

Project Update: September 2010

The field trip was performed in several localities of borjomi protect territories: 1) Kvabiskhevi gorge (zone of strict protection) – Mixed coniferous-broadlived forest with predomination of *Picea orientalis*; 2) Zoreti gorge – Mixed coniferous-broadlived forest with predomination of *Picea orientalis*; 3) Likani gorge (zone of strict protection) – Mixed coniferous forest with *Picea orientalis*, *Taxus baccata*, *Abies nordmanniana*; 4) vil. Daba – burned and unburned mixed forests (large area of these forests was burned during Russia-Georgia conflict 2008); 5) vil. Tsagveri – mixed *Picea-Abies* forest.

Ants, butterflies and bumblebees were sampled and counted. Routes for school pupils were chosen. Comparison of species sampled in different forest types, in burned and unburned forests and in different localities, will allow us to judge on the ecological sustainability of forests of protected territories.

Administration of Borjom-Kharagauli National Park was informed on ongoing project and they expressed their willingness to take part in educational activities of project team.

