



Mountain tundra vegetation in the axial part of the Polar Urals

Michael Yu. Telyatnikov^{1*}, Olga V. Khitun², Ekaterina V. Kudr³,
Olga Yu. Pisarenko¹, Sergei A. Pristyazhnyuk¹ & Ksenia A. Ermokhina⁴

Michael Yu. Telyatnikov^{1*}
e-mail: arct-alp@mail.ru

Olga V. Khitun²
e-mail: khitun-olga@yandex.ru

Ekaterina V. Kudr³
e-mail: katja-kudr@mail.ru

Olga Yu. Pisarenko¹
e-mail: o_pisarenko@mail.ru

Sergei A. Pristyazhnyuk¹
e-mail: zastavkin@mail.ru

Ksenia A. Ermokhina⁴
e-mail: diankina@gmail.com

¹ Central Siberian Botanical Garden
SB RAS, Novosibirsk, Russia

² V.L. Komarov Botanical Institute RAS,
St. Petersburg, Russia

³ M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State
University, Department of Ecology and
Plant Geography, Moscow, Russia

⁴ A.N. Severtsov Institute of Ecology and
Evolution RAS, Moscow, Russia

* corresponding author

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ABSTRACT

The syntaxonomic diversity of mountain tundra vegetation within the axial part of the Polar Urals is described. We distinguished 5 associations and 3 subassociations assigned to 3 classes of phytosociological classification. 4 associations and 3 subassociations are described for the first time: *Pediculari lapponicae–Betuletum nanae* **ass. nov.**, *Dactylino arcticae–Empetretum subholarctici* **ass. nov.** and *Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi solorinetosum croceae* **subass. nov.** we assigned to the class *Loiseleurio procumbentis–Vaccinietea* Egger ex Schubert 1960; *Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae* **ass. nov.** – to the class *Carici arctisibiricae–Hylocomietea* alaskani Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023, *Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae* **ass. nov.** with 2 subassociations – *typicum* **subass. nov.** and *salicetosum arcticae* **subass. nov.** – to the class *Carici rupestris–Kobresietea bellardii* Ohba 1974. Specificity of altitudinal and latitudinal distribution of different syntaxa in Polar Urals is shown. Communities of the mountain tundra in the southern part of the Polar Urals are analogous to the zonal communities of the southern tundra, those in the middle part of Polar Urals are similar to such in the southern stripe of the typical tundra, and those in the northern part are analogous to the northern stripe of the typical tundra subzone.

Keywords: syntaxonomy, Polar Urals, mountain tundra, alpine and subalpine belts

РЕЗЮМЕ

Телятников М.Ю., Хитун О.В., Кудр Е.В., Писаренко О.Ю., Пристяжнюк С.А., Ермохина К.А. Растительность горных тундр осевой части Полярного Урала. Проведены исследования по выявлению разнообразия тундровой растительности осевой части Полярного Урала. Разнообразие горных тундр представлено 5 ассоциациями и 3 субассоциациями относящимися к 3 классам эколого-флористической классификации. 4 ассоциации и 3 субассоциации описаны впервые. Из них к классу *Loiseleurio procumbentis–Vaccinietea* Egger ex Schubert 1960 отнесены 2 ассоциации (*Pediculari lapponicae–Betuletum nanae* **ass. nov.**, *Dactylino arcticae–Empetretum subholarctici* **ass. nov.**) и 1 субассоциация (*Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi solorinetosum croceae* **subass. nov.**), к классу *Carici arctisibiricae–Hylocomietea* alaskani Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023 – асс. *Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae* **ass. nov.**, к классу *Carici rupestris–Kobresietea bellardii* Ohba 1974 – асс. *Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae* **ass. nov.** с 2 субассоциациями: *typicum* **subass. nov.** и *salicetosum arcticae* **subass. nov.** Выявлены высотно-поясные и широтно-зональные особенности распространения синтаксонов на Полярном Урале. Показано, что сообщества горных тундр южной части Полярного Урала аналогичны зональным сообществам подзоны южных тундр, тундры средней части Полярного Урала подобны плакорным сообществам южной части подзоны типичных тундр, а тундры северной части аналогичны ценозам северной части типичных тундр.

Ключевые слова: синтаксономия, Полярный Урал, горные тундры, гольцовый и подгольцовый пояса

Although the beginning of botanical studies in the Polar Urals dates back to the expeditions of A.G. Shrenk (1856) and R.R. Pole (1915), and various floristic and geobotanical studies were carried out later, phytocociological classification in this region is at initial stage and we are still at the level of accumulating data. In the first half of the 20th century B.N. Gorodkov (1926, 1929, 1935) conducted extended surveys of mountain tundra vegetation in the Polar Urals in the basins of the rivers Sob', Voikara, Syn' and Lyapina. He distinguished the main types of mountain vegetation, their spatial distribution and proportions. K.N. Igoshina (1935, 1964, 1966) studied flora and vegetation in the upper reaches of the rivers Sob', Longot'yugan and Shchuch'ya, she also

showed the specific of flora and vegetation of the Rai-Iz ultramafic massif. Later, P.L. Gorchakovskii (1966, 1975) studied the mountain tundra vegetation throughout the Urals including the Polar Urals. He showed the positions of the Urals vegetation in the systems of latitudinal and altitudinal zonation differentiation, he also developed the dynamic classification of the mountain tundra types. Studies of the altitudinal differentiation of the Polar Urals vegetation were continued in 2000s (Magomedova 2002, Ektova 2004, Kholod 2006, 2007), as were studies of the influence of the chemical composition of the bedrock on the vegetation (Magomedova 2003, Yurtsev et al. 2004, Drozdova 2005; Kholod 2006).

However, there are only a few syntaxonomical publications devoted to relatively small areas. In particular, classification of subalpine meadows (class *Mulgedio-Aconitetea* Hadač et Klika in Klika et Hadač 1944) was performed in the lower reaches of the Khalatalbei River at the foothills of the Polar Urals (Telyatnikov 2010), in the surroundings of Lake Yun-To (Telyatnikov & Pristiyazhnyuk 2012) and in the axial part of the Polar Urals in the middle reaches of the Paipudyna River (Sekretareva 2011). Classification of mires (class *Scheuchzerio-Caricetea fuscae* Tx. 1937) was carried out on the eastern macro-slope of the Polar Urals in the surroundings of Yanganape mountain massif (Lapshina et al. 2021). Syntaxonomy of the alpine belt was studied in the upper reaches of Enga-Yu River in the ultramafic mountain massif Rai-Iz (Telyatnikov et al. 2022). No previous vegetation studies had been carried out in the localities described in this paper.

The objective of this study is to describe and classify mountain tundra vegetation of the axial part of the Polar Urals in accordance with Braun-Blanquet methodology.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Study area

Location, geology and topography. The field work was carried out during July – August 2018 in 3 localities in southern, middle and northern parts of the Polar Urals, stretching throughout the area of approximately 155 km in the meridional direction (Fig. 1).

First locality represents the area of the confluence of the Bolshoi (Big) Khanmei and Pravyi (Right) Khanmeishor Rivers, hereafter referred to as “Khanmeishor”. In the east, this locality includes a mountain ridge Khanmeikhoi with the highest summit mount Khanmei (1333 m), in the south it borders the Rai-Iz mountain massif with the mount Rai-Iz (1069 m), in the west – Bolshoi Paipudynskii Ridge with the maximal altitudes 840–945 m. Altitudinal range within the studied area is 220–790 m. Metamorphic rocks such as amphibolites and different sorts of gneisses predominate

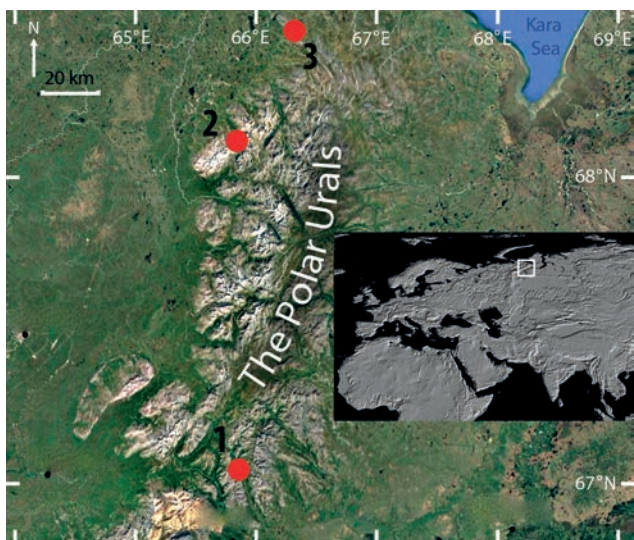


Figure 1 Study area and field localities: 1 – confluence of the Bolshoi Khanmei and Pravyi Khanmeishor; 2 – Lake Ochety; 3 – Lake Manyasei

at this site along with magmatic rocks, such as diorites and quartz diorites (State geological..., online resource: <https://www.geolkarta.ru>).

Second locality represents the surroundings of Lake Ochety, hereafter referred to as “Ochety”, which is situated in the north-west part of the Polar Urals near the Ochenyrd Ridge. The lake Ochety occupies a tectonic depression and is oriented from south-east to north-west. The Ochetyvis River flows from this lake into the Kara River tributary. The altitudinal range is 270–1166 m. Basic and acidic effusive rocks, tuffs and green schists predominate. Quartzite sandstones, shales, conglomerates are less prevalent (State geological..., online resource: <https://www.geolkarta.ru>).

Third locality represents the surroundings of Lake Manyasei, hereafter referred to as “Manyasei”, which is the northernmost of the studied localities, situated within the Manyasei Ridge in the northern part of the Polar Urals. The lake divides the ridge into 2 parts, with the mounts Malyi (Little) Manyasei (at elevation of 525 m a.s.l) and Bolshoi (Big) Manyasei (at elevation of 643 m a.s.l) on the north-western and south-east sides of the lake respectively. Quartzite sandstones, conglomerates, schists are predominating rocks, basic and acidic effusive rocks and tuffs are less widespread there (State geological..., online resource: <https://www.geolkarta.ru>).

In spite of diversity of specific rock types in the studied localities, each of them contained all 3 types in relation to acidity: acidic (quartzite sandstones, gneisses, acidic effusive rocks), intermediate (quartz diorite) and basic (amphibolites, basic effusive rocks) This geological peculiarity causes both similarity and diversity in the vegetation of the studied areas.

In 2018, we surveyed also a site located on the ultramafic massif Rai-Iz; but this data is already published (Telyatnikov et al. 2022), and therefore not included in this paper.

Climate. According to climatic regionalization (Alisov 1957, Khabarov et al. 2008), the area belongs to the subarctic climatic belt and to the moderately cold and moist Atlantic Region. The winters are long and frosty, characterized by heavy snowfalls and strong bizzards. According to records from the nearest weather station in the Rai-Iz massif, the coldest month is January with mean temperature -19°C , and the warmest is July with mean temperature $+8.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ (Pilnikova 1989). The specific of winter temperature regime is that under anti-cyclonal conditions, temperature inversion occur high in the mountains. Meridional orientation of the Polar Urals influences the circulation and stops air masses from the west. Therefore, precipitation on the western macroslope is over 1200 mm per year, whereas on the eastern macroslope it is only 500–800 mm. Spring comes 2 weeks later and summer is cooler and rainier on the western macroslope than on the eastern (Rakovskaya & Davydova 2001).

Vegetation. Gorchakovskii (1975) distinguished 3 altitudinal vegetation belts (subalpine, alpine and nival, or cold mountain deserts) in the southern and middle parts of the Polar Urals. However, we follow Kholod (2006, 2007), who included cold deserts in alpine belt as an upper sub-belt and therefore distinguished only 2 belts.

