## Methodology of nature monitoring

Methodological guide for:

Plant species: 4068 Lady bells *Adenophora liliifolia* (L.) Besser by Adam Rapa

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## 4068 Lady bells Adenophora liliifolia (L.) Besser



Photo 1 Lady bell Adenophora liliifolia in "Dąbrowa koło Zaklikowa" special area of conservation (© A. Rapa)

## I. INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SPECIES

## **1. Systematic position**

Family: bellflower Campanulaceae

## 2. Status

## International law

Habitats Directive - Annex II and IV Berne Convention – not included

## **National law**

Protection of the species - strict protection since 2001

## **Threat category**

IUCN Red List – not included Polish Red Book of Plants (2014) – CR Red List of vascular plants in Poland (2016) – CR

## 3. Description of the species

The lady bell is a perennial plant with a beetroot-shaped root. One specimen (cluster) consists of a variable number of shoots – from one to a dozen or so. The stem is between a dozen or so and 160 cm long, with an alternate arrangement of leaves. Basal leaves, roundish and heart-shaped, petiolated, dry out early. Stem leaves are the largest in the middle and bottom sections of the stem. They are egg-shaped and lanceolate, short-petioled or non-petioled, with serrated edges, slightly wrinkled. The underside of leaves is covered with short and stiff hairs, especially on the veins.

Initially, the inflorescence has the form of a raceme, which later turns into a loose panicle. The calyx consists of 5 lanceolate-triangular sepals; the sepals are about 2 times shorter than the corolla. The corolla consists of white or pale blue bell-shaped flowers. It is naked and is 1.5–2 cm long. The lobes of the corolla are shorter than the tube.

There are 5 stamens with elongated anthers. At the base, filaments are flattened and clearly ciliated. There is just one pistil. The neck of the pistil is 2 times longer than the corolla, thickened in the upper part, covered with papillose hairs, ending with three flat stigmas; the base of the neck is surrounded by the honey ring (Korzeniak, Nobis 2004). Fragrant flowers.

Fruits are pear-shaped capsules, which open with three holes at the base part (Piękoś Mirkowa, Mirek 2008). The seeds are flattened, egg-shaped, of brown colour, with narrow wings on one side. They reach a length of up to 1.7 mm. The number of chromosomes 2n = 34 (Wcisło 1983).

During the flowering stage, they are easily confused with other species. In the barren stage, they can be mistaken for other bellflowers, especially young specimens.

## 4. Biology of the species

The lady bell is a perennial plant with overwintering buds located at the soil surface (hemicryptophyte).

Flowering lasts from the second decade of July to the second half of August. Individual shoots from one cluster may flower at slightly different times, thus prolonging the flowering period (Rapa, unpublished data). The lady bell is pollinated by numerous species of insects. The seeds ripen and are dispersed in late August and throughout September. The plant can also reproduce vegetatively from fragmented roots (Korzeniak, Nobis 2004).

From year to year, the number of shoots in a cluster changes only slightly. The number of clusters, on the other hand, remains constant over the years (Rapa A., unpublished data from a multi-year observation of a site with *Adenophora liliifolia* in the special area of conservation "Dąbrowa koło Zaklikowa"). The length of shoots depends not only on the development stage of an individual lady bell, but also on habitat conditions. The longest shoots and the largest number of flowers and fruits can be found in places with favourable light conditions. In too shady conditions, however, shoots are short and barren or long and sometimes generative. In the latter case, plants try to break through a layer of, for example, low bushes to places with better light conditions (Rapa A - unpublished data).

## 5. Environmental requirements

The lady bells are a photophilous species, requiring soils rich in calcium carbonate. In Poland, they occur mainly in oak forests *Potentillo albae-Quercetum petraeae*. In addition, they can be encountered in subcontinental oak-hornbeam forest *Tilio cordatae – Carpinetum* and mixed pine and oak forest *Querco roboris-Pinetum*. In the past, they were also reported to be present in xerothermic

grasslands of the *Festucetalia valesiacae* order (*Festuco-Brometea* class), in xerothermic scrubs of the *Prunetalia* order (*Rhamno-Prunetea* class) and on dry meadows (Korzeniak, Nobis 2004).

