REALITIIONS BETWEEN SPECIES OF THE Iris pallida COMPLEX
(IRIDACEAE) WITH REGARD TO THE LEAF EPIDERMIS CHARACTERISTICS

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Latley, the complex of generic species Iris pallida Lam., I. cengialti Ambrosi, I. illyrica Tomm. and I. pseudopallida Trinajstić has been classified in the series Pallidae (Trinajstić 1976).

Quite recently, the phenetic relations within some populations of the taxons I. pallida, I. illyrica and I. pseudopallida have been analysed regard to the morphological characteristics of the leaf epidermis (Nikolić et Mitić 1991). In this work the researches have been extended onto a large number of populations from the complex of all types. The morphometry of the length and wideness of stomata and epidermal cells, as well as the number of stomata and epidermal cells per mm² has been carried out. The results of these measurements have been processed by Kruskal Wallis test and by Cluster and PCA analysis.

Between the populations of different species generally the significant differences have been found, but the use of the analysed characteristics for the taxonomic purposes is difficult because of the still unknown share of phenotypic plasticity.