The general characteristics of vegetation of all altitudinal belts was given in Telyatnikov et al. (2022), it is described in

detail in Morozova et al. (2006). Here we only reiterate the altitudinal ranges of all belts and their dominant vegetation types:

Subalpine belt: lower part (100–200 m, forest tundra with *Betula pubescens*, *Picea obovata*, *Alnus fruticosa* and *Betula nana*); upper part (200–350 m, alder and dwarf birch thickets); however, this zonation does not apply to the northernmost site – Manyasei, which is located in the southern tundra subzone or subzone E (CAVM team 2003) and therefore woodland vegetation typical for the lower part is absent there and replaced by characteristic for the upper part dwarf birch dominated tundra, similar to that found on the adjacent plains.

Alpine belt: lower subbelt (350–500 m, dwarf shrub communities); middle subbelt (500–1100 m, herbaceous-cryptogam communities), upper subbelt (above 1100 m, sparse isolated herbs, absence of developed communities). In Manyasei the border between subalpine and alpine belts is located at altitudes 200–250 m and borders between other altitudinal subbelts are located 100–150 m lower than in central and southern parts of the Polar Urals.

Sampling and data analysis

The syntaxonomic analysis is based on 69 relevés established within mountain tundra, the vegetation of meadows and mires we do not include in this paper. Plots size varied from 30 to 100 m², we identified all species and estimated total vegetation cover (%), cover (%) of the major growth forms, cover-abundance scores of all species according to Braun-Blanquet scale (Mirkin & Naumova 1998): 1 – < 1 %; 2 – 1–5 %; 3 – 6–10 %; 4 – 11–25 %; 5 – 26–50 %; 6 – 51–75 %; 7 – 76–100 %. Soil texture was determined according to Bogolubov et al. (2001). The coordinates and altitude of plots were taken with Garmin eTrex10.

We classified the vegetation according to Braun-Blanquet sorted-table method (Westhoff & van der Maarel 1973). The computer database of relevés is created in the TURBOVEG software (Hennekens & Schamenée 2001), a sorted table was derived in the MegaTab program. A dichotomous hierarchy of groups of relevés was obtained in TWINSPAN program (Hill 1979) and transformed by M.Yu. Telyatnikov into a hierarchy of syntaxa. At this stage we identified the diagnostic (character) species, differential and constant species and discard intermediate (between syntaxa) relevés. Species constancy in the tables was determined as follows: I – 1–20 %; II – 20–40 %; III – 40–60 %; IV – 60–80 %; V – 80–100 %.

We named the new syntaxa according to the International Code of Phytosociological Nomenclature (Theurillat et al. 2021). Diagnostic species (D. sp.) of the classes *Loiseleurio procumbentis*–*Vaccinietaea* Eggler ex Schubert 1960 and *Carici rupestris*–*Kobresietea* bellardii Ohba 1974 are given in accordance with Mucina et al. (2016) and Ermakov (2012) if other is not specified. Combination of differential species of the class *Carici arctisibiricae*–*Hylocomietaea* alaskani Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023 are given after Matveeva & Lavrinenko (2023).

The nomenclature of species followed Sekretareva (2004) for vascular plants, Ignatov et al. (2006) for mosses and Esslinger (2016) for lichens.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

After analysis of the diagnostic table we distinguished 5 associations and 3 subassociations. Two new associations and a new subassociation of an association earlier described, representing communities of dwarf shrub–moss–lichen tundra were assigned to the class *Loiseleurio procumbentis*–*Vaccinietaea* Eggler ex Schubert 1960, because in these communities with greater or lesser constancy, diagnostic species of this class were present (Table 1). The class *Loiseleurio procumbentis*–*Vaccinietaea* comprises dwarf shrub dominated communities in tundra and alpine areas in Eurasia and North America (Ermakov 2012, Mucina et al. 2016). Further, we assigned the new associations to the order *Deschampsio flexuosae*–*Vaccinietaea* myrtilli Dahl 1957, alliance *Loiseleurio*–*Arctostaphyilion* Kalliola ex Nordhagen 1943. The order *Deschampsio flexuosae*–*Vaccinietaea* myrtilli includes shrub and dwarf shrub communities on acidic soils in the tundra zone, in the mountains of Scandinavia, Northern Europe and America, arctic archipelagoes (Mucina et al. 2016). Diagnostic species: *Betula nana*, *Hylocomium splendens*, *Pleurozium schreberi*. The alliance *Loiseleurio*–*Arctostaphyilion* is represented by tundra communities dominated by hypoarctic shrubs and dwarf shrubs in habitats with shallow snow cover in Scandinavia, Iceland, Greenland, Svalbard and the north of Russia (Mucina et al. 2016). Diagnostic species: *Alectoria ochroleuca*, *Flavocetraria nivalis*, *Arctous alpina*.

We distinguished a new subassociation in the association *Bryocaulo divergentis*–*Vaccinietum uliginosi* Telyatnikov 2010 (Telyatnikov 2010b) (Table 1, Rel. 1–10). It is dwarf shrub (*Vaccinium uliginosum* subsp. *microphyllum*, *V. minus*), lichen (*Alectoria ochroleuca*, *Flavocetraria nivalis*, *Bryocaulon divergens*) tundra. This association was described in the southern tundra subzone in the western part of the North-Siberian Plain (in the vicinity of Lake Pyasino). Diagnostic species are: *Sphaerophorus globosus*, *Hierochloë alpina*, *Bryocaulon divergens*, *Polytrichum piliferum*, *Tofieldia coccinea*, *Arctous alpina*. Such communities occupy more or less convex, well-drained hummocky slopes with an inclination of 5–10°, predominantly of northern aspect, with shallow snow cover. Dwarf shrubs and lichens dominate, while mosses and herbs are not abundant.

***Bryocaulo divergentis*–*Vaccinietum uliginosi* Telyatnikov 2010 *solorinetosum* *croceae* subass. nov.** (Table 1, Rel. 1–10, Table 3, Fig. 2A, B). Dwarf shrub (*Vaccinium uliginosum* subsp. *microphyllum*, *Salix nummularia*)–lichen (*Sphaerophorus globosus*, *Bryocaulon divergens*) tundra on gravelly-stony substrata.

Differential species: *Solorina crocea*, *Ochrolechia frigida*, *Parmelia omphalodes*.

Holotypus: relevé 1 (95). Nenets Autonomous Area, Priural'skii district, River Khanmeishor. Coordinates: 67°03'59.8"N 65°50'25.0"E. Altitude 253 m. Gravelly-stony lichen-dwarf shrub tundra. Flat blocky top of the moraine with sorted pattern-ground features, large sorted polygons are 3–5 m in diameter and approximately 0.5–0.7 m high. Gravel, stones and blocks cover 50–70% of the surface. Soil is skeletal, poorly developed, on sandy grounds with gravel and blocks. Date: 18.07.2018. Author: Telyatnikov M.Yu.

Distribution. Polar Urals: Khanmeishor, Ochety, Manyasei, in alpine belt and in upper sub-belt of subalpine belt.

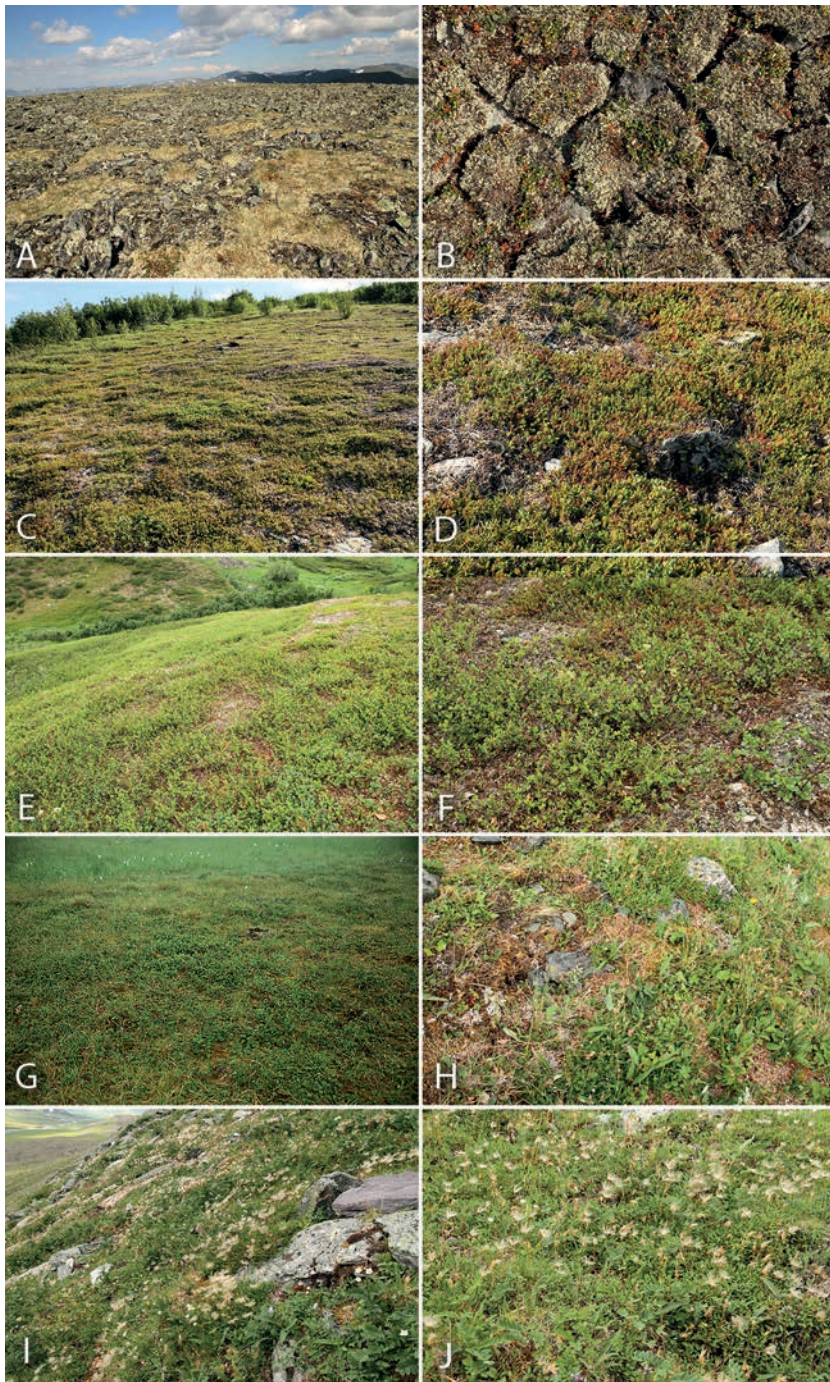


Figure 2 Images of plant communities: A – *Bryocaulo divergentis*–*Vaccinietum uliginosi solorinetosum croceae* **subass. nov.** – lichen tundra in the middle subbelt of the alpine belt on the flattened part of the mountain ridge, locality: “Khanmeishor”; B – close-up of the previous community in the upper part of the subalpine belt, locality: “Khanmeishor”; C – *Dactylino arcticae*–*Empetretum subholarctici* **ass. nov.** Lichen-crowberry tundra in the upper part of the subalpine belt. Lower part of the steep SW facing mountain slope. Locality: “Khanmeishor”; D – close-up of the previous community; E – *Pediculari lapponicae*–*Betuletum nanae* **ass. nov.** – dwarf birch – dwarf shrub – moss tundra in the upper part of the subalpine belt; lower part of the SW facing mountain slope; locality: “Khanmeishor”; F – close-up of the previous community; G – *Dicrano laevidentis*–*Bistortetum viviparae* **ass. nov.** – herbs – dwarf birch – moss tundra in the upper part of the subalpine belt on the flattened part of the moraine terrace (photo by E.V. Kudr) Locality: “Manyasei”; H – *Rhytidio rugosi*–*Dryadetum octopetalae typicum* **subass. nov.** – *Dryas*-dominated tundra in the upper part of the subalpine belt and lower alpine subbelt; upper part of the steep mountain slope; locality: “Ocheti”; I – *Rhytidio rugosi*–*Dryadetum octopetalae salicetosum arcticae* **subass. nov.** – *Dryas*-dominated-moss tundra in the upper part of the subalpine belt and lower part of the alpine belt; on south-west facing steep slope of the moraine; locality: “Ocheti”; J – close-up of the previous community. All photos, except G, by M.Yu. Telyatnikov

Habitat. These communities occur on convex horizontal parts of mountain and moraine terraces and their gentle (5°) or steep (15–20°) predominantly southern slopes within the altitude range from 180 to 800 m. Nanotopography is represented by sorted pattern-ground features; large sorted polygons are 2–10 m in diameter and approximately 0.5–1 m high. The margins of sorted polygons are very blocky and often remain barren. Gravel and blocks cover 30–70 % of the surface. Skeletal soil on sandy ground with gravel and blocks.