| Indicator           | According to Zarzycki et al. (2002) | According to Ellenberg et al. (1992) |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| light L             | 3                                   | 7                                    |
| thermal T           | 4-5                                 | 6                                    |
| of continentalism C | 4                                   | 6                                    |
| soil moisture M (F) | 3                                   | 6                                    |
| of trophism Tr (N)  | 3                                   | 8                                    |
| of soil acidity R   | 4                                   | 2                                    |

The ecological indicator values are as follows:



Photo 2 *Potentillo albae-Quercetum petraeae* oak forests in the special area of conservation "Wierzchowiska" (© A. Rapa)

## 6. Distribution in Poland

In Poland, lady bells have been reported to occur on about 100 sites (according to the data collected since the end of the 19th century until 2010), mainly in central and north-eastern Poland, but also in upland areas. The north-western limit of the species' distribution ran through Pomerania, Greater Poland and Silesia. In most sites, the species has become extinct or its presence has not been confirmed recently, for example in Subcarpathia (Piękoś-Mirkowa, Mirek 2008), Eastern Pomerania, Western Pomerania, Greater Poland (Żukowski, Jackowiak 1995) and in Lower Silesia (Kącki 2003).

Today, Adenophora liliifolia occurs in upland areas (Roztocze, Lublin Upland, Volhynian Upland, Lesser Poland Upland and Silesian-Cracow Upland), in Central Polish Lowlands (Central Masovian Lowland, South Masovian Heights, South Podlachian Lowland), North Podlachian Lowland and in the Masurian Lake District.

Depending on the site, the number of specimens (clusters) in a population varies, ranging from several to over 1000 specimens. The largest population of lady bells in Poland can currently be found in the Special Area of Conservation "Dzwonecznik w Kisielanach" (Ciosek 1998, 2006).



Fig. 1 The distribution of the monitoring locations compared with the geographical range of the species

## **II METHODOLOGY**

## 1. Description of monitoring studies

## Selection of monitoring areas and their suggested size

The sites should be selected in such a way so as to take into account populations of different sizes (small populations consisting of several specimens, medium-sized populations – a dozen or so clusters, as well as large ones, consisting of several dozen or over 100 specimens).

In the case of small and medium-sized populations, the monitoring area should cover the whole acreage of this population, whereas in the case of large populations a representative research area of about 0.5 ha should be selected.

Lady bells should be monitored at about 10 sites situated in the main areas of its occurrence, within the limits of their range.

In addition, the analysis of the conservation status of the species in Poland should take into account the results of monitoring activities conducted in national parks (all analyses should be performed using the same methodology).

## Study method

The cluster is used as a calculation unit. Single shoots growing on their own should be treated as clusters.

| Table 1 | The method of measuring the indicators used for assessing the condition of the population and the |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|         | habitat                                                                                           |

