

Abstract

Ophrys insectifera is a critically endangered species of orchid in the Czech Republic. It is characterized by the formation of sexually deceptive flowers, binding to specific pollinators and specific fungi in its mycorrhizal dependence. The bachelor's thesis describes *O. insectifera*, its occurrence in European countries (England and Ireland, the Netherlands, Serbia, Latvia, and Bulgaria), locations of its occurrence in the Czech Republic, and its risk factors. *O. insectifera* is considered the northernmost species of the genus *Ophrys* due to its occurrence in Norway. In all selected European countries, the distribution of *O. insectifera* is threatened. The threatening risks are: shading, rainy and cold climate, and sensitivity to ecological factors in the southernmost regions of its distribution. In the Czech Republic, *O. insectifera* was most often recorded on xerothermic grasslands of calcareous soil and in basophilic, more lighted parts of pine forests. The thesis also includes an overview of the recorded regions where *O. insectifera* was found in a particular year. It has been established that the largest number of regions where *O. insectifera* was found was between the years of 1950 and 2000. This result may indicate the largest number of regions where *O. insectifera* population is currently extinct or its occurrence in the regions has not been verified. The next part of the work evaluates the risks for *O. insectifera* and other orchids. One of the biggest threats is climate change. As a result of climate change, the range of *O. insectifera* is expected to shift to the north (Scandinavia, England) and weaken its populations in the southern area of its distribution (Bulgaria, Greece, Spain and Italy). Other negative risks for *O. insectifera* include changes in management, insufficient care for its habitat and the associated overgrowth of its sites.

Keywords: *Ophrys insectifera*, historical and recent distribution, habitat requirements, vegetation preferences of the species, threat factors