Structure and composition. Only one vegetation layer is expressed and represented by patches of lichens (ca. 35 %) with admixture of bryophytes (1–60 %) and dwarf shrubs (5–15 %). *Bryocaulon divergens*, *Sphaerophorus globosus*, *Flavocetraria cucullata*, *F. nivalis* are dominant lichens, *Racomitrium lanuginosum* dominates among mosses and the most abundant dwarf shrubs are *Salix nummularia*, *Vaccinium uliginosum* subsp. *microphyllum* and *V. vitis-idaea* subsp. *minus*. Herbs (*Hieracloë alpina*, *Luzula confusa*) are not abundant, 5–20 %. Total number of taxa in this association is 99, the most numerous are lichens (49), and almost equal numbers of bryophytes (23) and vascular plants (27), however, the majority of species has low constancy, only 24 species have a constancy of III and higher. Species richness of sampled plots vary from 20 to 43 species, with an average of 34 species.

Dactylino arcticae–Empetretum subholarctici **ass. nov.** (Table 1, rel. 11–23, Fig. 2C, D). Lichen (*Cladonia uncialis*, *Thamnomia vermicularis*, *Flavocetraria cucullata*)–dwarf shrub (*Empetrum subholarcticum*, *Arctous alpina*, *Ledum decumbens*, *Vaccinium uliginosum* subsp. *microphyllum*) tundra

Differential species: *Empetrum subholarcticum*, *Ledum decumbens*, *Arctous alpina*, *Dactylina arctica*.

Holotypus: relevé 11 (76). Nenets Autonomous Area, Priuralsky district, Khanmeishor River. Coordinates: 67°04'14.0"N 65°50'59.6"E. Altitude 290 m. Dwarf shrub tundra on gravelly grounds. A flattened moraine ridge. Inclination 5°, aspect 180°. Micro- and nanotopography is not pronounced. Soil: podbur with an upper peat layer of 1 cm on sandy-gravelly grounds. Date 14.07.2018. Author: Telyatnikov M.Yu.

Distribution. Polar Urals, upper reaches of the Khanmei River.

Habitat. The communities occur in the upper part of the subalpine belt and lower sub-belt of the alpine belts. They occupy convex parts of the moraine ridges and mountain terraces, as well as their gentle (2–10°) and steep (25–30°) slopes mainly with southern and western aspects. Altitude range is 230–480 m. The nanotopography is sorted circles, 20–50 cm in diameter and 5–20 cm high, with blocks and gravel in marginal parts. Thin, peaty and peat-humus soils, 1–10 cm in depth, underlain by sandy-gravelly grounds.

Table 1. Associations Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi (A), Dactylino arcticae–Empetretum subholarctici (B), Pediculari lapponicae–Betuletum nanae (C).

Association	A										B										C										A	B	C			
Locality	Kh	Kh	Kh	O	O	M	M	M	O	M	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	Kh	O	Kh						
Total cover (%)	40	50	100	50	50	100	20	30	70	20	70	90	95	95	95	100	70	30	70	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	95						
Shrubs	10	5	10	–	1	100	–	–	–	–	5	75	15	45	45	12	95	65	25	100	70	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	65						
Dwarf shrubs	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–						
Semi dwarf shrubs	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–							
Lichens	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–							
Mosses+ Liverworts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–							
Herbs	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–							
Height of shrubs (cm)	20	20	–	–	–	10	15	10	10	–	10	15	15	20	22	15	40	70	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	20						
Aspect (°)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–							
Inclination(°)	0	15	0	135	0	0	0	0	0	0	180	180	180	270	15	15	40	70	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10							
Altitude (m)	253	510	800	330	330	345	180	180	180	260	290	250	310	480	330	330	290	290	290	320	290	340	255	390	280	240	220	310	340	340						
Number of species	31	36	34	34	34	45	15	15	15	42	18	25	31	46	33	33	30	29	32	32	29	37	22	25	28	24	22	18	29	31	34					
Relevé nr. in the data base	95*	113	137	157	164	180	190	196	196	1033	1148	94	100	108	109	111	901	905	916	934	952	985	134	80	81	105	114*	119	162	165	948					
Relevé nr. in the table	1*	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11*	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27*	28	29	30	31					
Number of relevés																												10	13	8						
Differential species of the association Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi Telyatnikov 2010																																				
<i>Sphaerophorus globosus</i> L-V	2	2	2	3	1	1	3	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	V 2	V 2	I 1			
<i>Hierocloë alpina</i> L-V	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	2	1	1	1	2	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	V 2	IV 2	II 2			
<i>Bryocaulon divergens</i>	2	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	V 2	I 1	1				
Differential species of the subassociation solorinetosum croceae																																				
<i>Solorina crocea</i> Sh	1	3	1	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	IV 2	II 1	1				
<i>Ochrolechia frigida</i> L-V	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	IV 2	I 1	1				
<i>Parmelia omphalodes</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	IV 1	1	1				
Combination of differential species of the association Dactylino arcticae–Empetretum subholarctici																																				
<i>Empetrum subholarcticum</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	3	2	2	3	2	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	I 1	V 2	II 2				
<i>Ledum decumbens</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	3	4	1	6	1	3	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	II 1	V 2	I 1				
<i>Arctostaphylos alpina</i> L-V, L-A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	3	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	II 1	V 2	I 1				
<i>Dactylina arctica</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	I 1	V 1	II 1				
Differential species of the association Pediculari lapponicae–Betuletum nanae																																				
<i>Pedicularis lapponica</i> L-V	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	V 1	I 1				
<i>Salix lanata</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	I 1	IV 2	1				
Diagnostic species of the order Deschampsio flexuosae–Vaccinietalia myrtilli (Df-Vm)																																				
<i>Betula nana</i> L-V	1	4	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	3	1	2	3	3	1	3	3	2	5	2	3	2	1	3	2	5	III 2	V 3	V 3		
<i>Hylacomium splendens</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	I 1	I 1	V 2		
<i>Pleurozium schreberi</i> Df-Vm	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	3	1	2	3	2	1	3	4	I 1	IV 2	V 3
Diagnostic species of the class Loiseleurio procumbentis–Vaccinietea (L-V)																																				
<i>Alectoria ochroleuca</i> L-A	2	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
<i>Anulacomnium turgidum</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
<i>Cladonia bellidiflora</i>	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
<i>Cladonia stellaris</i>	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
<i>Empetrum hermaphroditum</i>	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
<i>Flavocetraria cucullata</i>	2	1	2	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	IV 2	V 1	IV 2	
<i>Flavocetraria nivalis</i> L-A	2	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
<i>Phyllocladus coarctata</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
<i>Thamnochloa vermicularis</i>	2	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	V 2	V 2	II 2
<i>Vacc. uligin. subsp. microphyllum</i>	2	1	1	1	3	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	3	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	3	1	2	1	2	5	1	1	1	1	V 2	V 2	V 3	
<i>Vaccinium vit.-id. subsp. minus</i>	2	3	3	4	1	1	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	1	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	IV 3	IV 2	II 2		
<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Stereocaulon paschale</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Diphasiastrum alpinum</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Hyperzia arctica</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Lycopodium annotinum</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Silene paucifolia</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Cladonia carneola</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Tetralopozia setiformis</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Other species																																				
<i>Alectoria nigricans</i>	1	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
<i>Arctoparmelia separata</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Asabineia chrysantha</i>	2	2	1	2	2																															

Table 1. Continued.

Poa alpigena 30(1); *Rhodiola quadrifida* 4(1), 7(1); *Rubus chamaemorus* 23(5); *Salix hastata* 31(1); *S. polaris* 3(2); *Saxifraga hieracifolia* 28(1); *Tephrosiis* sp. 28(1); *Trientalis europaea* 24(1), 31(1); *Vaccinium myrtillus* 24(2); *Valeriana capitata* 19(1). **Lichens:** *Arctoparmelia centrifuge* 20(1); *Caloplaca ruesaenii* 18(1); *Cetraria aculeata* 1(1); *C. ericetorum* 2(1), 14(1); *C. laevigata* 16(1); *C. muricata* 1(1); *C. odontella* 5(1); *C. cornuta* 23(1); *C. pleurota* 9(1); *Cladonia pyxidata* 2(1), 4(1); *C. sp.* 8(2), 28(1); *Dactylina ramulosa* 10(1); *Hypogymnia physodes* 4(3); *Lopadium pezizoideum* 14(1); *Melanelia stygia* 1(1); *Ochrolechia androgyna* 3(1); *Peltigera canina* 30(2); *Pertusaria coriacea* 2(1); *Pertusaria dactylina* 14(1), 8(1); *P. oculata* 9(1); *P. panyrga* 2(1); *P. sp.* 9(1); *Pseudephebe pubescens* 4(1); *Stereocaulon glareosum* 9(1); *Vulpicidia tilesii* 5(1). **Mosses:** *Ceratodon purpureus* 17(1), 20(1); *Conostomum tetragonum* 4(1); *Gymnomitrium* sp. 1(1), 5(5); *Lophozia* sp. 3(2), 13(3); *Pogonatum dentatum* 4(3).

Relevés by M.Yu. Telyatnikov. Location: Priuralsky district, upper reaches of Bolshoi Khanmei and Pravui Khanmeishor (Kh): **1** – 67°03'59.8"N 65°50'25.0"E, 18.07.2018; **2** – 67°04'10.8" 65°51'54.2", 20.07.2018; **3** – 67°05'03.8" 65°53'04.1", 23.07.2018; **11** – 67°04'14.0" 65°50'59.6", 14.07.2018; **12** – 67°04'01.7" 65°50'28.8", 18.07.2018; **13** – 67°04'21.3" 65°51'08.8", 18.07.2018; **14** – 67°04'53.8" 65°52'01.7", 18.07.2018; **15** – 67°04'07.3" 65°51'019.4", 20.07.2018; **16** – 67°04'08.8" 65°51'32.0", 20.07.2018; **23** – 67°01'56.2" 65°54'21.7", 22.07.2018; **24** – 67°04'17.7" 65°51'16.8", 17.07.2018; **25** – 67°04'19.2" 65°51'19.9", 17.07.2018; **26** – 67°04'57.0" 65°51'49.4", 18.07.2018; **27** – 67°04'08.2" 65°51'59.9", 20.07.2018; **28** – 67°04'51.9" 65°51'55.2", 21.07.2018. Priuralsky district. Surroundings of Ochety lake (O): **4** – 68°04'33.9" 65°51'20.5", 02.08.2018; **5** – 68°04'19.7" 65°51'43.1", 02.08.2018; **29** – 68°04'25.2" 65°51'37.4", 02.08.2018; **30** – 68°04'19.7" 65°51'53.1", 02.08.2018. Priuralsky district. Surroundings of Manyasei Lake (M): **6** – 68°04'47.3" 65°53'34.0", 05.08.2018; **7** – 68°26'56.9" 66°19'20.9", 08.08.2018; **8** – 68°26'55.0" 66°18'55.1", 09.08.2018.

