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Ergebnisse der Pflanzengeographischen Durchforschung von Württemberg, Baden und Hohenzollern. by J. Eichler; R. Grandmann; W. Meigen

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NOTICES OF WORK ON FOREIGN VEGETATION

ATLANTIC SPECIES IN THE SOUTH GERMAN FLORA

Eichler, J., Gradmann, R., und Meigen, W. "Ergebnisse der pflanzen-geographischen Durchforschung von Württemberg, Baden und Hohenzollern." *Beil. Jahresh. Ver. vaterl. Naturk. Württemberg*, **68**, 1912, pp. 279—315, 3 maps.

The authors deal with the Atlantic group of species in the flora of the three central south German states. They divide the Atlantic species into three classes. (1) Atlantic species of wide distribution—*Asplenium Ceterach*, *Centaurea nigra*, *Lonicera Periclymenum*, *Teucrium Scorodonia*—which extend eastwards beyond the region dealt with, as far as the Bavarian forests, and northwards as far as the west coast of Norway. (2) Atlantic species of restricted distribution, having their eastern limit in the area—*Anagallis tenella*, *Buxus*, *Luzula Forsteri*, *Orobanchae Hederae*, *Tamus*, etc. (3) Atlantic-montane species, chiefly found in the hill regions—*Digitalis purpurea*, *Galium saxatile*, *Ilex Aquifolium*, etc.—and all extending northwards to the Norwegian coast with the exception of *Ilex* which in this area reaches its eastern limit in Europe. Three maps are given to illustrate the distribution of the various Atlantic species.

The authors discuss the interesting questions raised by the presence in the area of this group of species, which are characteristic of western Europe but which extend eastwards into the Black Forest as well as into the Odenwald on the north-east of this and the region around Lake Constance on its south-east, while they are mostly absent from the area further east of the Black Forest and Rhine, namely along the valleys of the Main and Neckar and in the Swabian Alps. They support the view that the Atlantic flora is to be regarded as having developed in an oceanic climate with heavy rainfall, cool summers and mild winters, and that it has become adapted to the substrata characteristic of this climate, namely, sandy heath substrata poor in lime and rich in humus. During the Glacial period this flora was driven back to the regions on the south-west, and thence with the return of genial conditions it migrated to new habitats with the climatic and edaphic characters possessed by the south German area in which this eastern intra-continental extension of the Atlantic flora is now found.

THE PONTIC ELEMENT IN THE PRUSSIAN FLORA

Preuss, H. "Die pontischen Pflanzenbestände im Weichselgebiet vom Standpunkt der Naturdenkmalpflege aus geschildert." *Beiträge zur Naturdenkmalpflege*, **2**, 1912, pp. 350—517, 16 figures.

This important paper occupies the greater part of Band 2, Heft 4 of the magnificent Nature Protection series of *Beiträge* founded and edited by Prof. Conwentz, and is divided into four parts, the first three dealing respectively with the localities in Prussia where Pontic species occur, the history and present habitats of these plants, and the need for the protection of these habitats, while the fourth consists of a systematic list with notes on the distribution of the species. The following summary is taken from the second division of the paper.

The history of the recent flora of Prussia begins with the *Dryas* period. During the last great extension of the inland ice, which entirely covered West Prussia, higher plants were certainly absent, but the investigation of the Prussian moors has shown that the "*Dryas* period" was not devoid of arboreal vegetation, since *Pinus sylvestris*, *Populus tremula*, *Betula pubescens*, *B. verrucosa*, and probably also *Alnus glutinosa* followed the retreating inland ice, the melting of which was accompanied by a warmer climate than that of today. For a discussion of the steppe question, see a former review in this JOURNAL (**1**, pp. 65—70). After giving an account of the distribution of the Pontic species the author concludes that everything points to the probability