

INFLUENCE OF THE DUMP SITES ON DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTED PLANT TISSUES AT THE ĽUBIETOVÁ AREA (SLOVAKIA)

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ABSTRACT

Natural installation and development of plant species such as *Pinus sylvestris*, *Betula pendula*, *Quercus petraea*, *Salix fragilis*, *Mentha longifolia*, *Acetosella vulgaris*, *Juncus articulatus* can be observed at the old mine waste dumps in the Ľubietová – Podlipa (Zelená Valley, Slovakia) area, specific to the local chemical conditions such as low content of essential nutrients and high content of heavy metals (Fe, Cu, As, Sb, Cd and others). Content of heavy metals and landscape features of the dump material are not appropriate for the vegetation development. The individual parts of the plant tissues (roots, branches/stems, leaves/needles, flowers/fruits) are contaminated by heavy metals and tissues are damaged differently, respectively.

Key words: mining dumps, heavy metals, contamination of plant tissues