

very important for the preparation of new editions of the Flora of Belarus and the Red Book of the Republic of Belarus.

The herbarium fund is annually replenished with new samples, therefore it is very important to enter data on new samples into the electronic database.

The study showed that the *Aristolochiaceae*, *Nymphaeaceae* and *Ceratophyllaceae* families were studied in more detail in the following districts of the Vitebsk region: Vitebsk, Beshenkovichi, Verkhnedvinsk, Gorodok, Dokshitsy, Rossony, Senno, Ushachy and Shumilino districts. According to these data, it can be concluded that out of 21 regions, only 9 have been studied in detail, and in the rest of the regions it is necessary to carry out field collections, as a result of which new habitats of the studied species from the presented botanical families will be identified. As a result, the electronic database will be replenished, which will make it possible to more fully judge the diversity of the flora of the Belarusian lake district.

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## THE PROBLEM OF THE EFFICIENCY OF AGROECOTOURISM IN BELARUS

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The tourist market is one of the most dynamically growing in the whole world. The Republic of Belarus is not an exception. One of the trends in the world and in our republic is the development of agroecotourism. There are several explanations to it. One of them is, certainly, the popularity of the whole industry as a desired service and as a job place. Another is growing popularity of environmental-friendly attitude to our nature and special interest to folklore and local history. This year one more reason has become clearly seen and it is the pandemic COVID-19. The lockdown in a lot of countries has frozen the tourist market. The first direction, the tourist agencies have been allowed to work in, is inner tourism. The sector of agroecotourism is preferable as it usually means that some group of people who are related by birth or friends can live rather separately in clean natural environment. So, nowadays agroecotourism is a very dramatically developing sector of inner tourism and it is worth studying as a profitable industry for countryside.

**Material and methods.** The research for the thesis is based, first of all, on the qualitative and quantitative analysis of the empirical and practical findings in public access. The method of comparison has been used for the work with the official statistical data on the tourist industry of the Republic of Belarus and, in particular, in agroecotourism. Here has been revealed the correlation of the number of tourist sector farmhouses to the profitability of the whole industry.

**Findings and their discussion.** According to the definition that is suggested by the Ministry of Taxation and Internal Revenue “agroecotourism is an activity directed to agroecotourists introduction to the natural and cultural potential of the Republic of Belarus and also to the national traditions when they are resting, supporting their health, staying in tourist sector farmhouses” [1]. This type of tourism includes several integral parts: folk tourism, ecotourism, active tourism and cultural and educational tourism [2]. The Republic of Belarus has enough assets to develop these tourist sectors and, therefore, to attract both national and overseas customers as here in our country there are a lot of wild nature and rather developed chain of tourist sector farmhouses. The comprehension of the necessity to develop this type of tourism is clearly understood on the highest governmental level [3].

Agroecotourism in the Republic of Belarus is developing continuously. The revenue in this sphere is growing so as the number of visits and tourists. The chain of tourist sector farmhouses is widening and by today it has covered the whole territory of the country. In 2019 the National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus published the number of the tourist sector farmhouses and it was 2760 [4]. According to the republican statistical data the growth of the number of the tourist sector farmhouses is sustainable for several years in a row. Also the sector is experiencing successive years of the growth of visitors. Thus, it is necessary to admit that the majority of the visitors in the tourist sector farmhouses are the citizens of the Republic of Belarus. In 2019, according to the republican official statistical data, 465.7 thousand of visitors were Belarusians and only 49 thousand were foreigners. The guests from the Russian Federation, Poland, Uzbekistan and Ukraine prevail among foreigners.

**Conclusion.** Among the factors that impact on the efficiency of the sector of agroecotourism there are several ones like growing interest to environmental-friendly tourism, local history and folklore. The revenue of this industry is directly linked to the number of tourist sector farmhouses because usually businesses are targeted to serve not large groups of tourists, so the number of tourists is in positive correlation to the number of the offered services. That means that spreading of the chain along the country should be continued. The series of measures, like tax incentives or assistance in starting up businesses, will help to popularize this type of tourism among the citizens of the Republic of Belarus and also to attract foreign guests. It should be understood that the sector needs local tourists as during lockdowns or some other world problems only the citizens of the country will save the industry. Nevertheless, it is necessary to

work with overseas tourist agencies and to continue to attract foreign guests, as foreign visitors enrich the budget of the country. Developing the agroecotourist sector is very important for any country as it can revitalize the economy of country communities and, that is crucial for the Republic of Belarus, can minimize the outflow of labour forces from the countryside and small towns.

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## USE OF RAPD-PCR FOR MOLECULAR DETECTION AND POLYMORPHISM OF DANGEROUS MICROSPORE PHYTOPATHOGENS OF PINUS SP. IN VITEBSK REGION OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

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The invasion of pathogenic diseases of *Pinus sp.* caused by highly specialized species of fungi is alarming [1]. Some of the most dangerous species of fungal phytopathogens are: *Dothistroma septosporum*, *Lecanosticta acicola*, *Neocatenulostroma germanicum*, *Diplodia sapinea*.

*Dothistroma* needle blight (DNB) is a disease caused by fungi *Dothistroma septosporum*. DNB has a high level of harmfulness and is indicated in the register of phytopathogenic diseases of the Republic of Belarus as "a single occurrence". The complexity of the fight against DNB is superimposed on the ecological isolation of populations. Due to the presence of various communities, *Dothistroma septosporum* begins to exhibit molecular genetic differences over the generations, which are also reflected in their biology.

RAPD-PCR (Random Amplification of Polymorphic DNA - RAPD) is used to detect minor differences in the genomes of organisms without resorting to the whole genome sequencing.