Preliminary research on floristic diversity in the Čađavica area

Preliminarno istraživanje florističke raznolikosti na području Čađavice

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INTRODUCTION

Plants are an important part of biodiversity and play a key role in the functioning of natural ecosystems. Plant community composition and diversity are influenced by environmental factors and human activities. Special attention should be given to alien and invasive species, which can affect native plant communities[1]. Floristic surveys are therefore important for documenting plant diversity and supporting future monitoring and conservation.

The aim of this study was to investigate the flora in the immediate area of Čađavica.

STUDY AREA

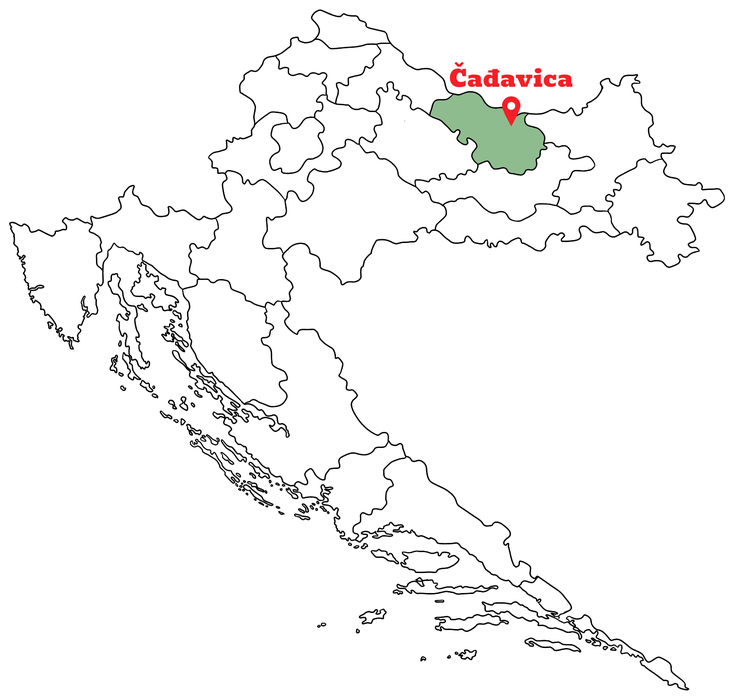


Fig 1. Geographical area of the research

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- **Study area:** Voćinsko - Dravski Canal, Čađavica, Virovitica - Podravina County
- **Research period:** Summer 2026
- **Method:** Field research and recording of plant taxa
- **Identification:** Species identification and classification according to family and origin (native, alien, and invasive species)[2]

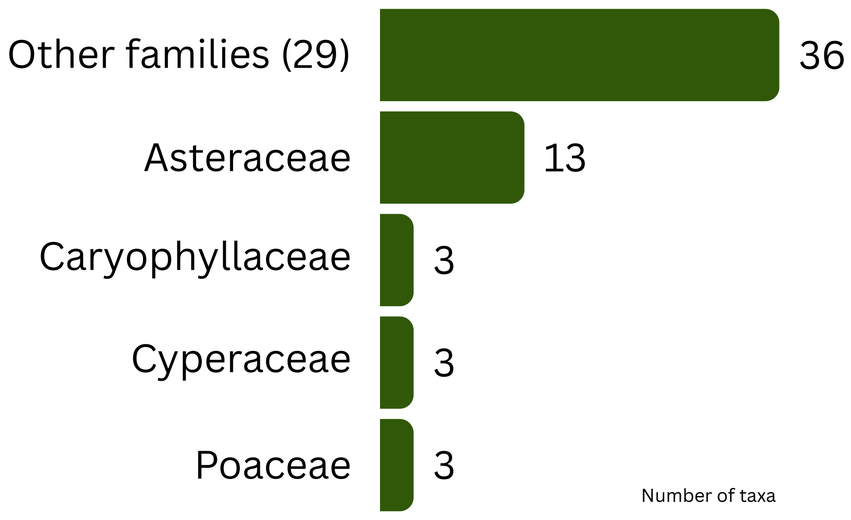


Fig 2. The number of taxa of most represented plant families in the study area

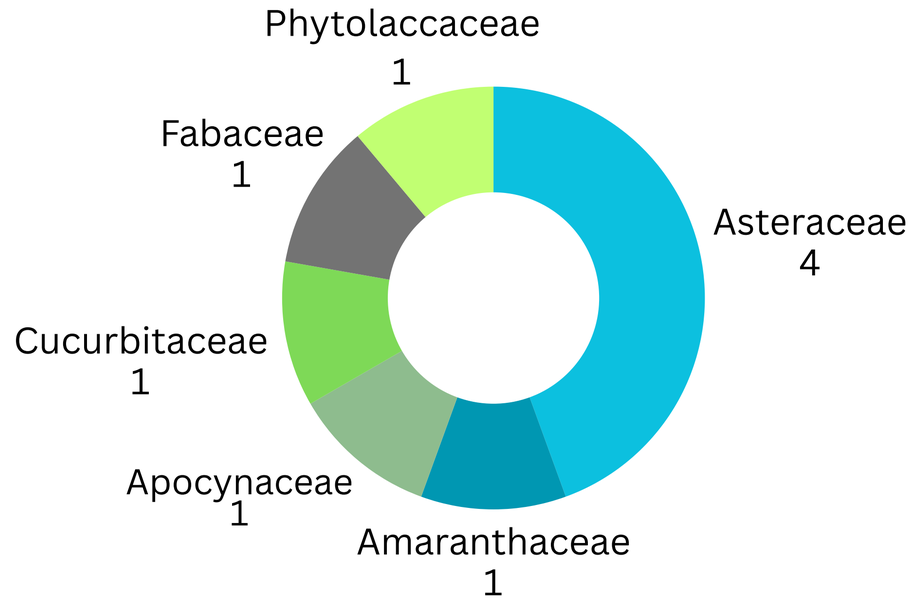


Fig 3. The number of invasive species by plant family



a)

b)

Fig 4. Invasive plant species in the study area:
a) *Asclepias syriaca* L. *b) Xanthium strumarium* L.

RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

A total of 58 plant taxa belonging to 54 genera and 33 families were recorded in the Čađavica area. Herbaceous plants predominated in the surveyed flora, while the largest number of taxa belonged to the family Asteraceae. The majority of the flora consisted of native taxa, but a significant proportion of alien taxa was also recorded, including nine invasive species. These results provide a basis for further floristic research and monitoring of changes in plant diversity in the Čađavica area.

REFERENCES:

[1]Nikolić, T., Mitić, B., & Boršić, I. (2014). Flora Hrvatske - Invazivne biljke. Zagreb: Alfa.

[2]Nikolić, T. (ed.). Flora Croatica Database. Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb. Available online: https://hirc.botanic.hr/fcd/ (accessed on 5 September 2026).