Relevés by E.V. Kudr. Location: Priuralsky district, upper reaches of Bolshoi Khanmei and Pravui Khanmeishor (Kh): **17** – 67°04'12.8"N 65°50'54.0"E, 16.07.2018; **18** – 67°04'16.9" 65°51'12.8", 16.07.2018; **19** – 67°04'12.9" 65°51'37.9", 17.07.2018; **20** – 67°04'00.6" 65°50'28.7", 18.07.2018; **21** – 67°04'57.7" 65°51'44.4", 19.07.2018; **22** – 67°01'56.6" 65°54'37.6", 22.07.2018; **31** – 67°04'42.4" 65°51'25.5", 19.07.2018. Priuralsky district. Surroundings of Ochety lake (O): **9** – 68°04'34.3" 65°51'18.4", 02.08.2018. Priuralsky district. Surroundings of Manyasei Lake (M): **10** – 68°27'02.8" 66°21'47.2", 12.08.2018.

* – holotypus. **Abbreviations:** L-A – alliance Loiseleurio-Arctostaphylon.

Structure and composition. Only one layer of vegetation is expressed, dwarf shrubs dominate (mean cover 55 %), lichens (10–40 %) and mosses (5–20 %, rarely up to 90 %) co-dominate. The height of the vegetation is 5–7 cm, total cover is 70–100 %. Plants distribution throughout the community is even. *Empetrum subholarcticum*, *Ledum decumbens*, *Vaccinium uliginosum* subsp. *microphyllum* dominate among dwarf shrubs, *Cladonia uncialis*, *C. arbuscula*, *Dactylina arctica*, *Flavocetraria cucullata* are dominating lichens, *Pleurozium schreberi* is a dominant moss. Herbs and shrubs are few and sparse. Totally 84 taxa were recorded in this association, lichens and vascular plant were represented by 36 species each and mosses were less numerous (12 species). 27 species have constancy III and higher. The richness in relevés was 18–46 species, on average 28 species.

Note. There is some similarity of our association with *Empetro hermaphroditum*–*Salicetum nummulariae* Bogdanovskaya–Giyenef ex Lavrinenko et Lavrinenko 2020 (Lavrinenko & Lavrinenko 2020). However, from 4 differential species of our association only *Arctous alpina* is common for both. Similarly, only one diagnostic species of *Empetro hermaphroditum*–*Salicetum nummulariae* (*Salix nummularia*) is present in our association. The differences are more noticeable. Thus, several lichens (*Alectoria ochroleuca*, *Asachinea chrysntha*, *Cladonia amaurocraea*, *C. rangiferina*, *C. uncialis*, *Nephroma arcticum*, *Peltigera aphthosa*, *P. scabrosa*, *Dactylina arctica*) and bryophytes (*Rhytidium rugosum*, *Pleurozium schreberi*, *Ptilidium ciliare*) have high constancy only in our association. Whereas, other species of lichens (*Alectoria nigricans*, *Bryocaulon divergens*, *Cetraria aculeata*, *Cetrariella delisei*, *Stereocaulon alpinum*) and herbs (*Festuca rubra* subsp. *arctica*, *Tanacetum bipinnatum*) have high constancy in the *Empetro hermaphroditum*–*Salicetum nummulariae*.

Pediculari lapponicae–Betuletum nanae ass. nov. (Tabl. 1, rel. 24–31, Fig. 2E, F). Dwarf shrub (*Vaccinium uliginosum* subsp. *microphyllum*)–dwarf birch (*Betula nana*)–lichen (*Cladonia arbuscula*, *Flavocetraria cucullata*, *Nephroma arcticum*, *Peltigera aphthosa*, *P. scabrosa*)–moss (*Hylocomium splendens*, *Pleurozium schreberi*) tundra.

Differential species: *Pedicularis lapponica*, *Salix lanata*.

Holotypus: Relevé 27(114). Nenets Autonomous Area, Priuralskiy district, the Khanmeishor River. Coordinates: 67°04'08.2"N 65°51'59.9"E. Altitude is 520 m. Dwarf shrub – dwarf birch – moss tundra. The upper part of the slope of the mountain terrace, inclination 5°, aspect 180°. The nanotopography is represented by hummocks 20–60 cm in diameter and 7–30 cm high. Soil: lithozem with 5 cm thick upper peat layer. Date: 20.07.2018. Author Telyatnikov M.Yu.

Distribution. Polar Urals, Khanmeishor and Ochety.

Habitat. The community occurs within the upper sub-belt of the subalpine belt and the lower sub-belt of the alpine belt, at altitudes from 300 to 520 m. The stands occupy the lower parts of the south-western mountain slopes with an inclination of 15–30°, as well as the flattened or gently sloping (2–5°) tops of moraine terraces. The nanotopography is cryogenic hummocks. Soils: primitive shallow lithozems with a peaty-humus layer 2–7 cm thick on sandy loam stony grounds.

Structure. Two vertical layers can be distinguished in this stands. The field layer is 10–60 cm high, formed by shrubs (20–60 %) and to a lesser extent by herbs (5–20 %). Shrubs are concentrated in the hollows between hummocks. The ground layer is 7–10 cm high, closed, composed mainly of bryophytes (40–90 %) with an admixture of lichens (1–35 %) and dwarf shrubs (2–40 %). In this association we registered 98, including 53 vascular plant species, 31 taxon of lichens and 14 of mosses. The richness of relevé plots was from 18 to 44 species, on average 32 species.

We distinguished one new association (*Dicrano laevidentis*–*Bistortetum viviparae* **ass. nov.**) within communities of mesic tundra with a predominance of mosses and assigned it to the class Carici arctisibiricae–Hylocomietae alaskani Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023, the order Eriophoretalia vaginati Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023, the alliance Cassiopo tetragonae–Eriophorion vaginati Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023. The class comprises zonal vegetation that occurs on the watersheds of the tundra zone in Eurasia and North America, in intermediate habitats in terms of moisture and texture of the substrate, thickness and duration of snow cover, depth of seasonal permafrost thawing, and length of the growing season (Matveeva & Lavrinenko 2021, 2023). Species, included in differential combination of taxa are marked in the Table 2 (Ca-Ha).

The order includes the *Eriophorum vaginatum*-dominated tussock communities with participation of sphagna mosses on poorly drained heavy loams on flat, slightly concave or slightly convex watershed surfaces in the subzones of southern and typical tundra in the Arctic.

Differential combination of taxa: the same as for the class, but also includes *Calamagrostis holmii*, *Cassiope tetragona*, *Eriophorum angustifolium*, *E. vaginatum*, *Tephrosiis atropurpurea*

s. str., *Salix pulchra* and *Sphagnum*-mosses: *Sphagnum angustifolium*, *S. fimbriatum*, *S. girgensohnii*, *S. squarrosum*, *S. warnstorffii*.

The alliance Cassiopo tetragonae–Eriophorion vaginati Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023 includes communities with the dominance of *Eriophorum vaginatum* and the participation of sphagna mosses and has exactly the same distribution and differential combination of taxa as the order (Matveyeva & Lavrinenko 2021, Matveyeva & Lavrinenko 2023).

Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae ass. nov. (Table 2, Rel. 1–11; Table 3, Fig. 2G). Herbaceous–dwarf birch–green moss moist tundra.

Differential species: *Eriophorum vaginatum*, *Aulacomnium palustre*, *Rubus chamaemorus*, *Dicranum laevidens*.

Holotypus: Relevé 4 (202). Nenets Autonomous Area, Priuralsky district, vicinity of Lake Manyasei. Coordinates: 68°27'23.4"N 66°19'36.1"E. Altitude is 190 m. Dwarf birch–dwarf shrub–moss tussock tundra. Tussocks are 10–30 cm in diameter and 7–15 cm high. Flattened watershed, inclination 6°, eastern aspect. Soil is gleezem with 5-cm upper peaty horizon on loam grounds with admixture of gravel. Date 08.10.2018. Author: Telyatnikov M.Yu.

Distribution. Northernmost part of the Polar Urals, Manyasei, Ochety, Khanmeishor, alpine belt and upper part of the subalpine belt

Habitats. The phytocoenoses occupy flat or gently sloping (3–8°) tops of the mountain and moraine terraces. Altitude 170–615 m. These communities are the part (element) of polygonal tundra–mire complex, and grow on high-centred polygons, but they can also form homogenous contours. Soils are gleezems, with 2–7 cm thick peat horizon

Structure and composition. The field layer is 15–30 cm high, varying from sparse to closed, formed by herbs (5–60 %; *Eriophorum vaginatum*, *Bistorta vivipara*, *Carex arctisibirica*) and shrubs (10–50 %, *Betula nana*). Herbs are evenly distributed, while shrubs grow in microdepressions between tussocks. The ground layer is 5–10 cm high, closed, composed mainly of hygrophytic (*Aulacomnium palustre*) and mesophytic (*Aulacomnium turgidum*, *Dicranum laevidens*, *Hylacomium splendens*) mosses (60–100 %) and to a lesser extent by lichens (5–40 %) and dwarf shrubs (up to 15 %). Total number of taxa registered in this association is 127, with practically equal number of lichens (40), bryophytes (41) and vascular plants (46). Number of species in relevés is 18–52 with average 36. Number of species with constancy III and higher is 26.

Note. There is some similarity with the ass. Parryo nudicaulis–Tomentypnetum nitensis Telyatnikov et al. 2019 (Telyatnikov et al. 2019) described in the northern part of the typical tundra of the Gydansky Peninsula. They belong to the same alliance, but they are different associations. From the 4 diagnostic species of Parryo nudicaulis–Tomentypnetum nitensis, only *Ptilidium ciliare* is present with high constancy in our association, on the other hand, from the 3 diagnostic species of our association only *Eriophorum vaginatum* is present in Parryo nudicaulis–Tomentypnetum nitensis. There are significant differences in the composition of lichens, herbs and shrubs (Table 2). Only in Parryo nudicaulis–Tomentypnetum nitensis the following species of lichens (*Cetraria laevigata*, *Cladonia gracilis* subsp. *elongata*, *Flavocetraria cucullata*, *Peltigera aphthosa*), herbs (*Parrya nudicaulis*, *Arctagrostis latifolia*, *Pedicularis lapponica*, *Poa arctica*, *Pyrola grandiflora*), mosses (*Dicranum angustifolium*, *Polytrichum hyperboreum*, *Tomentypnum nitens*) and dwarf shrubs (*Dryas punctata*, *Salix polaris*) are present with high constancy. On the opposite, other species of lichens (*Cladonia amaurocraea*, *C. uncialis*), mosses (*Polytrichum strictum*, *Dicranum laevidens*, *Pleurozium schreberii*, *Sphagnum subsecundum*) are present with high constancy only in the Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae. Comparison with the ass. Tephroso atropurpureae–Salicetum pulchrae Telyatnikov et Troeva in Telyatnikov et al. 2015 showed that out of its 5 diagnostic species, 2 spe-

cies, *Eriophorum vaginatum* and *Aulacomnium palustre*, are also included in the group of differential species of our association. However, as in the previous case, there are significant differences in terms of species constancy (Table 2).