| Indicator                                                           | Measure                                                          | Measurement method                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                     |                                                                  | Population                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Quantity                                                            | Number of specimens (pcs)                                        | Counting of pieces – clusters and shoots growing on their own                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| The number of generative                                            | The number of                                                    | Counting of blooming clusters (containing at least 1 generative shoot)                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| specimens                                                           | clusters (pcs)                                                   | as a proportion of all clusters                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| The number of shoots in a                                           | The number of                                                    | Counting of shoots in particular clusters as well as the minimum,                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| cluster                                                             | shoots (pcs)                                                     | maximum and average number                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| The height of plants                                                | In cm                                                            | Measurement of the height of shoots (all shoots in small populations<br>and in large ones – of 30 specimens), together with the maximum,<br>minimum and the average height.                                                                                       |
| Health condition                                                    | Identified diseases,<br>parasites,<br>mechanical damage,<br>etc. | Observation of shoots and flowers for the presence of parasites and traces of their feeding, bite marks left by herbivores and other mechanical damage                                                                                                            |
|                                                                     |                                                                  | Habitat                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Potential habitat area                                              | Area (in: ha, a)                                                 | Estimation of the area of the whole habitat of the species at a given site                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| The area of the covered habitat                                     | Area (in: a, m²)                                                 | Specify the acreage covered by the population, i.e. a convex polygon<br>encompassing all places where particular specimens occur; in the case<br>when the acreage is small, its evaluation can be based on<br>measurements                                        |
| Density of trees % of coverage                                      |                                                                  | Evaluate the average coverage (%) by particular species of trees<br>(separately for each species) in the area of the habitat occupied by<br>lady bells                                                                                                            |
| Density of bushes                                                   | % of coverage                                                    | Evaluate the average coverage (%) by particular species of bushes<br>(separately for each species) in the area of the habitat occupied by<br>lady bells                                                                                                           |
| Density of undergrowth                                              | % of coverage                                                    | Evaluate the average coverage (in % or in percentage ranges) within the limits of the habitat concerned                                                                                                                                                           |
| Expansive, competitive species                                      | Species and % of coverage                                        | In the patch where the species occurs: Identify species present in the patch which are already forcing lady bells out or which have a strong competitive potential, e.g. bushgrass Calamagrostis epigejos, blackberries etc. and assess the area covered by them. |
| The height of undergrowth                                           | In cm;                                                           | The average from 20 measurements of the main vegetation mass                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Dead organic matter<br>(non-decomposed plant<br>debris, litterfall) | Thickness in cm                                                  | The average from 20 measurements performed in the patch<br>(measurement sites should be selected in such a way so as to take<br>into account the maximum, the minimum and the average thickness,<br>e.g. 0-5 cm, with the mean value of 3 cm)                     |
| Germination sites                                                   | Specify in %;                                                    | The area and frequency of gaps (exposed soil)                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Alien, invasive species                                             | % of coverage by particular species                              | In the patch where the species occurs: Identify alien and invasive species that are present in the patch and measure the area covered by them.                                                                                                                    |

## Time and frequency of studies

The best period for studying lady bells is the first half of August, because at that time most specimens have flowers and it is easier to find them within the site. It is also easier to establish the number of generative specimens. The condition of plant communities where *Adenophora liliifolia* grows, especially of *Potentillo albae-Quercetum petraeae* oak forest communities, provides a basis for evaluating essential parameters of the habitat and making a phytosociological relevé. The

monitoring activities should be repeated every 6 years, whereas on smaller sites, situated at the edges of the range and strongly endangered - every 3 years.

In addition, it is suggested that several representative sites are selected all over Poland for multiyear population studies. Lady bells are a perennial plant, therefore correct conclusions as to their population dynamics can only be drawn after a series of long-term observations.

#### Equipment used in studies

The studies do not require any specialized equipment. Useful equipment includes a measuring tape – for measuring the size of the patch, a ruler – for measuring the thickness of non-decomposed plant debris and the height of forest floor vegetation, a notebook, a satellite GPS receiver for establishing the exact location of the site and a digital camera.

## 2. Evaluation of population and habitat condition indicators

Suggested indicators to be evaluated: The height of forest floor vegetation, non-decomposed plant debris (dead organic matter), germination sites, the number of shoots in a cluster and the height of plants can only be evaluated after a series of long-term observations and, possibly, after the species ecology having been researched.

| Indicator                                                                        | FV                                                                                                                | U1                                                                                                                  | U2                                                                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| indicator                                                                        | favourable                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                     | bad                                                                                                        |
|                                                                                  | Po                                                                                                                | pulation                                                                                                            |                                                                                                            |
| Number of specimens<br>(clusters)                                                | At least the same as in the<br>previous monitoring period;<br>however, there may be no<br>fewer than 50 specimens | Up to 10% smaller than in the<br>previous monitoring period;<br>however, there may be no<br>fewer than 20 specimens | More than 10% smaller<br>compared with the<br>previous monitoring<br>period, or fewer than 20<br>specimens |
| The number of<br>generative specimens (%<br>of the population)                   | >60%                                                                                                              | 30%-60%                                                                                                             | < 30%                                                                                                      |
| The number of shoots in<br>a cluster (minimum,<br>average, maximum) <sup>1</sup> | хх                                                                                                                | хх                                                                                                                  | хх                                                                                                         |
| The height of plants <sup>1</sup>                                                | XX                                                                                                                | XX                                                                                                                  | XX                                                                                                         |
| Health condition                                                                 | None                                                                                                              | Single attacked specimens or shoots                                                                                 | More than 20% of<br>specimens with signs of<br>necrosis                                                    |

| Table 2 | Evaluation of | of poi | oulation | and habitat | condition  | indicators |
|---------|---------------|--------|----------|-------------|------------|------------|
|         | Evaluation    |        | Julution | una nabitat | contantion | maicutors  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It is suggested that this indicator should be used at the end of studies. There are no field data for its evaluation.

