

## MORPHOLOGICAL VARIATION OF BEARBERRY POPULATIONS (*ARCTOSTAPHYLOSUVA-URSI L. SPRENG*) IN DIBRA REGION

Zyber Gjoni<sup>1</sup>, Foto Kashta<sup>2</sup>, Agim Pepkolaj<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Polytechnic University of Durrës, E-mail: zybergjoni@yahoo.com

<sup>2</sup> Agricultural University of Tirana

<sup>3</sup> Agricultural University of Tirana

### Abstract

The present study presents the results of bearberry (*Arctostaphylosuva-ursi* (L) spreng) study in Dibra region for some morphological features. Bearberry is known as a medicinal plant used as a diuretic, urinary disinfectant and as an astringent. Its antibacterial effect is due to the arbutine content. Also, this plant is been successful in prostatic hypertrophy and urinary retention. The aim of the study was to evaluate the bearberry distribution at Korabi mountain in dibra region where bearberry naturally grown. The study has been focused on two aspects: 1) Distribution of the specie in Korabi mountain massive, 2) Study the morphological variation of bearberry for some morphological features. From the study was found out that bearberry massive in Korabi mountain covers up to 200 hectares. Based on the soil features, altitude, site exposition, etc, we have divided it into seven bearberry massive. With regard to the bearberry morphological variation, it resulted that natural populations presents a variation for all plant features, as for the internodes length, the number of leaves per branch, the fruit size and the weight of leaves/plant. Specifically, the internodes length ranges from 0.53 cm to 1.05 cm; the branch length varies from 10.59 cm to 4.14 cm; the number of branches/ plant varies from 8.3 to 20; the number of leaves/ branch varies from 17.2 to 22, etc.

**Keywords:** *Bearberry, variation morphological, branch, arbutine, population, internodes*