The difference between Sphagno–Eriophoretum vaginati Walker et al. 1994 and our association is in low abundance of *Sphagnum*-mosses. Besides, only 1 of 9 differential species (*Rubus chamaemorus*) is common for both associations.

Comparison of our association with the Bryorio nitidulae–Vaccinietum minoris Telyatnikov et Troeva in Telyatnikov et al. 2014 showed that of 9 diagnostic species of the latter, only 2 species, *Cetraria islandica* and *Cladonia arbuscula*, are present with high constancy in our association. Whereas of 4 differential species of our association, only 1 species (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) is present with high constancy in the Bryorio nitidulae–Vaccinietum minoris. There are also differences in the composition of herbs, mosses and lichens (Table 2).

One new association with 2 subassociations we distinguished in tundra with the participation of *Dryas* and assigned it to the non-acidic sedge and dwarf shrub class Carici rupestris–Kobresietea bellardii Ohba 1974, occurring on wind exposed habitats with shallow snow cover in lowland and mountainous regions of northern Eurasia (Ermakov 2012). Diagnostic species of the class: *Silene paucifolia*, *Dryas octopetala* subsp. *subincisa*, *Poa arctica*, *Luzula nivalis*, *Silene acaulis*, *Pedicularis oederi*, *Saussurea alpina*, *Lloydia serotina*, *Astragalus norvegicus*, *Carex rupestris*, *Potentilla crantzii*, *Saxifraga cernua*, *Cladonia pocillum*.

Further, this vegetation is referred to the order Thymo arcticae–Kobresietalia bellardii Ohba 1974 and the alliance Kobresio–Dryadion Nordhagen 1943. The order includes dwarf shrub and graminoid tundras of Scandinavia, Iceland, Greenland, northern Russia and the arctic part of North America (Mucina et al. 2016). The diagnostic species are the same as for the class. The alliance Kobresio–Dryadion is represented by graminoid and dwarf shrub heath vegetation on base-rich soils in the mountains and tundra zone of Eurasia (Ermakov 2012). Diagnostic species: *Carex rupestris*, *Dryas octopetala* ssp. *subincisa*, *Salix reticulata*, *Rhytidium rugosum*. The new association we refer to this alliance.

Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae ass. nov. (Table 2, rel. 12–27). Herbaceous (*Hedysarum hedysaroides* subsp. *arcticum*, *Valeriana capitata*, *Bistorta vivipara*), dryas (*Dryas octopetala* subsp. *subincisa*), moss (*Hylacomium splendens*, *Rhytidium rugosum*, *Aulacomnium turgidum*) tundra.

Differential combination of taxa: *Rhytidium rugosum*, *Stereocaulon alpinum*, *Valeriana capitata*.

Holotypus: Relevé 12 (187). Nenets Autonomous Area, Priuralskii district, surroundings of Lake Ochety. Coordinates: 68°04'55.8"N 65°50'23.2"E. Altitude 456 m. *Dryas*-moss tundra in the upper part of a steep (43°) eastern (aspect 90°) blocky mountain slope. Patches of vegetation are scattered between blocks. Soil: lithozem, with 4 cm thick organic peaty horizon underlain by sandy-gravelly-stony ground. Date: 05.08.2018. Author: Telyatnikov M.Yu.

Distribution. The community was recorded predominantly in Ochety, less common in Manyasei, in the upper part of subalpine belt and lower subbelt of alpine belt.

Habitat. The stands occupy gentle (2–10°) and steep (15–45°) slopes of moraine and mountain terraces, mainly of southern aspects (S, SW, SE); within the altitudinal range 240–484 m. Nanotopography: cryogenic hummocks 0.2–2 m in diameter and 10–25 cm high. Soils are gleezems and lithozems with peaty-humic horizon 1–7 cm thick.

Table 2. Continued.

Syntaxon	D											E						F							D	E	F						
	1	2	3	4*	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12*	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21*	22	23	24				25	26	27			
Relev nr. in the table																																	
Other species																																	
<i>Betula nana</i>			2	2	2	3	4	3	1	2	3				1							6					V	2	I	1	I	6	
<i>Bistorta elliptica</i>		2	1	1	1	1				1	1	1	2		2	2	1	2				2	1	1		1	III	1	IV	2	III	2	
<i>Bistorta vivipara</i>	3	3	1	2		1	1	3		1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	V	2	V	1	V	2	
<i>Cetraria islandica</i>	2	2	2		3	1		1	1		2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1		1	2	1	1	1	2	1	IV	2	V	1	IV	1	
<i>Cladonia amaurocraea</i>	2	2	3	1	3	1	1	2		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1							V	2	V	1	II	1	
<i>Cladonia arbuscula</i>	3	3	3	3	3	1		3	1		2	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	V	3	V	2	V	2	
<i>Cladonia rangiferina</i>			1	2	2									1	1	1	1	1							1	1	II	2	IV	1	II	1	
<i>Cladonia uncialis</i>	2			2	4	1	2	2							1	1	1	1									III	2	III	1	II	1	
<i>Dicranum acutifolium</i>												4								2		6							I	4	II	3	
<i>Dicranum elongatum</i>	3		5	3	3										2											4	II	3	I	2	I	4	
<i>Festuca ovina</i>			1		1					1	1	3	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	3			II	1	V	2	IV	2	
<i>Flavocetraria cucullata</i>			2	2	1				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	III	1	IV	1	V	2	
<i>Flavocetraria nivalis</i>			2	1	2									1						2	1	1	1	3	1	1	II	2	I	1	V	2	
<i>Hedysarum hedysaroides</i> subsp. <i>arcticum</i>					1						1	1	3	1	1	1		2		6	2	3	1	1	3	1	I	1	IV	2	V	3	
<i>Hylocomium splendens</i>			2	1	1	4	1	1		2	3	3	5	2	1	2	4	4	2	2	2	2	3	1	1	2	IV	2	V	3	V	2	
<i>Pachypleurum alpinum</i>												1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			V	1	V	1	
<i>Peltigera aphthosa</i>			2	3		1						3	1	2	2					1		1	1	1	1	1	II	2	III	2	III	1	
<i>Pleurozium schreberi</i>		1	3	1	2	1		1	1	2	1	1	1			1											V	2	II	1			
<i>Polytrichum juniperinum</i>				3			2					1	1	3							1	2	1			3	I	3	II	2	III	2	
<i>Polytrichum strictum</i>	2	1	5	2	2	1	3	4		1	1				2												V	3	I	2			
<i>Pyrola rotundifolia</i>												1	2	1	1	1	3	1		2	2			3					V	2	II	2	
<i>Salix glauca</i>			3	3	6	2		1		1	2	2	1			1											IV	3	III	1			
<i>Thamnochloa vermicularis</i>			1	2	1	1		2	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1		1	2	2	1	1		2	IV	1	IV	1	IV	2	
<i>Vaccinium uliginosum</i> subsp. <i>microphyllum</i>				1	4	1		4	3	2	3	6	3		3	3	2			2		2				2	IV	3	IV	3	II	2	
<i>Vaccinium vitis-idea</i> subsp. <i>minus</i>			3	2	2	1		1	2	1	2	4	3	2	1	2	1	1				3				3	IV	2	V	2	II	3	
<i>Abietinella abietina</i>													2	1				2		2	2		1	1	1	1			III	2	IV	2	
<i>Androsace bungeana</i>																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1					I	1	III	1	
<i>Barbilophozia lycopodioides</i>				2	1													1		1	1						I	2	I	1	I	1	
<i>Brachythecium cirrosum</i>																				2				1	1	1			II	1			
<i>Bryum</i> sp.	3																			4		1				1	I	3		II	2		
<i>Calamagrostis neglecta</i>			2	3		3			1	2			2														III	2	I	2			
<i>Calamagrostis langsdorffii</i>												1		1	3	1													III	1			
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>																			1	1	2				1	1	1			III	1		
<i>Carex rariflora</i>							4	3		2																	II	3					
<i>Carex vaginata</i> subsp. <i>quasivaginata</i>															3		2						2						II	2	I	2	
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>																		1	1	1	1					1			III	1			
<i>Cetraria laevigata</i>				3										1				1	1	1							I	3	I	1	II	1	
<i>Chamaenerion latifolium</i>												1								1				1					I	1	II	1	
<i>Cladonia chlorophaea</i>				1								1		1						1							I	1	II	1	I	1	
<i>Cladonia coccifera</i>	3	1		1								1	1	1	1					1						1	II	2	III	1	II	1	
<i>Cladonia emocyna</i>	1			1	1																						II	1					
<i>Cladonia gracilis</i> subsp. <i>elongata</i>	2			2								2				1	1										I	2	III	1			
<i>Cladonia pleurota</i>		1		1	1																						II	1					
<i>Cladonia pyxidata</i>															1					1		1	1	1	1	1			II	1	III	1	
<i>Cladonia</i> sp.			1	2		2																					II	2					
<i>Cladonia stricta</i>												1		1						1	1	1							II	1	II	1	
<i>Cladonia stygia</i>				1	1					1					1	1											II	1	II	1			
<i>Crepis chrysantha</i>												1		1				1	1										II	1	II	1	
<i>Deschampsia brevifolia</i>					1										1		1										I	1	II	1			
<i>Empetrum subboreale</i>				2				5												2			1				I	3		II	2		
<i>Equisetum arvense</i> subsp. <i>boreale</i>				2	1		2			1	1															2	II	2	I	1	I	2	
<i>Equisetum scirpoides</i>																							1	1	1	1			II	1			
<i>Festuca rubra</i> subsp. <i>arctica</i>																				1	1	1	1	1	1	1			III	1			
<i>Hieracium alpinum</i>																		1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1			III	1			
<i>Hieracloë alpina</i>				1								1	2	1	1	1	1										I	1	V	1			
<i>Lagotis glauca</i> subsp. <i>minor</i>	2	1	1	1	1					1					1	1	1						1			1	III	1	III	1	II	1	
<i>Ledum decumbens</i>			2		2	1			2	1						3											III	2	I	3			
<i>Luzula wahlenbergii</i>	2	2		1			1									1											II	2	I	1			
<i>Myosotis asiatica</i>																				1	1	1							II	1			
<i>Nephroma arcticum</i>		1	2		1						1					1											II	1	I	1			
<i>Nephroma expallidum</i>												1		1											1				II	1	I	1	
<i>Ochrolechia frigida</i>					1									1							1						I	1	I	1	I	1	
<i>Oxytropis sordida</i>												1		1	1						1	1	1	1	1	1			III	1	IV	1	
<i>Parnassia palustris</i> subsp. <i>neogaea</i>																		2		2	2	1	2						III	2			

Table 2. Continued.

