

Project Update: September 2014

We carried out four field expeditions during the active vegetative season from June to the beginning of September 2014. For this time period we reached three districts of Primorsky Krai - Terneysky, Lazovsky and Chuguevsky, climbed to the three tops (the highest of them is 1855 m above sea level) and described 10 populations of endemic species – two of *Leontopodium palibinianum*, three of *Artemisia pannosa*, two of *Saussurea kolesnikovii*, two of *S. nakaiana* and one of *S. vyschinii*. All endemic *Saussurea* are mountain species growing on the highest tops in the Sikhote-Alin. For the first time we collected information about structure, condition and capacity of three their populations and habitats. We collected herbarium samples and leaf tissues of all these endemic species for molecular-genetic analysis. Simultaneously with our main tasks we described new localities for many rare and endemic species. Members from the ecological club “Uragus”, including teachers, students and nature lovers participated in our expedition to the farthest region of the territory of our project. They helped us and received new knowledge about endemic plant species and necessity of their conservation.

More information:

<http://сиалинь.рф/index/318-2014-09-14-22-22-47>



Photo 1. Participants of expedition to Terneysky District of Primorskiy Krai of Russia. Photographer is Konstantin Darmenov

Photo 2. *Leontopodium palibinianum* – endemic species growing only in Primorskiy Krai of Russia. Photographer is Elena Pimenova



Photo 3. The Valley of Srednyaya Amgu River is the place where some endemic plant species inhabit. Photographer is Svetlana Bondarchuk



Photo 4. Amgu Canyon - habitat of some rare endemic species. Photographer is Svetlana Bondarchuk





Photo 5. *Saussurea vyschinii* is endemic species. New population of this species was described on the Tuman Mountain. Photographer is Elena Pimenova

Photo 6. *Saussurea vyschinii*. Photographer is Svetlana Bondarchuk



Photo 7. Collecting *Saussurea vyschinii* on the Tuman Mountain. Photographer is Svetlana Bondarchuk

Photo 8. Describing of *Saussurea vyschinii* population. Photographer is Svetlana Bondarchuk



Photo 9. The way from the field camp to the habitat of *Saussurea vyschinii* is too long. Overnight on the Tuman Mountain. Photographer is Svetlana Bondarchuk



Photo 10. *Saussurea kolesnikovii* is rare endemic species growing only in the northern part of Terneyskiy District in Primorskiy Kray of Russia. Photographer is Elena Pimenova

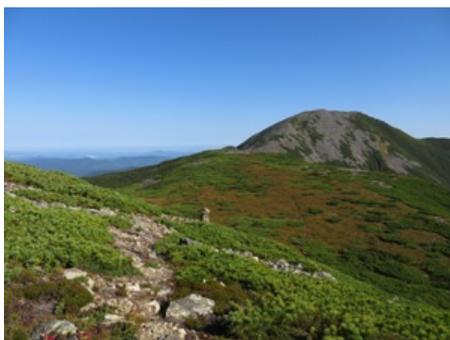


Photo 11. Oblachnaya Mountain (1855 m) is the habitat of endemic species *Saussurea nakaiana*. Photographer is Elena Pimenova



Photo 12. The part of *Saussurea nakaiana* population. Photographer is Elena Pimenova

Photo13. *Saussurea nakaiana* is endemic species of Sikhote-Alin Mountain Range in Far East of Russia. Photographer is Elena Pimenova

