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## Taxonomy of the *Solidago virgaurea* Group (Asteraceae) in Poland, with Special Reference to Variability along an Altitudinal Gradient

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**Abstract** The morphological differentiation and taxonomic treatment of lowland and high-mountain morphotypes within the *Solidago virgaurea* group are controversial. To clarify the taxonomic status of these taxa, we conducted a morphometric analysis of 1,746 individuals from 80 localities along an altitudinal gradient from the lowlands of northern Poland to the Carpathians and Sudetes of southern Poland. Multivariate morphometric analyses, cluster analyses and principal component analyses, were used to examine the morphological differentiation within the *S. virgaurea* group in Poland. Canonical discriminant analysis was applied to determine the morphological characters that best discriminate among the taxa. The stability of the high-mountain *Solidago minuta* morphotype was tested in an experimental field established in lowland Poland; individuals transplanted from various mountain sites were cultivated at this site, and the morphotypes remained stable in terms of their floral and vegetative characters. Multivariate analyses revealed two morphologically distinct taxa in the *S. virgaurea* group, which correspond to lowland *S. virgaurea* s. str. and high-mountain *S. minuta* as recognised in some European floras. The most important morphological characters for distinguishing the taxa are the number of tubular florets per capitulum, inner involucre bract width and involucre height. Vegetative and inflorescence characters appear to have less taxonomic value because they changed continuously with altitude. A key for identifying *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta* in Poland is presented.

**Keywords** Altitudinal vicariants · Asteraceae · Multivariate morphometrics · Poland · *Solidago* · Taxonomy

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## Introduction

Groups of closely related taxa draw particular interest in taxonomy, phylogeography, ecology and evolutionary biology. In Central Europe, many closely related taxa have recently been studied morphologically and ecologically in such polyploid complexes as *Centaurea stoebe* (Španiel et al. 2008), *Viola* subsect. *Viola* (Hodálová et al. 2008) and *Alyssum montanum* (Španiel et al. 2011), as well as in groups with uniform ploidy levels, such as the *Senecio nemorensis* group (Hodálová and Marhold 1998; Hodálová 1999). Much attention is given to altitudinal vicariant pairs in the mountains of Central Europe. Taxonomic questions regarding these plants have been addressed in such groups as *Cardamine amara* (Marhold 1992), *Sempervivum montanum* (Letz and Marhold 1998) and *Caltha palustris* (Cieślak 2004); ecology has been addressed, for example, in *Anthoxanthum odoratum*-*A. alpinum* (Flegrová and Krahulec 1999; Filipová and Krahulec 2006).

The *Solidago virgaurea* group is widely distributed throughout the temperate and northern regions of Europe, Asia and North America (Hultén and Fries 1986; Meusel and Jäger 1992). This group is generally divided longitudinally into the European *S. virgaurea* L., the Siberian and Far Eastern *S. dahurica* (Kitag.) Kitag. ex Juz. and *S. spiraeifolia* Fisch. ex Herder, and the Chukotkan and North American *S. multiradiata* Aiton (Korobkov 2012). The European *Solidago virgaurea* L. is an exceedingly polymorphic taxon within which several closely related taxa have been described at various ranks from variety and subspecies to species (Yuzepchuk 1959; McNeill 1976; Wagenitz 1979). In a review of *Solidago virgaurea* L. variability in Europe and Asia, Slavík (2004) listed 17 taxa within this group (excluding taxa from Japan). Six names are present at the subspecies rank: *S. virgaurea* L. subsp. *virgaurea*, subsp. *dahurica* (Kitag.) Kitag., subsp. *lapponica* (With.) Tzvelev, subsp. *leiocarpa* (Benth.) Hultén, subsp. *litoralis* (Savi) Burnat and subsp. *minuta* (L.) Arcang. In addition, eleven names are listed at the “microspecies” rank: *S. taurica* Juz., *S. caucasica* Kem.-Nath., *S. jailarum* Juz., *S. turfosa* Woronow ex Grossh., *S. armena* Grossh., *S. gebleri* Juz., *S. decurrens* Lour., *S. kuhistanica* Popov, *S. spiraeifolia*, *S. kurilensis* Juz. and *S. cuprea* Juz. Two additional taxa are given by McNeill (1976), namely, *S. macrorrhiza* Lange, which may be referable to subsp. *minuta*, and subsp. *centiflora* Velen., the status of which is unresolved. Several different synonymous combinations for the taxa of this complex (Kereguélen 1999; Greuter 2006–2009) add to the confusion that exists regarding their taxonomic status and nomenclature.

