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Supervisor's evaluation of Ph.D. thesis of Petra Světlíková

I am glad to see the Ph.D. thesis of Petra Světlíková completed. During the five years of her studies, Petra did a great piece of research, which significantly contributes to ecophysiology of hemiparasitic plants. The thesis is based on four research papers (three published and one under revision), all which Petra authored as the lead author. These papers deal with various aspects of the effects of abiotic conditions on ecophysiology of root hemiparasites, in the context of their parasitic life strategy. While pioneering works on this topic were published already in 1980s and 1990s, its development rather stagnated in recent years despite a number of appealing questions. Therefore, I am happy, that Petra chose this topic not only to work on it but also to revive a bit the interest of the scientific community.

In addition to the four research papers, the thesis contains a comprehensive introduction to the topic. This is presented in the form of a systematic review of her topic. It is a nicely written text demonstrating Petra's ability to work with literature, critically evaluate sources of information and summarize them in a clear, accessible language. I am sure that the introduction itself will be published as a stand-alone review paper, which will attract interest of broad audience in the botanical scientific community.

In summary, I am absolutely happy about the quality of the Ph.D. thesis of Petra Světlíková and recommend it for defense.

Jakub Těšitel

