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Focus and Scope

Vegetation Classification and Survey (VCS) is an international, peer-reviewed journal of plant community ecology published on behalf of the International Association for Vegetation Science (IAVS) together with its sister journals, Journal of Vegetation Science (JVS) and Applied Vegetation Science (AVS). It is devoted to vegetation survey and classification at any organizational and spatial scale and without restriction to certain methodological approaches.

The journal publishes original papers that develop new vegetation typologies as well as applied studies that use such typologies, for example, in vegetation mapping, ecosystem modelling, nature conservation, land use management or monitoring. Particularly encouraged are methodological studies that design and compare tools for vegetation classification and mapping, such as algorithms, databases and nomenclatural principles. Papers dealing with conceptual and theoretical bases of vegetation survey and classification are also welcome. While large-scale studies are preferred, regional studies will be considered when filling important knowledge gaps or presenting new methods. VCS also contains Permanent Collections on “Ecoinformatics” and “Phytosociological Nomenclature”.

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Cover photos credit

The cover images refer to the Editors’ Choice articles of the four quarters of the year 2024. Upper left: *Combretum collinum–Terminalia sericea* broad-leaved savanna in Namibia, referring to the Editors’ Choice of the second quarter, which also received the Editors’ Award 2024 (Naftal L, De Cauwer V, Strohbach BJ (2024) Potential distribution of major plant units under climate change scenarios along an aridity gradient in Namibia. Vegetation Classification and Survey 5: 127–151) (Photo: L. Naftal). Upper right: Transition from evergreen cloud forest (in the back) to seasonally dry tropical forest (in the front) in the State of Michoacán, Mexico, referring to the Editors’ Choice of the third quarter (Gopar-Merino F, Velazquez A, González-Pérez A, del Río S, Mas JF, Penas Á (2024) A coupled cartographic approach between bioclimatology and vegetation formations of Mexico. Vegetation Classification and Survey 5: 153–164) (Photo: A. Velazquez). Lower left: *Plantago rigida* wetland in the Peruvian Andes, referring the Editors’ Choice of the fourth quarter (Maldonado-Fonkén M, Chuquillanqui H, Vildoso B, Linares-Palomino R (2024) Plant communities of high-Andean *bofedal* wetlands across a trans-Andean transect in southern Peru. Vegetation Classification and Survey 5: 203–218) (Photo: M. Maldonado-Fonkén). Lower right: Subalpine spring vegetation in the Tatra Mts. with *Epilobium alsinifolium* and *Philonotis seriata*, referring to the Editors’ Choice of first quarter (Hájek H, Peterka T, Hájková P, Hinterlang D, Zechmeister H, Chytrý M (2024) Proposal (36) to conserve the name *Philonotidion seriatae* Hinterlang 1992 for the species-poor, bryophyte-dominated, non-calcareous arctic-alpine spring vegetation of Europe. Vegetation Classification and Survey 5: 11–15.) (Photo: P. Hájková).