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Flora of the Karagöl-Sahara National Park (Artvin) and Its Environs

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Abstract: The vascular flora of the Karagöl-Sahara National Park and its environs (Şavşat, Artvin, Turkey) was assessed between 1997 and 2002. In the area under review, 872 taxa belonging to 364 genera and 91 families were identified. Of the 872 taxa, 21 Pteridophytes and 851 Spermatophytes were detected. Spermatophytes also contained 7 Gymnospermae and 844 Angiospermae taxa. The richest 3 families are Compositae with 90 taxa (10.2%), Leguminosae with 77 taxa (8.9%) and Gramineae with 60 taxa (7.0%). The richest genus is Astragalus L. (21 taxa) followed by Campanula L. (15 taxa). The rates of taxa included in certain phytogeographical regions were as follows: 39.4% Euro-Siberian, 10.3% Irano-Turanian, 1.1% Mediterranean, and 50.9% multi-regional or of unknown phytogeographic origin. The endemism ratio is 6.3% (54 taxa). Threat categories were proposed for 103 taxa according to International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Red List Categories.

Key Words: Artvin, Flora, Karagöl, Sahara, Şavşat, Turkey, Yalnızçam pass

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