Abstract

The diploma thesis evaluates the current status of former common pastures of a study area in southwestern Bohemia. The thesis aims to demonstrate the high biological value of former common pastures and determine predictors of their preservation. For this purpose, a vector layer of former common pastures containing 668 segments was created. This layer was compared with other map layers (aerial images, consolidated layer of ecosystems, Natura 2000 mapping, species database) and various field observations. A database describing a current status of former common pastures was created and 49 preserved pastures were selected, according to predetermined criteria. Comparison of data from the common pastures and the sorrounding landscape confirmed higher biological value of the pastures. They have significantly higher habitat diversity, described by frequency and composition of Natura 2000 habitats. Several ecological and descriptive parameters were tested to find predictors of pastures preservation. The results showed that signifiant predictors of the pastures preservation are ecological parameters (i.e. number of Natura 2000 habitats, number of protected species recorded in database) and also descriptive factors (i.e. size of the pastures, shape, distance from municipality).

Key words: common pastures, Natura 2000, biodiversity, land use