| Indicator                           | FV                                            | U1                                                                          | U2                                                             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| favourable                          |                                               | unsatisfactory                                                              | bad                                                            |
|                                     | ŀ                                             | labitat                                                                     |                                                                |
| Potential habitat area              | A multiple of the area occupied by lady bells | No more than several times<br>larger than the one occupied by<br>lady bells | Not much larger than the one occupied by lady bells            |
| The area of the covered             | The same or larger, but not                   | Smaller but by no more than                                                 | Smaller by more than 10%,                                      |
| habitat                             | smaller than 0.5 ha                           | 10%, not smaller than 0.25 ha                                               | or smaller than 0.25 ha                                        |
| Density of trees                    | ≤70%                                          | 71%-80%                                                                     | >80%                                                           |
| Density of bushes                   | ≤70%                                          | 71%-90%                                                                     | >90%                                                           |
| Density of undergrowth <sup>2</sup> | <85%                                          | 85-95%                                                                      | >95%                                                           |
| Expansive species                   | <10% of the area of the                       | 10%-40%                                                                     | >40% of the area of the                                        |
|                                     | patch                                         | 10/0 40/0                                                                   | patch                                                          |
| Height of undergrowth <sup>3</sup>  | XX                                            | XX                                                                          | XX                                                             |
| Non-decomposed plant                |                                               |                                                                             |                                                                |
| debris (dead organic                | 0-2 cm                                        | 2-5 cm                                                                      | >5 cm                                                          |
| matter) <sup>2</sup>                |                                               |                                                                             |                                                                |
| Germination sites <sup>2</sup>      | >5%                                           | 3-5%                                                                        | <3%                                                            |
| Alien, invasive species             | None                                          | Single specimens of 1 species                                               | More than 1 species or<br>more than 10% of the area<br>covered |

## **Cardinal indicators**

- Number of individuals
- Expansive species

# **3.** An example of a filled-in species observation sheet for a monitored location

Template of a filled-in species observation sheet for a monitored location with instructions for filling in particular fields

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The values given are purely indicative and may be modified following further studies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The species thrives in monitored locations within the height range of the undergrowth of between 25 and 170 cm. Current knowledge does not suggest that this indicator can be linked with the evaluation of the habitat.

#### Methodology of nature monitoring

|                                                               | A species observation sheet for the site "Dąbrowa koło Zaklikowa"                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Code and name of the                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| species                                                       | 4068 Lady bell Adenophora Illilfolia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Code and name of the                                          | Name of the monitored Natura 2000 site                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| area                                                          | PLH180019 Dąbrowa koło Zaklikowa                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Other forms of                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| protection of the area                                        | Nature reserves, national and landscape parks,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| within which the site is                                      | sites of ecological interest, documentation sites, etc.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| situated                                                      | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                               | Name of the monitored location                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Site name                                                     | Dabrowa koło Zaklikowa                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                               | Reference/research                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Type of site                                                  | Research                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                               | A description which makes it possible to identify the site in the area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Site description                                              | The site covers a limestone hill in the village of Dabrowa (municipality of 7aklików, district of                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                                                               | Stalowa Wola)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                               | Area (in ha_a)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Site area                                                     | 2a                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Geographical                                                  | Geographical coordinates of the site                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| coordinates                                                   | N 50°45' E 22°08'                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                                                               | Site elevation (or elevation range) a.s.l.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Elevation a.s.l.                                              | 191 - 200 m a.s.l.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| The characteristics of<br>the species' habitat at<br>the site | General character of the area: e.g. meadow, warm grassland, a fragment of a forest,<br>brushwood<br>natural habitat type (natural habitat code/plant community/plant association)<br>composition and age of tree stands (in the case of forest habitats)<br>habitats in the vicinity of the site<br>The site covers a limestone hill in the village of Dąbrowa (municipality of Zaklików, district of<br>Stalowa Wola). The forms present include: Potentillo albae-Quercetum petraeae oak forest,<br>subcontinental oak-hornbeam forest and some forms in-between. Apart from the acreage<br>covered by lady bells Adenophora liliifolia, the hill is also occupied by substitutional<br>communities with pine and birch trees. In the vicinity, there are also arable fields, underwoods<br>and buildings belonging to the residents of the village of Dąbrowa. The site is a private property<br>of the residents of Dąbrowa.<br>Natural habitats:<br>9110 – Warmth-loving oak forests (Quercetalia pubescenti-petraeae)<br>9170 – Central European and subcontinental oak-hornbeam forest (Galio-Carpinetum, Tilio-<br>Carpinetum) |
|                                                               | 8210 – Limestone rock walls with Potentilletalia caulescentis communities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                               | Synthetic information about the occurrence of the species at the site, research to date and                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Information about the                                         | other essential facts. Results of monitoring activities from previous years.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| species at the site                                           | The presence of lady bells Adenophora liliifolia was first reported in 2005 (Rapa A unpublished                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                                               | materials). Most lady bells (more than 60 specimens) grow in the westernmost part of the hill in                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                               | the best preserved patch of Potentillo albae-Quercetum.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                               | First name and surname of the local expert responsible for the site (as specified in the                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Observer                                                      | agreement)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                               | Adam Rapa                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Dates of observations                                         | Dates of all observations (as specified in partial forms)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                               | 11 – 20 August 2009                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