Syntaxon	D											E								F							D	E	F
	1	2	3	4*	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12*	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21*	22	23	24	25	26				27
<i>Sanionia uncinata</i>	1	.	.	3	1	.	4	.	1	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	I 2 III 2 I 2		
<i>Saussurea tilesii</i>	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	I 1 III 1 II 1		
<i>Saxifraga hircifolia</i>	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	I 1 II 1		
<i>Saxifraga spinulosa</i>	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	II 1 II 1		
<i>Sphaerophorus globosus</i>	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	I 2 II 1 I 1
<i>Sphagnum fuscum</i>	3	.	2	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	II 3 . .		
<i>Sphagnum lenense</i>	3	5	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	II 3 . .
<i>Sphagnum subsecundum</i>	.	2	.	.	.	2	3	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	II 2 . .
<i>Stereocaulon paschale</i>	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I 1 III 1 .
<i>Thalictrum alpinum</i>	2	.	1	.	1	3	1	.	.	.	III 2		
<i>Tortella tortuosa</i>	1	.	1	1	1	.	.	.	III 1		
<i>Veratrum lobelianum</i>	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I 1 III 1 .
<i>Viola biflora</i>	2	.	.	.	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	III 2 I 1		

Note. Solitary occurrences: *Andromeda polifolia* subs. *pumila* 9(1); *Anthoxanthum alpinum* 12(1); *Arctagrostis arundinacea* 3(2); *Artemisia tilesii* 12(1); *Arcutus alpina* 13(3), 14(1); *Calamagrostis lapponica* 5(2), 8(1); *Calamagrostis purpurea* 2(2); *Carex aquatilis* 7(1); *C. aquatilis* subsp. *stans* 10(1); *Comarum palustre* 7(2); *Endocellion sibiricum* 14(1); *Erigeron eriocephalus* 22(1); *Eriophorum russeolum* 7(1); *Festuca rubra* subsp. *arctica* 25(1); *Gastrolobychnis apetalata* 20(1); *Geranium krylovii* 25(1); *Huperzia arctica* 1(1), 18(1); *Linnaea borealis* 17(2); *Lužula multiflora* subsp. *sibirica* 21(1); *L. tundricola* 27(1); *Minuartia macrocarpa* 14(1), 18(1); *M. rubella* 20(1); *M. stricta* 26(1); *Papaver lapponicum* subsp. *jugoricum* 20(1); *Pedicularis lapponica* 4(1); *P. verticilla* 20(1); *Pinguicula alpina* 20(1), 24(1); *Poa alpigena* 7(3), 21(1); *P. glauca* 21(1), 25(1); *Polemonium acutiflorum* 6(1), 11(1); *Ranunculus propinquus* 12(1); *Rumex acetosa* subsp. *lapponicus* 21(1), 2(1); *Salix lanata* 24(1), 25(1); *Saxifraga foliolosa* 1(1), 7(1); *S. oppositifolia* 20(1), 26(2); *Selaginella selaginoides* 25(1); *Silene repens* 23(2); *Solidago virgaurea* 13(1); *Stellaria longifolia* 13(1), 14(1); *Tanacetum bipinnatum* 16(1), 17(1); *Taraxacum ceratophorum* 12(1), 16(1); *T. officinale* 13(1); *T. perfoliatum* 19(1), 25(1); *Tephrosia heterophylla* 19(1); *Thymus reverdattoanus* 20(1); *Tofieldia pusilla* 24(1); *Trisetum spicatum* 14(1); *Trollius apertus* 25(1); *Botrychium lunaria* 19(1). **Lichens:** *Alectoria ochroleuca* 3(1); *Asahinea chrysantha* 23(1), 24(1); *Botrydina viridis* 3(1), 4(1); *Bryocaulon divergens* 17(1); *Caloplaca ammospila* 24(1); *Cetraria odontella* 15(1); *Cetrariella delisei* 1(1), 24(1); *C. fastigiata* 6(1); *Cladonia crispata* var. *cetrariiformis* 1(2); *C. alascana* 24(1); *C. bellidiflora* 22(2); *C. crispata* 5(1), 6(1); *C. cyanipes* 15(1); *C. grayi* 5(1), 16(1); *C. phyllophora* 18(1); *C. stellaris* 22(1), 26(1); *C. sulphurina* 2(2), 10(1); *Lobaria linita* 12(1), 15(1); *Ochrolechia inaequata* 25(1), 27(1); *O. upsaliensis* 24(1); *Pannaria pezizoides* 27(1); *Peltigera neckeri* 25(1); *Physconia muscigena* 21(1); *Psoroma hypnorum* 27(1), 14(1); *Rinodina* sp. 15(1); *Sphaerophorus fragilis* 3(1); *Stereocaulon glareosum* 25(1), 14(1); *S. grande* 15(1); *Hypnum plicatulum* 7(1), 8(2); *Thamnomia vermicularis* var. *subuliformis* 19(2). **Mosses:** *Andreaea rupestris* 26(1); *Barbilophozia barbata* 21(2), 12(2); *Brachythecium erythrorrhizon* 26(1); *Calliergon richardsoni* 8(2); *Campylopus stellatum* 24(1); *Ceratodon purpureus* 14(1); *Cinclidium subrotundum* 7(2), 27(1); *Conostomum tetragonum* 1(1), 7(2); *Dicranella cerviculata* 7(2); *Dicranum flexicaule* 14(1), 24(1); *D. scoparium* 13(1); *D. spadicum* 23(1), 17(1); *Hymenoloma crispulum* 26(1); *Scorpidium revolvens* 8(2); *Loeskeopnum badium* 3(2), 4(2); *Mnium ambiguum* 21(2); *Myurella julacea* 19(2), 24(1); *M. tenerrima* 21(2); *Oncophorus elongatus* 1(2); *Philonotis* sp. 24(1); *Pogonatum urnigerum* 1(2), 12(2); *Poblia cruda* 22(1), 25(1); *P. nutans* 14(1); *P. species* 7(1), 12(2); *Polytrichum piliferum* 14(2), 25(1); *P. hyperboreum* 11(1); *P. jensenii* 2(3), 7(1); *Ptilium crista-castrensis* 8(2); *Racomitrium panschii* 3(1); *Sphagnum balticum* 2(3); *S. capillifolium* 4(1); *S. flexuosum* 3(2); *S. riparium* 3(2), 11(1); *Stereodon vaucheri* 26(1), 15(1); *Straminergon stramineum* 2(1); *Syntrichia norvegica* 21(1); *S. ruralis* 8(2), 22(1).

Relevés by M.Yu. Telyatnikov. Location: Priuralsky district. Surroundings of the Ochety lake (O): **1** – 68°07'03.8", 65°46'30.3", 03.08.2018; **2** – 68°07'05.5", 65°46'33.9", 03.08.2018; **12** – 68°04'55.8", 65°50'23.2", 05.08.2018; **19** – 68°06'31.1", 65°51'13.7", 31.07.2018; **20** – 68°06'31.7", 65°51'18.5", 31.07.2018; **21** – 68°06'25.5", 65°51'26.2", 31.07.2018; **22** – 68°06'23.0", 65°51'29.3", 31.07.2018; **23** – 68°06'18.4", 65°51'15.4", 31.07.2018. Priuralsky district. Surroundings of the Manyasi lake (M): **3** – 68°26'54.1", 66°19'18.6", 08.08.2018; **4** – 68°27'23.4", 66°19'36.1", 10.08.2018; **5** – 68°27'35.0", 66°18'07.9", 10.08.2018; **7** – 68°26'48.5", 66°19'08.8", 08.08.2018; **8** – 68°26'39.7", 66°19'10.1", 09.08.2018.

Relevés by E.V. Kudr. Location: Priuralsky district. Upper reaches of the rivers Bolshoi Khanmei and Pravyi Khanmeishor (Kh): **9** – 67°02'02.0", 65°53'17.6", Priuralsky district. Surroundings of the Ochety lake (O): **13** – 68°05'30.4", 65°51'43.1", **14** – 68°04'55.2", 65°50'34.4", **15** – 68°04'56.2", 65°50'20.2", **24** – 68°06'28.3", 65°51'01.7", **25** – 68°06'28.3", 65°51'17.5", **26** – 68°06'28.5", 65°51'30.6", **27** – 68°05'58.8", 65°51'14.2", Priuralsky district. Surroundings of the Manyasi lake (M): **6** – 68°26'51.4", 66°19'06.7", **10** – 68°26'49.4", 66°19'18.7", **11** – 68°26'49.2", 66°18'54.6", **16** – 68°26'12.3", 66°19'31.7", **17** – 68°26'06.3", 66°19'43.7", **18** – 68°27'44.5", 66°16'23.3".

* – Holotypus. **Abbreviations:** Ev – order Eriophoretalia vaginati, Ct–Ev – alliance Cassiopo tetragonae–Eriophorion vaginati, K–D – alliance Kobresio–Dryadion.

Structure. The stands have 2 strata. The field layer is composed of herbs, 20–60 %, 10–25 cm high. Distribution of herbs is even. The ground layer is closed, 5–10 cm high and consists of bryophytes (5–100 %), dwarf shrubs (10–90 %) and lichens (5–25 %). Lichens are mainly concentrated on hummocks.

We distinguished 2 subassociations: R.D. typicum subass. nov. (Table 2, rel. 12–18, Fig. 2H) and **R.D. salicetosum arcticae subass. nov.** (Table 2, rel. 19–27, Fig. 2I, J). Differential species and holotypus of the subass. typicum are the same as for the association.

The subass. typicum occupies somewhat more mesic habitats. In the subass. salicetosum arcticae more “xerophytic” species are present, such as *Silene paucifolia*, *Cerastium arvense*, *Campanula rotundifolia*, *Androsace bungeana*, *Rhytidadelphus triquetrus*, *Tortella tortuosa*. In the subass. typicum somewhat more “hygrophytic” species, such as *Carex arctisibirica*, *Salix polaris*, *Equisetum arvense* subsp. *boreale*, *Peltigera aphthosa* are common. Cover of mosses and lichens is higher in the subass. typicum compare to the subass. salicetosum: 35–90 % vs 40–50 % and 10–40 % vs 5–20 % respectively.

Total number of taxa registered in the subass typicum is 124, including 69 vascular plants, 34 lichens and 21 moss spe-

cies. Number of species in relevés varies from 32 to 56, with average 46. Number of species with constancy III–V is 50.

Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae subass. salicetosum arcticae subass. nov.

Differential species: *Salix arctica*, *Tephrosia atropurpurea*, *Climacium dendroides*, *Silene paucifolia*, *Cladonia macroceras*.

Holotypus: Relevé 21 (148). Nenets Autonomous Area, Priuralskii district, surroundings of the Lake Ochety. Coordinates: 68°06'25.5"N 65°51'26.2"E. Altitude 425 m. Herbaceous–moss–*Dryas* tundra. The upper part of the moraine terrace adjacent to the mountain. Inclination 35°, south-western aspect. Nanotopography is hummocky. Cryogenic hummocks are 20–40 cm in diameter and 10–20 cm in height. Soil: lithozem with 5 cm thick peat-humus horizon. Date 31.07.2018. Author Telyatnikov M.Yu.

