness complexes of wormwood-grain. In general - oak, poplar, ash, willow trees are observed in Korchay. The hawthorn, buckthorn, blackberry, reed are found in lower floors. 9 families, 34 genera, 64 species were found as the result of development of field research and the literature

data for the flora of the ravine of State Natural Reserve Korchay.

The flora composition of the Korchay State Nature Reserve ravines is shown in the following table.

Table 1

Family	Gender	Species
Fabaceae	5	10
Poaceae	7	9
Asteraceae	5	15
Rosaceae	4	5
Boraginaceae	2	3
Brassicaceae	2	6
Lamiaceae	3	5
Chenopodiaceae	3	7
Cyperaceae	2	4
9	34	64

The State Nature Reserve Korchay ravine plants basically consist of associations of various herbs in the form of small glades juniper, mogpog, legumes, grains, herbs, wormwood and meadow. *Petrosimonia brachiata* (Pall), Bunge, *Kaldium caspicum* Ung-Sternb, *Halocnemum strobilaceum* Bieb is typical for the saline ravines. Possibilities of these species adapted to the Korchay spurs.

Along the ephemeral, grains, legumes and various herbs are involved in the wormwood semi -desert plant groups. The bulbous blue grass of short-lived grains, Japanese brome – *Bromus japonicus*, Rye-grass-*Lolium rigidum*, East jerusalem - *Eremopyrum orientale*, Wheat jerusalem-*Etriticum*, Wheatgrass -*Agropyron cristatum*, Plantaqo ovata L., *Sylibium marianum* L., *Calendula arvense* L. and other species are spread.

Shurbs- Halostachus belangeriana, Tamarix ramossima, Lucium ruthenicum; small shrubs - Salsola nodulosa, Kalidium caspicum, Suaeda microphylla; shrubs and small shrubs- Salsola dendroides, Camphorosma lessinqii, Halocnemum strobilaceum, Artemisia fragrans, Atriplex turcomanica; perennial grass - Aeluropus repens, Ae.tittoralis, Limonium

scoparium, *Alhagi pseudoalhagi*, *Cynodon dactylon*; *ephemeroid* – *Poa bulbosa*, *Allium rubellum*; *summer-autumn annual grass* – *Climacoptera crassa*, *Gamanthus pilosus*, *Salsola soda*, *Petrosimonia brachiata*, *Suaeda altissima*, *S.confusa*; *ephemeral* – *Anisantha tectorum*, *Bromus japonicus*, *Hordeum leporinum* are found.

The ravines flora of Korchay are distributed among various geoelements. The species are grouped according to geographic elements for identify of ravines flora origin and formation ways. These elements - Plyregional, Holarktisk Pont, Nomerall, the Mediterranean, Iran and Turan, Asia, adventiv geoelements are include [2,4,6].

Holarctic species are include to *Plyregional geoelements*. *Salvina natans*, *Typha angustifolia*, *Potamogeton*, *Ruppia*, *Digitaria sanguinalis*, *Echinochloa crus-galli*, *Phragmites australis*, *Poa anniva* are include to here from Korchay ravines.

Catabrosa aquatica, *Equisetum*, *Bolboschenus maritimus*, *Polygonum hydropiper*, *Ranunculus sceleratus*, *Thalictrum minus*, *Typha latifolia*, *Salicornia europaea* are include to Holarctic elements.

The species which spreading in the temperate and subtropical regions of Holarctic are include to Polarctic element. *Acer campestre*, *Agrimonia eupatoria*, *Anemone ranunculoides*, *Anthemis cotula*, *Bunias orientalis*, *Carduus acanthoides*, *Carex elata*, *Agropyron desertorum*, *Agropyron fragile*, *Alcea rugosa*, *Amygdalus nana* species are include to this element in Korchay ravines.

The species which spread in boreal area are include to Panboreal geoelements. *Schoenoplectus lacustris*, *Gage lutea*, *Poa nemoralis*, *Draba nemorosa* are include to here of the area of research.

Mediterranean elements - the species which spread in the Mediterranean regions. *Bromus squarrosus*, *Aegilops biuncialis*, *Cleistogenes serotina*, *Gypsophila paniculata*,

Lobularia maritima, *Trifolium angustifolium*, *Trifolium echinatum*, *Viola nemausensis*, *Visnaga daucoides*, *Astragalus asterias*, *Astragalus brachyceras*, *Bassia sedoides*, *Bellardia trixago*, *Bifora radians*, *Briza elatior*, *Achillea filipendulina*, *Capparis herbacea*, *Centaurea squarrosa* are include from research areas.

Atriplex aucheri, *Aegilops tauschii*, *Aellenia glauca*, *Alhagi pseudalhagi*, *Centaurea iberica* are include to Iran-Turan Turan geoelements, the species which is typical for Iran-Turan provinces.

Ailanthus altissima, *Amaranthus albus*, *Amaranthus blitoides*, *Amaranthus graecizans*, *Ambrosia trifida* species are adventive plants of Korchay ravines.

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