The description should be based on studies/field observations. A proposal of an expert summary of studies/observations carried out at the site as part of the project in the current year is presented below; the summary can be supplemented with one's own data collected previously at the site under analysis.

Evaluation of particular parameters: satisfactory (FV) / unsatisfactory (U1) / bad (U2) / unknown (XX)

|                  |                                                                                   | Species protection status at the site                                                                       |             |      |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Pa               | rameter/indicators                                                                | Indicator value and comment                                                                                 | Assess      | ment |
|                  | Quantity                                                                          | the number or density of specimens<br>77 clusters.                                                          | FV          |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | type of distribution (dispersed, with assemblages)<br>Dispersed                                             |             |      |
|                  | Number of                                                                         |                                                                                                             |             |      |
|                  | generative                                                                        | the number of generative specimens                                                                          | EV/         |      |
| 2                | specimens (% of                                                                   | 56 clusters (72%)                                                                                           |             |      |
| tio              | population)                                                                       |                                                                                                             |             |      |
| opula            | Number of shoots<br>in a cluster                                                  | the number of shoots in a cluster (minimum, average, maximum)<br>min: 0 (1 live leaf), average 2.0, max: 17 | хх          | FV   |
| 4                | Presence of                                                                       | number of seedlings                                                                                         | 112         |      |
|                  | seedlings                                                                         | No seedlings were found                                                                                     | 02          |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | The height of plants (average, max, min)                                                                    |             |      |
|                  | Height of plants                                                                  | average: 92.5 cm, max: 160 cm, min: 25 cm                                                                   | XX          |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | Identified diseases, parasites, etc.                                                                        |             |      |
|                  | Health condition                                                                  | Some specimens were found to have deformed leaves, probably due to a viral                                  | FV          |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | disease. It is unlikely to nose a direct threat to the species                                              |             |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | Area (in ha a $m^2$ )                                                                                       |             |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | At procept, shout 2 ha in habitat $010$                                                                     |             |      |
|                  | Potential habitat                                                                 | At present, about 2 na in habitat 910                                                                       | <b>F</b> \/ |      |
|                  | area                                                                              | n long-term and intensive active protection measures are taken, the potential                               | FV          |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | range of the habitat will be extended to include most of the planned special                                |             |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | area of conservation – over 4 ha.                                                                           |             |      |
|                  | The area of the                                                                   | Area (in ha, a, m <sup>2</sup> )                                                                            | FV          |      |
|                  | covered habitat                                                                   | About 1.5 ha                                                                                                |             |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | Coverage (%) of trees at the site, species name                                                             |             |      |
| Density of trees |                                                                                   | 70% mainly oak Quercus petraea, Quercus robur                                                               | U1          |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | in admixture: silver birch Betula pendula, scots pine Pinus silvestris                                      |             |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | Coverage (%) of bushes at the site, species name                                                            |             |      |
|                  | Doncity of hushos                                                                 | 50-60% mainly common hazel Corylus avellana, spindle tree Euonymus                                          | 111         |      |
|                  | Density of busiles                                                                | verrucosus                                                                                                  | 01          |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | in admixture: hornbeam Carpinus betulus                                                                     |             |      |
| ital             | Density of                                                                        | Coverage (%) at the site, dominant species name                                                             |             |      |
| lab              | Density of                                                                        | 70-80% blueberry Vaccinium myrtillus, lily of the valley Convallaria majalis,                               | FV          | 01   |