Total number of taxa registered is 159: 80 taxa of vascular plants, 40 of lichens and 39 of mosses. From 35 to 61 species were recorded in relevés, on average 50. This is the richest by number of species subassociation in mountain tundra. Number of species with high constancy is 42

Note 1. Among the previously described associations of *Dryas*-dominated tundra the Salici arcticae–Dryade-

Table 3. Synoptic table of associations in the axial part of the Polar Urals

Syntaxa	A	B	C	D	E	F	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h
Number of relevés	10	13	8	11	9	7	12	18	10	10	16	11	6	10
Dif. sp. ass. Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi Telyatnikov 2010														
<i>Sphaerophorus globosus</i> L-V	V2	V 2	I 1	I 2	I 1	II 1	IV III	.	.	.	.	II	I	III
<i>Hierocloe alpina</i> L-V	V2	IV 2	II 2	I 1	.	V 1	V II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Bryocaulon divergens</i>	V2	I 1	.	.	.	.	V III	.	.	IV	.	II	V	.
Dif. sp. subass. solorinetosum croceae														
<i>Solorina crocea</i>	IV2	II 1	.	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Ochrolechia frigida</i> L-V	IV2	I 1	.	I 1	I 1	I 1	.	.	.	IV V	.	.	.	.
<i>Parmelia omphalodes</i>	IV1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Comb. dif. sp. ass. Dactylino arcticae–Empetretum subholarctici														
<i>Empetrum subholarcticum</i>	II	V 2	II 2	I 3	II 2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	III
<i>Ledum decumbens</i>	III	V 2	I 1	III 2	.	I 3	IV II	.	.	.	.	.	III	III
<i>Arctous alpina</i> L-V	III	V 2	I 1	.	.	.	III V	.	.	.	.	II	.	.
<i>Dactylina arctica</i> Ca-Ha	II	V 1	II 1	II 1	I 1	III 1	II	.	IV	.	.	.	V	V
Dif. sp. ass. Pediculari lapponicae–Betuletum nanae														
<i>Pedicularis lapponica</i> L-V	.	I 1	V 1	.	.	.	.	IV	.	.	.	.	.	IV
<i>Salix lanata</i>	.	I 1	IV 2	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	IV	.	.	.
Dif. sp. ass. Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae														
<i>Eriophorum vaginatum</i> Ca-Ha	.	.	.	V 3	.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.	V	IV
<i>Aulacomnium palustre</i>	.	.	.	V 2	II 1	.	.	V	.	.	IV	V	.	.
<i>Rubus chamaemorus</i>	.	.	.	IV 3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	II
<i>Dicranum laevidens</i>	.	.	.	III 3	I 1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Comb. dif. sp. ass. Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae and subass. typicum														
<i>Rhytidium rugosum</i>	III	III 4	I 1	.	V 3	V 2	.	.	.	.	III	.	I	.
<i>Stereocaulon alpinum</i>	II	I 2	II 2	I 1	V 2	III 1	.	IV	.	.	.	V	I	.
<i>Valeriana capitata</i> Ca-Ha	.	.	.	I 1	V 2	V 1	.	.	II	.	.	II	III	.
Dif. sp. subass. salicetosum arcticae														
<i>Salix arctica</i>	.	I 2	II 1	.	V 1	I 2	.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.
<i>Tephroses atropurpurea</i>	.	.	.	I 1	IV 1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	V	.
<i>Climacium dendroides</i>	.	.	.	.	IV 1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Silene paucifolia</i> L-V, Cr-Kb	II	.	.	.	IV 1	III 1	III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Cladonia macrocerus</i>	.	.	.	I 2	III 1	.	.	.	.	.	.	V	.	II
Diagn. sp. cl. Loiseleurio procumbentis–Vaccinietea (L-V)														
<i>Alectoria ochroleuca</i>	IV2	IV 1	.	.	.	.	V 1	II	.	II	.	.	.	III
<i>Aulacomnium turgidum</i> Ca-Ha	15	II 3	IV 2	V 3	IV 2	IV 3	.	IV	.	II	V	V	IV	.
<i>Betula nana</i>	III2	V 3	V 3	V 2	I 6	I 1	V III	V	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Empetrum hermaphroditum</i>	I3	I 2	I 1	.	.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Flavocetraria cucullata</i>	IV2	V 1	IV 2	III 1	V 2	IV 1	V V	IV	.	IV	V	V	V	.
<i>Flavocetraria nivalis</i>	IV2	IV 1	.	II 2	V 2	I 1	V V	V	.	V	III	.	.	.
<i>Thamnochloa vermicularis</i>	V2	V 2	II 2	IV 1	IV 2	IV 1	V V	IV	V	V	II	II	.	.
<i>Vaccinium ulg.</i> subsp. <i>microphyllum</i>	V2	V 2	V 3	IV 3	II 2	IV 3	V II	V	.	.	.	.	I	.
<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i> subsp. <i>minus</i>	IV3	IV 2	II 2	IV 2	II 3	V 2	IV III	V	.	.	.	IV	IV	.
<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i>	.	II 3	IV 2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	IV	.	.
<i>Stereocaulon paschale</i>	I3	I 2	I 2	I 1	.	III 1	.	I	.	.	II	.	.	.
Comb. dif. sp. class Carici arctisibiricae–Hylocomietea alaskani (Ca-Ha)														
<i>Dryas octop.</i> ssp. <i>subincisa</i> Cr-Kb	II2	II 2	I 2	II 2	V 3	V 2	V	.	V	V	V	.	.	.
<i>Ptilidium ciliare</i>	II2	III 2	IV 3	IV 3	IV 1	IV 1	.	.	V	.	.	.	IV	.
<i>Carex bigelowii</i> ssp. <i>arctisibirica</i>	III2	III 2	IV 2	V 3	II 1	III 1	II III	V	.	.	V	.	I	.
<i>Salix polaris</i>	.	.	.	II 3	.	IV 2	.	III	.	IV	IV	I	.	.
<i>Racomitrium lanuginosum</i>	IV2	II 2	I 1	I 1	II 1	III 2	IV	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Distichium capillacenum</i>	.	.	.	.	III 1	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.
<i>Stellaria peduncularis</i>	.	I 1	I 1	.	III 1	II 1	III	.	II	.	III	I	I	.
<i>Luzula confusa</i>	V1	I 1	.	.	I 1	III 1	III	II	.	.	II	V	III	.
<i>Poa arctica</i> Cr-Kb	.	I 1	I 1	.	I 1	III 1	.	III	.	.	V	II	.	.
<i>Petasites frigidus</i>	.	.	.	II 1	.	.	.	.	.	.	V	III	.	.
<i>Arctagrostis latifolia</i>	.	.	.	II 1	I 1	.	.	V	.	.	II	V	I	.
<i>Tomentypnum nitens</i>	.	.	.	I 1	II 2	I 1	.	V	.	III	IV	.	.	.
<i>Parrya nudicaulis</i>	.	.	.	.	I 1	.	II	IV	.	.	.	I	I	.
<i>Calamagrostis holmii</i>	II	I 2	I 2	I 2	.	.	.	III	.	.	II	V	III	.
<i>Dryas punctata</i>	.	.	.	.	I 2	.	.	IV	.	.	.	II	.	.
<i>Saxifraga birculus</i>	.	.	.	.	I 1	.	.	.	.	.	IV	.	.	.
<i>Salix pulchra</i>	.	I 1	I 2	II 2	I 1	III 3	.	V	.	.	.	V	.	.
<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	.	.	.	III 2	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.
D. sp. class Carici rupestris–Kobresietea bellardii and the order Thymo arcticae–Kobresietalia bellardii (Cr-Kb)														
<i>Silene acaulis</i>	.	.	.	.	IV 2	I 2	.	.	V	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Pedicularis oederi</i>	II	I 1	.	II 1	V 1	I 1	.	.	V	IV	III	.	.	.
<i>Saussurea alpina</i>	II	I 1	II 1	I 1	III 1	III 1	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	.
<i>Lloydia serotina</i>	II	I 1	.	.	II 1	IV 1	.	.	.	III	.	.	.	.
<i>Carex rupestris</i>	.	.	.	.	I 2	.	.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.
<i>Cladonia pocillum</i>	.	.	.	.	I 1	.	.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.
Other species														
<i>Abietinella abietina</i>	.	.	.	.	IV 2	III 2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

tum octopetalae Lavrinenko et al. 2014 and Vulpicido tilesii–Dryadetum octopetalae Lavrinenko et al. 2014 (Lavrinenko et al. 2014) are the most similar to our association by composition. The similarity of associations is reflected in high constancy of dwarf shrubs (*Dryas octopetala* subsp. *subincisa* (dom.), *Salix reticulata*), herbs (*Bistorta vivipara*, *Pedicularis oederi*) and lichens (*Flavocetraria nivalis*, *Thamnochloa vermicularis*). However, there are some differences. From 4 diagnostic species of our association, none are diagnostic for the Salici arcticae–Dryadetum octopetalae. Besides, in the ass. Salici arcticae–Dryadetum octopetalae, *Silene acaulis* can be dominant, *Saxifraga oppositifolia* is less abundant but constant, crustose lichens *Lecanora epibryon*, *Ochrolechia frigida* and moss *Hypnum bambergeri* are common. In our association these species are not common or are absent. Similarly, species absent in the Salici arcticae–Dryadetum octopetalae, are present and constant in our association, among them such dominants as *Rhytidium rugosum*, *Aulacomnium turgidum*, *Hylocomium splendens* and less abundant *Festuca ovina*.

Note 2. The difference between the Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae and the Vulpicido tilesii–Dryadetum octopetalae Lavrinenko et al. 2014 is the absence of the diagnostic species of the latter, *Carex rupestris*, *C. misandra* and *Vulpicida tilesii*, in our association. Only in our association such species as *Stereocaulon alpinum*, *Valeriana capitata* are present, and they are diagnostic for it. Several species (*Festuca ovina*, *Aulacomnium turgidum*, *Hylocomium splendens*, *Cladonia amaroceae*, *C. arbuscula*) have high constancy in our association, whereas in the Vulpicido tilesii–Dryadetum octopetalae other species have high constancy (*Silene acaulis*, *Saxifraga oppositifolia*, *Festuca vivipara*, *Hypnum bambergeri*, *Ditrichum flexicaule*, *Alectoria nigricans*, *Lecanora epibryon*, *Ochrolechia frigida*, *Pertusaria oculata*, *Rinodina roscida*).

Note 3. The difference between our association and the ass. Dryado octopetalae–Caricetum arctisibiricae Koroleva et Kulygina in Chytrý et al. 2015 is the absence in the former of 10 (from 14) diagnostic species of the latter (*Carex arctisibirica*, *Salix polaris*, *S. lanata*, *Pyrola grandiflora*, *Poa arctica*, *Luzula nivalis*, *Tomentypnum nitens*, *Peltigera canina*, *P. polydactylon*, *Cladonia macroceras*). Only 4 (of 14) diagnostic species of the Dryado octopetalae–Caricetum arctisibiricae are present in the Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae with high constancy (*Dryas octopetala*, *Salix reticulata*, *Stereocaulon alpinum*, *Peltigera aphthosa*) and only *Stereocaulon alpinum* is among the differential species of our association. The difference in the species com-

Table 3. Continued.

