BOOK REVIEW

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Stevanović, V. & Niketić (eds). 2022.

The Flora of Serbia. 3.

Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Belgrade.
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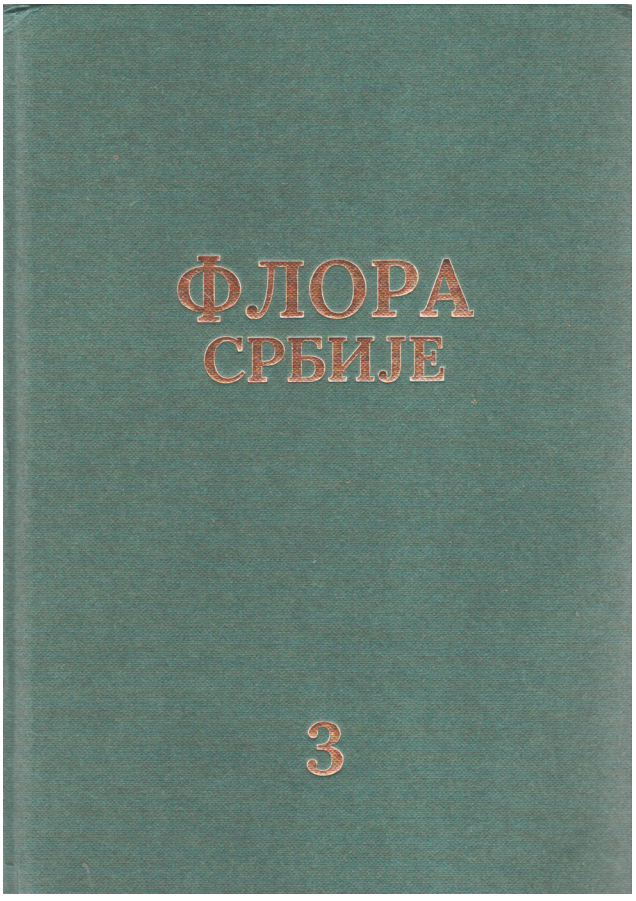
After the first two volumes included in the second edition of multivolume *The Flora of Serbia* (1992, 2012), the third volume has come from the publishers, issued by the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Belgrade. It is edited by Vladimir Stevanović and Marjan Niketić and compiled by a team of 19 Serbian botanists. The volume comprises 10 families and 34 genera from order *Caryophyllales* (as a continuation from vol. 2, 2012), and two families (*Elatinaceae* and *Hypericaceae*) and two genera (*Elatine* and *Hypericum*) from order *Malpighiales*. A total of 141 genera and 12 hybrids have been included in the volume.

From the first order, the genera *Rumex* (23 species and eight hybrids), *Chenopodium* (13 species) and *Amaranthus* (11 species and two hybrids) are represented with the greatest number of species. They are chiefly annual and/or allochthonous ruderal and segetal species (weeds), with characteristically abundant fruiting, quick and easy distribution and ability