Apart from its overall geographic variation, the *S. virgaurea* group exhibits differentiation along an altitudinal gradient between lowland and high-mountain populations in Europe, which Linnaeus described as separate species: *S. virgaurea* L. (Linnaeus 1753: 880; type locality “in Europae pascuis siccis”, lectotype: Herb. Linn. No. 998.15 (LINN), designated by Garbari and Cecchi in Jarvis and Turland 1998), and *S. minuta* L. (Linnaeus 1763: 1235; type locality “in Pyrenaeis”, lectotype: illustration in Hermann 1698: t. 245 – *Virga Aurea Omnium minima Floribus maximis*, designated by Garbari and Cecchi in Jarvis and Turland 1998), a high-mountain taxon from the Pyrenees. The altitudinal vicariance in the *S. virgaurea* group is also known in the Caucasus (Yuzepchuk 1959), Japan (Nishizawa et al. 2001) and North America (Porter 1893).

A lack of clarity in differentiating between the lowland and high-mountain taxa of the group and concerning their taxonomic status has led to the classification of

European high-mountain populations at various ranks from species to variety: *Solidago minuta* L., *S. virgaurea* subsp. *minuta* (L.) Arcang., *S. alpestris* Waldst. & Kit. ex Willd., *S. virgaurea* subsp. *alpestris* (Waldst. & Kit. ex Willd.) Hayek & Hegi, *S. virgaurea* var. *alpestris* (Waldst. & Kit.) Gaudin, *Solidago cambrica* Huds. and *Solidago monticola* Boreau. In the *Flora Europaea*, McNeill (1976) treated *S. lapponica* With. and *S. jaiilarum*, which are currently considered as separate taxa (Rebristaya 1987; Korobkov 2012), as synonyms of *S. virgaurea* subsp. *minuta*. In European floras and checklists, the lowland and high-mountain taxa of this group are generally ranked at the subspecies (Pitschmann and Reisl 1965; Rostański 1971; McNeill 1976; Wagenitz 1979; Dostál 1989; Rothmaler 1994; Slavík 2004; Greuter 2006–2009; Marhold et al. 1998) or species level (Yuzepchuk 1959; Hess et al. 1972). In Europe, the high-mountain taxon occurs in high mountain ranges from the Sierra Nevada through the Pyrenees and Alps to the Carpathians and Dinaric Alps, whereas the lowland *S. virgaurea* L. s. str. is common almost throughout Europe (Wagenitz 1979; Slavík 2004).

In this work, we have adopted the Linnaean names *S. minuta* L. for the European high-mountain taxon and *S. virgaurea* L. for the lowland taxon. *Solidago virgaurea* and *S. minuta* have the same ploidy level, which in various areas of its distribution has been determined to be  $2n=18$  (Skalińska et al. 1978; Wagenitz 1979; Slavík 2004; Marhold et al. 2007). The morphological characters that have been used to differentiate between *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta* include plant size, leaf size and shape, type of inflorescence, stem indumentum, shape and dimensions of involucral bracts, capitulum dimensions and the number and size of florets (Szymkiewicz 1929; Rostański 1971; McNeill 1976; Wagenitz 1979; Slavík 2004). However, it has been emphasised that apart from two easily recognisable morphotypes, a wide range of intermediates exists between the lowland and high-mountain forms in the contact zone of the two taxa (Hess et al. 1972; Szafer et al. 1976; Skawińska 1981; Slavík 2004), which are not clearly distinguishable (Wagenitz 1979).

Pairs of altitudinal vicariants such as *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta* exemplify closely related plant species that have drawn wider interest in terms of taxonomy, evolution and comparative ecology (cf. Krahulec et al. 1999). The present study of the *S. virgaurea* group in Poland aimed at *i*) examining overall morphological variation in the *S. virgaurea* group in Poland, *ii*) determining the range of morphological variation for *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta*, *iii*) considering whether characters exist by which the two taxa can be clearly separated, and if so, presenting the ranges of their values, and *iv*) testing the stability of the high-mountain morphotype by cultivating individuals transplanted from various altitudes together with individuals of the lowland morphotype in lowland experimental plots.