Syntaxa	A	B	C	D	E	F	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h
Number of relevés	10	13	8	11	9	7	12	18	10	16	11	6	10	10
<i>Alectoria nigricans</i>	II	2	I	1	I	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Androsace arctisibirica</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	III	1	I	1	·	·	·	·
<i>Asabineea chrysantha</i>	IV	2	IV	1	IV	2	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Bistorta elliptica</i>	I	2	I	2	IV	1	III	1	III	2	IV	2	·	·
<i>Bistorta vivipara</i>	I	1	I	1	I	1	V	2	V	2	V	1	·	·
<i>Bryoria nitidula</i>	II	2	II	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Calamagrostis langsдорffii</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Calamagrostis neglecta</i>	I	1	·	I	2	III	2	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cetraria aculeata</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cetraria islandica</i>	III	2	IV	1	IV	1	IV	2	IV	1	V	1	·	·
<i>Cetraria laevigata</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cetraria nigricans</i>	III	2	II	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cetrariella delisei</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cladonia crispata</i> var. <i>cetrariiformis</i>	I	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cladonia amaurocraea</i>	III	2	III	2	IV	2	V	2	II	1	V	1	·	·
<i>Cladonia arbuscula</i>	II	2	IV	2	IV	2	V	3	V	2	V	2	·	·
<i>Cladonia chlorophaea</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cladonia coccifera</i>	IV	2	I	2	II	2	II	2	II	1	III	1	·	·
<i>Cladonia gracilis</i> subsp. <i>elongata</i>	II	1	I	1	III	1	I	2	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cladonia pyxidata</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cladonia rangiferina</i>	I	3	IV	2	II	2	II	2	II	1	IV	1	·	·
<i>Cladonia uncialis</i>	IV	1	V	2	IV	2	III	2	II	1	III	1	·	·
<i>Dicranum elongatum</i>	II	2	I	2	II	4	II	3	I	4	I	2	·	·
<i>Dicranum</i> sp.	I	2	II	3	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Equisetum arvense</i> subsp. <i>boreale</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Festuca ovina</i>	IV	2	III	2	IV	2	II	1	IV	2	V	2	·	·
<i>Festuca rubra</i> subsp. <i>arctica</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Hedysarum bedysar</i> ssp. <i>arcticum</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Hieracium alpinum</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Hylocomium splendens</i>	I	1	I	1	V	2	IV	2	V	2	V	3	·	·
<i>Lagotis glauca</i> subsp. <i>minor</i>	I	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Lobaria limbia</i>	II	1	I	2	I	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Myosotis asiatica</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Nephroma arcticum</i>	II	1	II	1	IV	1	II	1	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Nephroma expallidum</i>	I	1	II	1	II	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Ochrolechia androgyna</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Oxytropis sordida</i>	I	1	I	1	II	2	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Pachypleurum alpinum</i>	I	1	I	1	II	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Parnassia palustris</i> ssp. <i>neogaea</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Peltigera aphthosa</i>	I	1	IV	2	IV	2	II	2	III	1	III	2	·	·
<i>Peltigera canina</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Peltigera polydactylon</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Peltigera scabrosa</i>	I	1	III	1	V	2	II	1	II	1	I	1	·	·
<i>Pleurozium schreberi</i>	I	1	IV	2	V	3	V	2	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Polemonium boreale</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Polytrichum hyperboreum</i>	II	2	I	2	II	3	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Polytrichum juniperinum</i>	I	4	I	3	II	2	I	3	III	2	II	2	·	·
<i>Polytrichum puliferum</i>	II	2	II	1	I	2	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Polytrichum strictum</i>	I	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Potentilla gelida</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Pyrola rotundifolia</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Rhytidadelphus triquetrus</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Rubus arcticus</i>	I	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Salix glauca</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Salix nummularia</i>	V	3	III	2	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Salix reticulata</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Sanionia uncinata</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Saussurea tilesii</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Saxifraga hircifolia</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Stereocaulon</i> sp.	I	4	II	2	I	2	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Tanacetum bipinnatum</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Thalictrum alpinum</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Tortella tortuosa</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Veratrum lobelianum</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Viola biflora</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Arctagrostis arundinacea</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Arenaria pseudofrigida</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Astragalus alpinus</i> ssp. <i>arcticus</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Betula exilis</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Bistorta plumosa</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Botrydina viridis</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Braya purpurascens</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Bryum wrightii</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Caloplaca cerina</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Carduus glaucinus</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Carex misandra</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cladonia cornuta</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cladonia cyanipes</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·
<i>Cladonia gracilis</i>	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·

position on a whole is also notable (Table 2 and 3).

CONCLUSIONS

The syntaxonomic diversity of the mountain tundras in the axial part of the Polar Urals is represented by 5 associations and 3 subassociations, of which 4 associations and 3 subassociations are described for the first time.

In the axial part of the Polar Urals the most widespread communities among the mountain tundra are lichen tundra Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi subass. solorinetosum croceae and moist tussock tundra Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae, they are recorded in all the studied localities both throughout the alpine (up to 600–800 m) and in the upper part of subalpine belt. The Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi subass. solorinetosum croceae is evenly distributed throughout the whole axial part, whereas the Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae is more common in the northern part and less common in the central and southern parts of the Polar Urals. These syntaxa is intermediate by their species richness: 99 species were recorded in the Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi subass. solorinetosum croceae and 127 in the Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae.

The association of the lichen tundra Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi occurs not only in the Polar Urals, it was described in southern tundra of Central Siberia. The ass. Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae represents a mountain analog of zonal tundra vegetation (Carici arctisibiricae–Hylocomietae alaskani Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023) and has phytocoenotic connection with zonal vegetation such as the ass. Parryo nudicaulis–Tomentypnetum nitensis Telyatnikov et al. 2019 in the typical tundra subzone on the Gydan Peninsula.

The association Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae

Table 3. Continued.

Syntaxa	A	B	C	D	E	F	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h
Number of relevés	10	13	8	11	9	7	12	18	10	10	16	11	6	10
<i>Dicranum angustum</i>	III	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Ditrichum flexicaule</i>	III	V	.	.	.	.
<i>Eritrichium villosum</i>	III	.	.	.
<i>Festuca vivipara</i>	IV	.	.	.	.
<i>Hypnum bambergi</i>	V	V	.	.	.
<i>Lecanora epibryon</i>	V	V	.	.	.
<i>Megaspora verrucosa</i>	II	IV	.	.	.
<i>Minnartia arctica</i>	III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Ochrolechia upsaliensis</i>	III	.	.	.	.
<i>Pedicularis dasyantha</i>	III	.	.	.	.
<i>Pedicularis langsдорffii</i>	III	.	.
<i>Pedicularis</i> sp.	III	.	.
<i>Pertusaria oculata</i>	II	V	.	.	.	.
<i>Physconia muscigena</i>	III	.	.	.	.
<i>Pyrola grandiflora</i>	V	.	.
<i>Ranunculus monophyllus</i>	III	.	.
<i>Rhodiola rosea</i>	III	.	.	.	.
<i>Rinodina roscaida</i>	IV	.	.	.
<i>Salix reptans</i>	III	II	.	.	.	.
<i>Salix lanata</i> subsp. <i>richardsonii</i>	II	III
<i>Saxifraga nelsoniana</i>	V	.
<i>Saxifraga oppositifolia</i>	V	V	.	.	.
<i>Tofieldia coccinea</i>	V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Tortula ruralis</i>	III	.	.	.

Note: Among “other species”, species with constancy I and II are not included.

A – Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi Telyatnikov 2010 subass. soloretosum croceae; B – Dactylino arcticae–Empetretum subholarctici; C – Pediculari lapponicae–Betuletum nanae; D – Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae; E – Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae and subass. typicum; F – Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae salicetosum arcticae.

a – Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi Telyatnikov 2010; b – Empetro hermaphroditi–Salicetum nummulariae Bogdanovskaya-Giyenef ex Lavrinenko et Lavrinenko 2020; c – Parryo nudicaulis–Tomentypnetum nitensis Telyatnikov et al. 2019; d – Salici arcticae–Dryadetum octopetalae Lavrinenko et al. 2014; e – Vulpicido tilesii–Dryadetum octopetalae Lavrinenko et al. 2014; f – Dryado octopetalae–Caricetum arctisibiricae Koroleva et Kulyugina in Chytry et al. 2015; g – Tephrosero atropurpureae–Salicetum pulchrae Telyatnikov et Troeva in Telyatnikov et al. 2015; h – Bryorio nitidulae–Vaccinietum minoris Telyatnikov et Troeva in Telyatnikov et al. 2014.

and its subass. typicum occur in the central and northern parts of the Polar Urals and is absent in the southern part. Similarly, in the adjacent lowlands *Dryas*-dominated tundra is rare in southern tundra subzone, getting more common in the typical and arctic tundra subzones.

The subassociation Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae salicetosum arcticae was found only at Ochety site. We explain this by the specific of the geology in that locality, sustainable to weathering calcareous effusive rocks and green shists are present there. Such substrata are very dry due to the lack of fine ground and community gets xerophytic appearance. Petrophytes (*Silene paucifolia*, *Rhodiola quadrifida*) и xerophylous species (*Androsace bungeana*, *Campanula rotundifolia*) are present in this subassociation. These phytocoenoses do not spread higher than the lower subbelt of the alpine belt.

Both subassociations of the association Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae are notably richer by number of species than other studied syntax. The subassociation Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae salicetosum arcticae is the richest (159 species), it is also the richest by number of vascular plants, and it has the highest number of species per relevé on average. We explain species richness by the specific of edaphic conditions.

Dwarf shrub – dwarf birch-lichen-moss tundra (Pediculari lapponicae–Betuletum nanae) occurs in

lower alpine and upper subalpine subbelts in the southern and central parts of the Polar Urals and is absent in its northern part. This community can be compared with the zonal dwarf birch lichen-moss tundra which disappear in the arctic tundra subzone. This community has relatively low (98) species diversity with relatively high number of vascular plants species (53).

The lichen-crowberry tundra Dactylino arcticae–Empetretum subholarctici was found only in the southern part of the Polar Urals, in the lower alpine subbelt and upper part of subalpine belt. It is the poorest community by number of species both totally (84 species) and at the level of relevés (28), also it has the lowest number of bryophyte species (12). In the lowland Western Siberia Arctic similar communities (dwarf shrub tundra with *Empetrum subholarcticum* and *Arctous alpina*) are common for the southern tundra subzone and more seldom in the typical tundra. For example, Hierochloa alpinae–Hylocomietum splendentis Telyatnikov et al. 2019 subass. empetretosum subholarctici Khitun in Telyatnikov et al. 2021 was described in the southern

tundra on the Tazovsky Peninsula.

The studied localities differ by the mineralogy but in general at all sites both acidic and basic rocks are present and that increases the diversity of vegetation, but at the same time coenotic similarity is rather high within all 3 sites. In these localities the influence of the ground chemistry on the diversity and specificity of vegetation is low, in contrast to the site on the Rai-Iz ultramafic massif, where the geochemistry determined the specifics of vegetation (Telyatnikov et al. 2022).

Tundra vegetation of the alpine and subalpine belts corresponds to zonal lowland tundra and follow the latitudinal zonation. Thus vegetation in the southern part of Polar Urals is analogous to the southern tundra subzone, communities in the middle part resemble those in the southern part of typical tundra, and in the northern part – northern part of lowland typical tundra.

Prodromus

Dwarf shrub tundra

Class *Loiseleurio procumbentis*–*Vaccinietea* Egger ex Schubert 1960

Order *Deschampsio flexuosae*–*Vaccinietalia* myrtilli Dahl 1957

Alliance *Loiseleurio-Arctostaphylion* Kalliola ex Nordhagen 1943

Ass. Bryocaulo divergentis–Vaccinietum uliginosi Telyatnikov 2010

Subass. solorinetosum croceae **subass. nov.**

Ass. Pediculari lapponicae–Betuletum nanae **ass. nov.**

Ass. Dactylino arcticae–Empetretum subholarctici **ass. nov.**

Mesic moss tundra

Class Carici arctisibiricae–Hylocomietea alaskani Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023

Order Eriophoretalia vaginati Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023

Alliance Cassiopo tetragonae–Eriophorion vaginati Matveyeva et Lavrinenko 2023

Ass. Dicrano laevidentis–Bistortetum viviparae **ass. nov.**

Dryas dominated heaths

Class Carici rupestris–Kobresietea bellardii Ohba 1974

Order Thymo arcticae–Kobresietalia bellardii Ohba 1974

Alliance Kobresio–Dryadion Nordhagen 1943

Ass. Rhytidio rugosi–Dryadetum octopetalae **ass. nov.**

Subass. typicum **subass. nov.**

Subass. salicetosum arcticae **subass. nov.**

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