

Abstract

Temperate broad-leaved forests represent plant communities that are suitable for monitoring dynamics throughout the entire growing season. The seasonal dynamics in the forest understory should be viewed as a continuous sequence of phenological events. Given the connection of certain species to the spring and autumn periods in one season, dividing the herbaceous component of the understory into spring and summer aspects would be inappropriate. Temperature and light are very often mentioned as limiting sources. The tree layer has a considerable influence on the course of seasonal dynamics of the herbaceous layer. The most pronounced life manifestations of most species in the understory at the beginning of the season are the result of a combination of favourable environmental conditions together with negligible competitive demands. We can track many adaptations to changing environmental conditions. Seasonal dynamics often causes the inability to capture the overall diversity and composition of vegetation. At the same time, the richness of the understory can demonstrate the overall stability of the forest community. It is clear from existing studies that the growth and development of many plant forms is not limited to a specific period of year or growing season. The dynamics of plant communities also occur in periods when plant phenology is not significant.