| Т                | undergrowth                                                                       | Brachypodium pinnatum                                                                                       |             |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | Species, coverage (%)                                                                                       |             |      |
|                  | Expansive species                                                                 | Common hazel Corvlus avellana 40%, spindle tree Euonymus verrucosus 10%                                     | 01          |      |
|                  | The height of                                                                     | 30 cm (the average). Max 50 cm, minim. 10 cm,                                                               | FV?         |      |
|                  | Non decomposed                                                                    | 0.2 cm                                                                                                      |             |      |
|                  | Non-decomposed                                                                    |                                                                                                             | -           |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | Density: specify the % of the area of the patch covered by non-decomposed                                   | FV          |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | plant debris and litterrall                                                                                 |             |      |
|                  | organic matter)                                                                   | > 90%                                                                                                       |             |      |
|                  | Commission aites                                                                  | Specify in %; the area and frequency of gaps (exposed soil) in the patch or                                 | 5.72        |      |
|                  | Germination sites                                                                 | possibly in its direct vicinity                                                                             | FV?         |      |
|                  | al: /: ·                                                                          | 1-2%                                                                                                        |             |      |
|                  | Alien/invasive<br>species                                                         | None found at the site occupied by lady bells.                                                              | FV          |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | The species sustainability prospects are good only if active protection measures                            |             |      |
| Cons             | ervation prospects                                                                | are taken at the site – the cutting of underbrush. The population is quite                                  |             |      |
| Cons             | ervation prospects                                                                | numerous; however, it may be reduced and eventually become extinct due to                                   |             |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | progressive succession processes.                                                                           |             |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | Specify visible signs of protective measures, possibly relying on the knowledge                             |             | 1    |
| A -+*            | o protoction                                                                      | obtained in the past (protection plans, etc.)                                                               |             | L .  |
| ACTI             | e protection                                                                      | There are no planned protective measures. The periodic cutting of bushes by                                 |             |      |
| mea              | owners makes it easier for the population of lady bells to survive. However.      |                                                                                                             |             |      |
| effec            | activities of this type should be planned and conducted on a larger scale. In the |                                                                                                             |             |      |
|                  |                                                                                   | past, the area could have been used as a                                                                    |             |      |
| Over             | all assessment                                                                    |                                                                                                             | U           | 1    |

The list of the most significant impacts affecting the species and its habitat at the monitored location (including its use). Impacts should be coded in accordance with Appendix E to the Standard Data Form for Natura 2000 sites

|      | Current impacts                 |           |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------|---------------------------------|-----------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Code | Operation                       | Intensity | Impact | Synthetic description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 950  | Biocenotic<br>evolution         | A         | -      | Progressive succession processes - the undergrowth is increasingly<br>overshadowed by bushes – mainly by hazel. The habitat is becoming more<br>and more fertile. At the site with the main part of the population of<br>Adenophora liliifolia – succession processes take place at an alarmingly fast<br>rate.                                                                                                                                                     |
| 165  | The cutting<br>of<br>underbrush | С         | +      | The cutting of bushes is not performed on a sufficient scale.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 250  | Harvesting of<br>plants         | С         | 0      | The picking of forest fruit and mushrooms does not have a major impact on<br>Adenophora liliifolia.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 164  | Forest (tree)<br>cutting        | С         | -      | In oak forests Potentillo albae-Quercetum petraeae, oak trees are<br>occasionally cut outside the sites occupied by lady bells. It results in an<br>expansion of the underbrush, leading to degeneration of Potentillo albae-<br>Quercetum petraeae oak forests because of excessive overshadowing of the<br>stratum. Over the years the area of Potentillo albae-Quercetum petraeae oak<br>forests and potential acreage for Adenophora liliifolia are decreasing. |