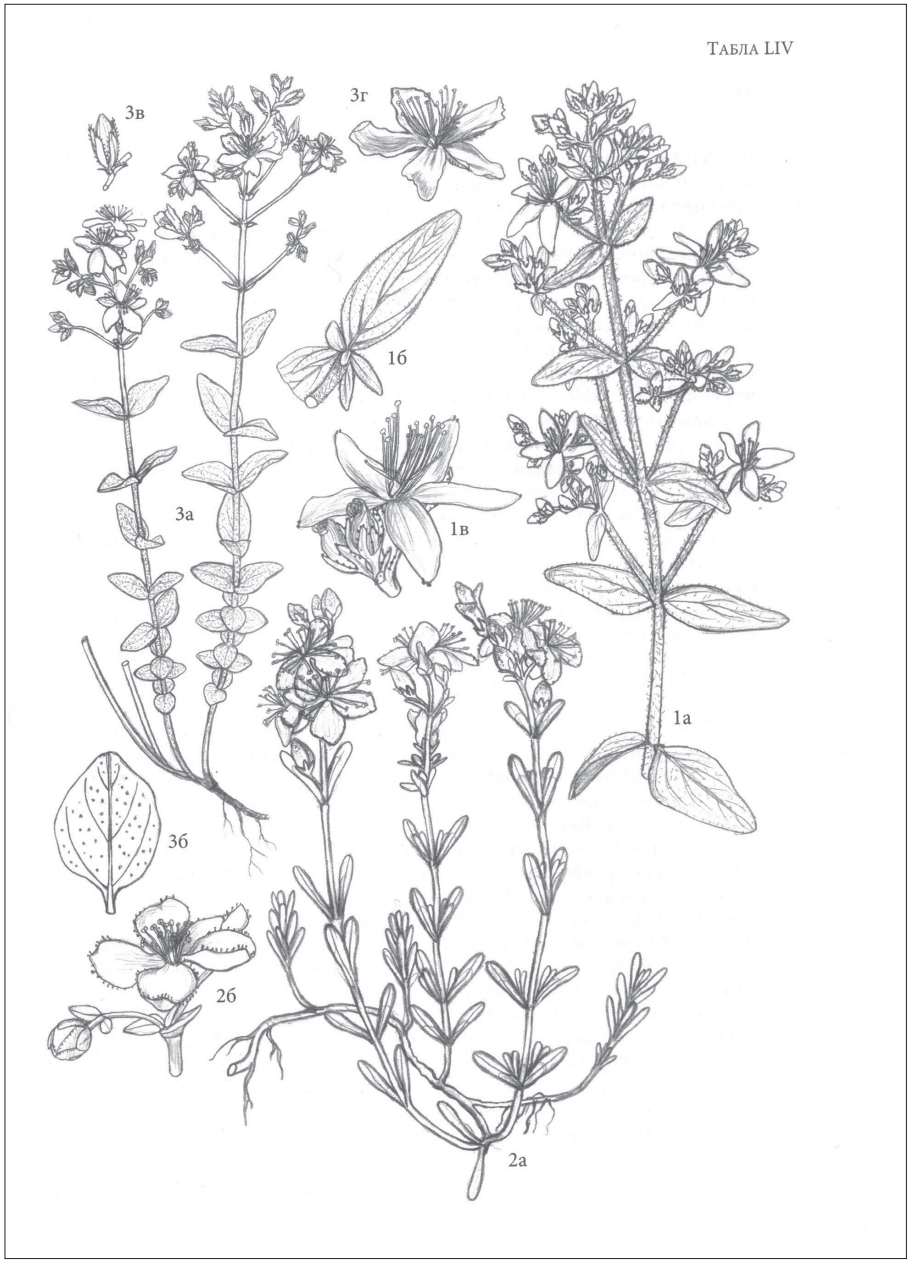


Drawings of some species of *Polygonaceae*.

to colonize new territories. As the Editors have noted down in the Foreword to the volume, "*the synanthropic flora and vegetation will always be of prime importance to botanic researchers*". Dynamism of this flora brings about changes to the habitats as a result from anthropogenic activities and rapid alterations of its floristic composition in many localities.

Genus *Hypericum* from the second order is represented by a great number of taxa (18 species and six subspecies).

The volume contains descriptions of the families, genera and species, keys to the genera and the species included in them, as well as to the intraspecies variability, if any. Each species is represented by its characteristic habitats, floristic elements, general distribution, detailed spread in Serbia after herbarium revisions and field studies, with citation of localities and its number on the chorological map of the species at the end of the book (comprising 144 UTM maps, 10 × 10 km). All species (with the exception of the two from genus *Fagopyrum*), six subspecies and one hybrid are illustrated by 57 plates, inserted aptly in the text.



Drawings of some species of *Hypericum*.

New species for the territory of Serbia included in this volume are: *Amaranthus tuberculatus*, *Dysphania pumilio*, *Reynoutria sachalinensis* and *Hypericum montbretii* (already published by Serbian botanists). At the end of the book, there is a list of chorological literature with 26 titles, register of common names of the plants in Serbian, and *Index alphabeticus* of the Latin names of the taxa, referred for each of them to the pages of their description, illustration and the chorological map.

Information in this volume – the keys, detailed descriptions and chorology – will undoubtedly encourage further floristic studies of many synanthropic species. It will be also useful for their studying on the territories of the neighboring Balkan countries and certainly will be used by the Bulgarian botanists.

Congratulations to the authors and editors of this volume and wishes for successful publication of the forthcoming volumes of *The Flora of Serbia*!