## Material and Methods

### *Plant Material*

Flowering plant materials were collected in the field along an altitudinal gradient from 80 localities of the *Solidago virgaurea* group in Poland during the seasons of 2005–2008. The investigated gradient extends from the lowlands of northern Poland

to the alpine zone of the Western Carpathians and Sudetes in southern Poland. Most of the population samples (56) were collected from different altitudes of the Tatra Mts., from the foothills to the peaks. Each population sample usually consisted of 25 plants, but fewer plants were collected in some localities. Plants were collected in the field from relatively small areas (in mountains, up to ca. 15 m vertically and ca. 20 m horizontally; the areas were sometimes larger in the lowlands) and from phytosociologically uniform vegetation units. The sampled populations were morphologically homogeneous; apart from the intra-population variation of the natural populations, the plants collected at particular localities were very similar to one another. The statistical distributions of their quantitative character values deviated somewhat from normal distribution but were unimodal in every case. The population samples are listed in Appendix 1, and their distributions are given in Fig. 1.

Plants were dried and preserved as herbarium specimens for morphometric analyses. All study specimens were deposited in the KRAM (herbarium of the Institute of Botany at the Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow).

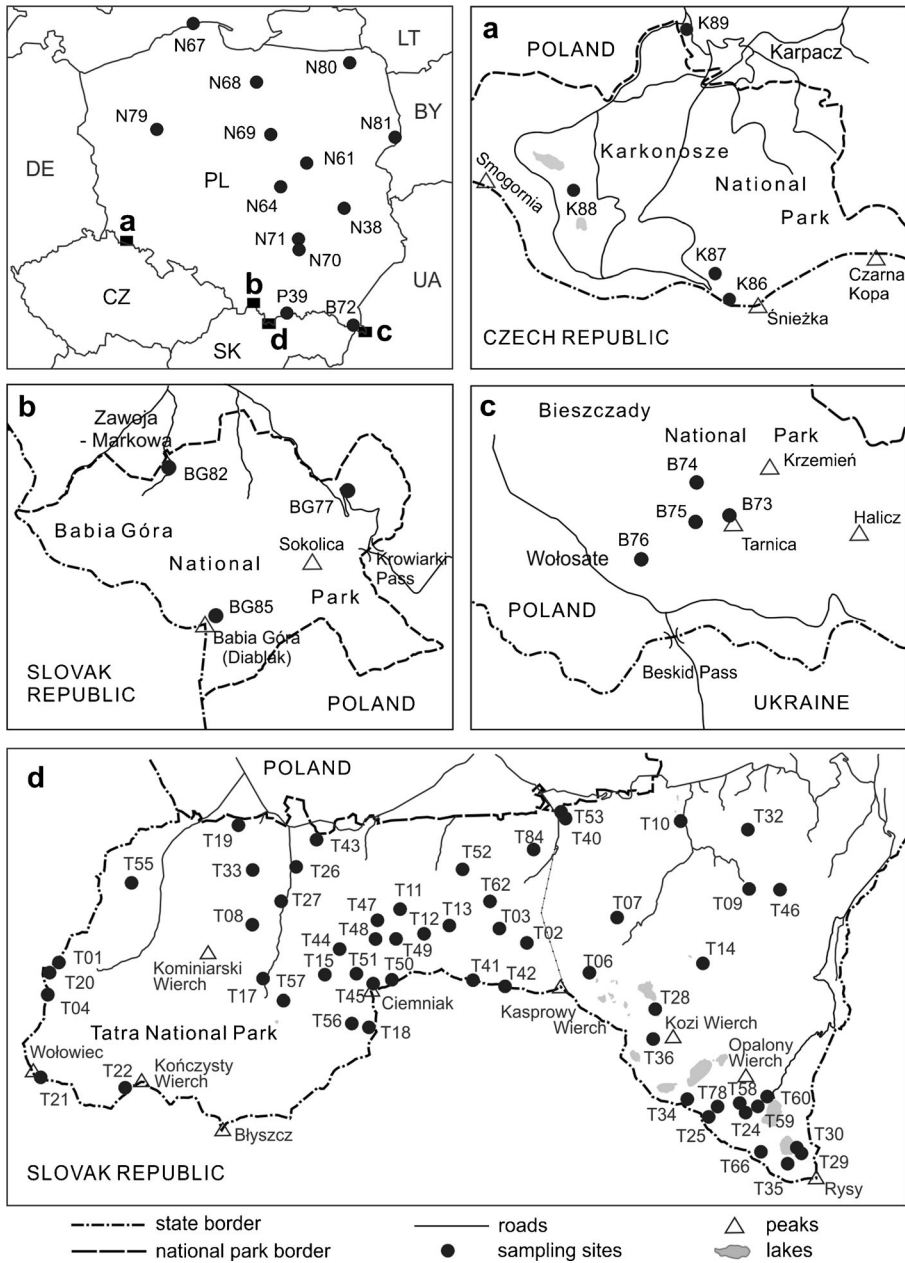
### ***Common Garden Experiment***

To test the stability of the high-mountain morphotype and compare it with that of the lowland morphotype, we transplanted six plants per population from certain *S. minuta* and *S. virgaurea* populations to an experimental field established in the lowlands of central Poland (Wola Łagowska village at 320 m a.s.l.). The main collection from the Tatra Mts. was transplanted during the first year of the study (2005), and additional plants were transplanted in 2006. This paper presents the results of three and four years of cultivation for 62 *S. minuta* plants