

Remarks of Advisor on the MSc thesis submitted by Vít Pejcha:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of diploma thesis submitted by Vít Pejcha who was our MSc student in years 2012-2014. In 2009 we launched a new project in South Korea and were seeking for motivated student interested in forest ecology and tree-ring science as well as ability to conduct research under harsh environment of humid mountains affected by summer monsoons. Vitek fulfilled these demands and became a key member in our team, taking part in two field expeditions to South Korea in 2010 and 2011. His BSc thesis dealt with the analysis of interactions between trees in mixed oak forests in NP Jirisan (South Korea) using spatial structure and tree ring analysis. After finishing his BSc program he enrolled for a MSc at the Department of Ecosystem Biology in České Budejovice and his research turned to dendroclimatology and disturbance ecology using tree-rings. His diploma thesis focused on unique vegetation gradient of Halla Volcano, Jeju Island, where subtropical semi-evergreen forests meet with temperate broadleaved deciduous woods, subalpine mountain-temperate conifer forests, and finally arcto-alpine vegetation around summit. Jeju Island is located 80 km south of the mainland and has experienced accelerated warming during past century. This could have tremendous consequences for tree growth and biomass production, range shift, and ecosystem functioning. Vitek focused on growth responses to climate variation in Quercus, Abies and Taxus at different elevations and brings novel insights into interspecific and intraspecific variations in tree growth-climate relationships.

Vitek Pejcha has submitted a comprehensive MSc thesis attempting to synthesize different ~~different~~ growth responses to warming, elevation, and interspecific differences. The thesis consists of General Introduction, Review of tree-ring science disciplines, Aims of the thesis, Data analysis, results and discussion. The core of the thesis is formed by results of his own research which he plans to publish soon in international journal. Taken together, Vít Pejcha demonstrated his ability to carry out an independent research, to analyze the data, to draw conclusion from the data, and finally, to finish the work by writing a standard thesis. I have no doubts about the sufficiency of this thesis for obtaining the Mgr. degree.



Jiří Doležal and Jan Altman
Advisors

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