DOI 10.21685/2500-0578-2025-4-2

WILLOWS OF THE EUROPEAN PART OF RUSSIA. PART II: LIFE FORMS. POLYVARIABILITY OF DEVELOPMENT

O.I. Nedoseko[1], N.A. Leonova[2]

[1] *Arzamas Branch of N.I. Lobachevsky National Research University, Arzamas, Russia*
[2] *Penza State University, Penza, Russia*
[1] *nedoseko@bk.ru,* [2] *na-leonova@mail.ru*

Abstract. The wide geographical distribution of willows, their rapid growth, and variability of their morphological characteristics ensure their adaptability to various ecological conditions and a significant diversity of willow life forms. The aim of this study is to investigate the polyvariance of the development of boreal willow species in the European part of Russia, which belong to two ecological groups: alluvial and non-alluvial. The research was conducted in the center of the European part of Russia, in its most developed regions: the Moscow, Vladimir, Nizhny Novgorod, and Penza regions. The ontogenetic states of trees and shrubs were determined using conventional methods. The ontogenesis of alluvial species was studied in 2 tree species and 5 shrub species, of non-alluvial species – in 2 tree species and 7 shrub species. Depending on the ecological and coenotic conditions of growth, 11 life forms are formed. The most common life forms are single-stemmed trees, epigeogenic-geoxyl, and hypogeogenic-geoxyl.

Keywords: Salix, European part of Russia, life form, ontogenesis, ontogenesis polyvariance

For citation: Nedoseko O.I., Leonova N.A. Willows of the European part of Russia. Part II: Life forms. Polyvariability of development. Russian Journal of Ecosystem Ecology. 2025;10(4). (In Russ.). Available from: https://doi.org/10.21685/2500-0578-2025-4-2