from 14 localities and 47 *S. virgaurea* plants from 11 localities that flowered in 2009. Because some plants did not have flowering shoots in 2009, the total number of specimens in the study is less than the number of transplanted plants (see Appendix 1 for a list of localities from which the plants were transplanted).

### ***Morphometric Analyses***

Twenty-five characters (17 continuous quantitative, seven discrete quantitative and one semi-quantitative) were measured or scored for 1,746 flowering plants from 80 populations, and eight ratios were derived from these characters (Table 1). Characters included those traditionally used for differentiating between *S. minuta* and *S. virgaurea*, as found in determination keys and floras, and others that appeared potentially useful for distinguishing the two taxa.

Multivariate analyses were performed for 32 quantitative characters (one semi-quantitative character was excluded) and for a subset of nine characters consisting exclusively of capitulum and floret characters. Additional analyses on the subset of nine characters were performed to exclude vegetative characters with greater plasticity, which might reflect the habitat effect to a higher degree (e.g., thermal conditions that change along altitudinal gradients). Three floret and involucre bract characters (LFL, LW/LL and BW/BL) were not included in the subset of capitulum and floret characters due to their high variation in the populations of both taxa, which makes their separation less clear.



**Fig. 1** Sampling sites of the populations of the *Solidago virgaurea* group. Detailed maps show the sampled populations in the Karkonosze Mts. (a), Babia Góra Mt. (b), Bieszczady Mts. (c), and in the Tatra Mts. (d)

For some plants it was not possible to measure or score all the examined characters; therefore, the case deletion method was applied to plants with missing data values. Thus, multivariate analyses based on individuals and 32 characters were performed for 1,380 individual samples (889 *S. minuta* and 491 *S. virgaurea*) and on nine characters for 1,578 individual samples (987 *S. minuta* and 591 *S. virgaurea*).

