

Project Update: June 2019

This year season started with another team meeting at my house in Zaječar and you can see how it went by visiting this address: <http://wildbalkans.com/en/what-are-we-going-to-butterfly-this-year>. Overall, we had time to discuss the plans for upcoming butterfly season and make a few short excursions. The most important part was presentation of the achievements from the last year, where my team members got a chance to show the role they played during the project. Our partner organisation, namely HabiProt and BD Dr Sava Petrović, had also a chance to present themselves. Finally, the results from a few other Rufford Small Grants projects were shown: Aca Đurđević's project about dragonflies, Marko Nikolić's project on traditional believes and biodiversity and Dimitrija Savić's hidden corners of Serbia.

After the field meeting we were supposed to survey *Zerynthia cerisy* and *Z. polyxena*. And we did but I couldn't recall the worse weather conditions during May. Overall we end up with only 168 records of those species, which is less than half we made during the last year. But it is still great that the season is not completely lost and the data will be usable for our statistics.

Among other things, we managed to digitise one valuable, old butterfly collection of Laszlo Tot from Ada village. You can read more about this here: <http://wildbalkans.com/en/amazing-lepidoptera-collection-by-laszlo-toth-from-ada>

Last but not the least, [Biologer](#) got a lot of improvements: new taxonomic groups, better statistics, improved data import and export, better view of collected data and much more. Finally it is possible to enter data from the literature and I hope the system will soon be ready to take over 30.000 digitised butterfly records awaiting in the tables. It started as a part of Ana Golubović's Rufford project, improved with this booster grant, and later supported by Hyla from Croatia. Now Biologer has its local communities in two countries and is on the rise, supporting free biodiversity data, open source software and biodiversity conservation.