Supervisors evaluation of the PhD thesis of

Václav Pouska

The role of wood decay fungi in the dynamics of a mountain spruce forest

The thesis consists of and introduction, summarizing the results of the thesis, followed by five studies, all represented by papers in respected international journals (impact factors 1.94, 1.81, 2.14, 2 x 1.99); in two of them Václav is the first author, in other two, the last author. Václav worked very independently, and I also highly value his ability to cooperate internationally, exemplified by the paper written with colleagues from Bavarian forest.

The first three papers are based on thorough multivariate analyses of data on composition of wood-decaying fungi, the other two are focused on the natural regeneration of mountain forests.

In my view, the candidate demonstrated his ability to collect interesting data, analyze them using modern statistical techniques, draw reasonable conclusions, and finally, write papers and publish the results in respected journal. In my view, the thesis is a good basis for awarding the PhD to the candidate, and consequently, I recommend the thesis.

In České Budějovice 20.12.2011

Jan Lepš, supervisor