**Table 1** List of characters measured and used in the morphometric analyses

Continuous quantitative characters	
PH	Plant height from the base to the top of the inflorescence (mm)
InfL	Inflorescence length from the lowest shoot node with developed capitulum to the top of the inflorescence (mm)
IBL <sup>a</sup>	Inflorescence branch length measured on branch at 1/3 down of the inflorescence length (mm)
SL	Capitulum stalk length (mm)
CH <sup>*b</sup>	Capitulum height from the base of the capitulum to the top of the highest tubular florets (mm)
InvH <sup>*</sup>	Involucre height from the base of the capitulum to the top of the highest bract apices (mm)
BL <sup>*</sup>	Inner involucre bract length (mm)
BW <sup>*</sup>	Inner involucre bract width (mm)
LFL	Ligulate floret length (mm)
LW <sup>*</sup>	Ligule width (mm)
TFL <sup>*</sup>	Tubular floret length (mm)
MLL <sup>c</sup>	Middle stem leaf length (mm)
MLLL	Middle stem leaf lamina length (mm)
MLLW	Middle stem leaf lamina width (mm)
ULL <sup>d</sup>	Upper stem leaf length (mm)
ULLL	Upper stem leaf lamina length (mm)
ULLW	Upper stem leaf lamina width (mm)
Discrete quantitative characters	
NC	Number of capitula per plant
NCB	Number of capitula per single branch (the same branch described in IBL character above)
NSN	Number of shoot nodes – the total number of nodes from the base of the plant to the top of the inflorescence
NB3	Number of inflorescence branches having more than three capitula
NB <sup>*</sup>	Number of involucre bracts per capitulum
NLF <sup>*</sup>	Number of ligulate florets per capitulum
NTF <sup>*</sup>	Number of tubular florets per capitulum
Semi-quantitative character	
DHB <sup>c</sup>	Differentiation of the height of involucre bracts: 1 – Bract apices form approx. one row on the involucre 2 – Bract apices form approx. two rows on the involucre 3 – Bract apices form approx. three rows on the involucre 4 – Bract apices form approx. four rows on the involucre
Ratio characters	
InfL/PH, IBL/InfL, BW/BL, LW/LL, MLLW/MLLL, ULLW/ULLL, ULL/InfL, ULL/MLL	

\*Characters of the capitulum and florets used in a subset of nine characters in multivariate morphometric analyses.

<sup>a</sup> An inflorescence branch is defined as a structure growing from a node, having the form of a capitulum stalk when only one capitulum was present, to a well-developed branch with many capitula.

<sup>b</sup> Characters concerning the capitulum and florets were obtained from one well-developed capitulum from the upper part of the inflorescence but excluding the uppermost capitulum on the shoot apex due to its larger size and often caused by two or more non-separated capitula growing together.

<sup>c</sup> The middle leaf was defined as growing from the middle node between the first lower leaf and the upper stem leaf. In the case of an even number of nodes, the leaf from the lower node was taken.

<sup>d</sup> The upper leaf was defined as growing from a node one below the start of the inflorescence. The inflorescence starts from a node in which a developed capitulum grows on a stalk or branch.

<sup>e</sup> Character scored and discussed in the text but not used in multivariate morphometric analyses.



Pearson (parametric) and Spearman (non-parametric) correlation coefficients (Zar 2010) were computed for the matrix including all plants and 32 of their characters to eliminate pairs of highly correlated characters from further analyses (Legendre and Legendre 1998).

Cluster analyses based on populations (UPGMA, an unweighted pair-group method using arithmetic averages and the Ward method, using minimisation of the increase of the sum of squares; Podani 2000) were performed to generate a hypothesis on population groupings. The populations were represented by the mean values of the measured characters. The data were standardised using a zero mean and unit standard deviation, and the Euclidean distance was used to compute the secondary matrix.

Principal component analyses (PCA) (Sneath and Sokal 1973; Podani 2000) were performed on the basis of the correlation matrices of the measured characters. The analyses were run using both populations and individual plants as objects. This method was used to reduce the multidimensionality of the original character space and to display an overall variation pattern along the first two components that extracted most of the variation.