A list of factors which may pose a threat to the species and/or its habitat over a longer term (future, anticipated impacts, such as for example planned investments, changes in management and use, urban sprawl pressure). Threats should be coded in accordance with Appendix E to the Standard Data Form for Natura 2000 sites. If there is no proper code - only a description should be provided in the table "Other information" in the field "Other comments".

|      | Threats (foreseeable future impacts) |           |        |                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
|------|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Code | Name                                 | Intensity | Impact | Synthetic description                                                                                                                                                                         |  |
| 164  | Forest (tree)<br>cutting             | В         | -      | Due to the small acreage of lady bells, the cutting of even a few trees<br>may result in excessive exposure of the forest floor and too fast an<br>expansion of the underbrush, mostly hazel. |  |
| 990  | Other natural processes              | х         | -      | Due to its small size, the population may be affected by unfavourable genetic factors.                                                                                                        |  |
| 300  | Excavation of sand and gravel        | С         | -      | The extraction of limestone contained in the bedrock used to have a negative impact on Potentillo albae-Quercetum petraeae oak forests and lady bells and this may continue in future.        |  |

|                       | Other information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Other natural values  | The site is situated in Potentillo albae-Quercetum petraeae oak forests (9110), which are of great natural value and are highly representative. They are inhabited by a number of rare and protected plants, for example: Cimicifuga europaea, Lilium martagon. |
| Other<br>observations | All information that helps to interpret the results, e.g. weather anomalies                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Methodological        | It is best to observe lady bells when they are in full bloom – from the end of July to the second decade                                                                                                                                                        |
| remarks               | of August. Most specimens bloom in the first decade of August.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

Photographs to be enclosed: (specify the titles/number and authors of all photographs, in an electronic format, attached to the site observation forms – at least 2 photographs per stand – preferably a general view and the structure of the plant community with the monitored species.

Phytosociological relevés taken on an area of approximately 100 m<sup>2</sup> (no more than 200 m<sup>2</sup>), using the Braun-Blanquet method, in the habitat patch where the site of the species is situated, should be enclosed too. In justified cases, the area of the phytosociological relevé may be different.

## 4. Protection of the species

Lady bells are protected as a species. Passive protection measures are undertaken in protected areas: national parks and reserves, including the Kampinoski National Park and the "Dąbrowa Grotnicka" Reserve.

To ensure effective protection of lady bells, active protection measures should be taken at most sites. The most important measure is to reduce the density of underbrush (and possibly of trees). If bushes and trees grow back again after having been cut, the cutting should be repeated at specific intervals. It may be a good idea to consider litterfall raking in the vicinity of lady bells in order to reduce the quantity of organic matter covering the soil and to limit the eutrophication of *Potentillo albae-Quercetum petraeae* oak forests. The raking of leaves and the use of forests as a pasture for farm animals was a common practice in the past, which may have contributed to the development and survival of *Potentillo albae-Quercetum petraeae* oak forests in Poland (Jakubowska Gabara 1993).

It is necessary to secure a gene pool of native populations of Adenophora liliiofolia ex situ by collecting seeds from wild populations. Thus derived plants should be grown in botanical gardens. In the case of sites with small-sized populations (consisting of several specimens), it must be done urgently, as they may disappear completely in the coming years.

At small sites, especially those situated at the edges of the range, e.g. at "Kwiatówka" site, the population of lady bells must be enhanced by ex situ cultivation of specimens from seeds sourced from local populations.

To ensure more effective protection of lady bells in the context of forest management, it is proposed to introduce zonal protection - inclusion of lady bells in Appendix no. 4 "Wild plant species requiring the establishment of special areas of conservation or sites" to the Regulation of the Minister of the Environment of 5 January 2012 (2012 Regulation).

It is necessary to implement forest and environment programmes (following the example of agricultural and environmental programmes) with a package of protective measures for plants listed in Annex II to the Habitats Directive.

At the same time, research must be conducted on the species ecology, focusing in particular on the type of seed bank in the soil, germination biology and the population dynamics.

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