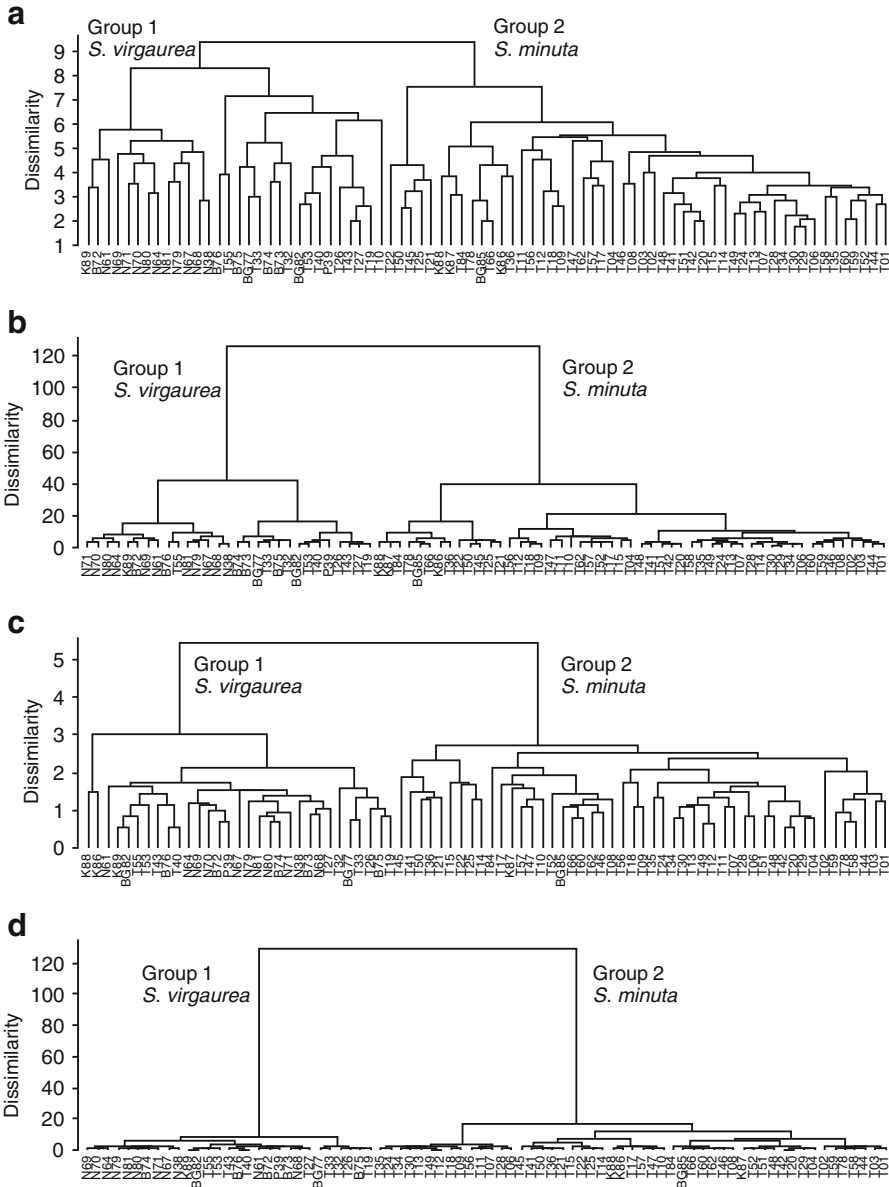
Canonical discriminant analysis (CDA), which maximises between-group differences (Klecka 1980), was performed with individual plants and all quantitative characters to determine the extent of morphological separation between the predefined groups and to evaluate characters to distinguish groups. This method was also used to test the results from cluster analyses based on population means. Two groups resolved by cluster analyses (see Results) were defined as CDA groups. Plants from three populations (T10, K86 and K88) that were resolved differently in cluster analyses (one time among populations of *S. minuta*, the other time among populations of *S. virgaurea*, depending on the classification algorithm and variables set used) were not included in the CDA calculation of the discriminant function but were present in the classifying stage using this function. Parametric classificatory discriminant analysis was performed to estimate the percentage of plants correctly assigned to predetermined groups (taxa). Discriminant analyses require a multivariate normal distribution of characters but have been demonstrated to be highly robust against deviations from this assumption (Sneath and Sokal 1973; Klecka 1980).

Means, standard deviations, minima, maxima, and the 10th and 90th percentiles were computed for all quantitative characters. The analyses were performed using Statistica ver. 7 (StatSoft Inc. 2004).

## Results

### *Morphometric Analyses*

The results of our cluster analyses based on population averages performed for two different algorithms (UPGMA and the Ward method) and two sets of characters (32 and nine characters) indicate that all 80 populations can be divided into two clusters, namely Group 1 and Group 2, which can be identified as *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta*, respectively (Fig. 2); however, the results differ slightly between the two algorithms. The Ward method applied to the two sets of characters gave identical results in population clustering, grouping 29 populations in Group 1 and 51 populations

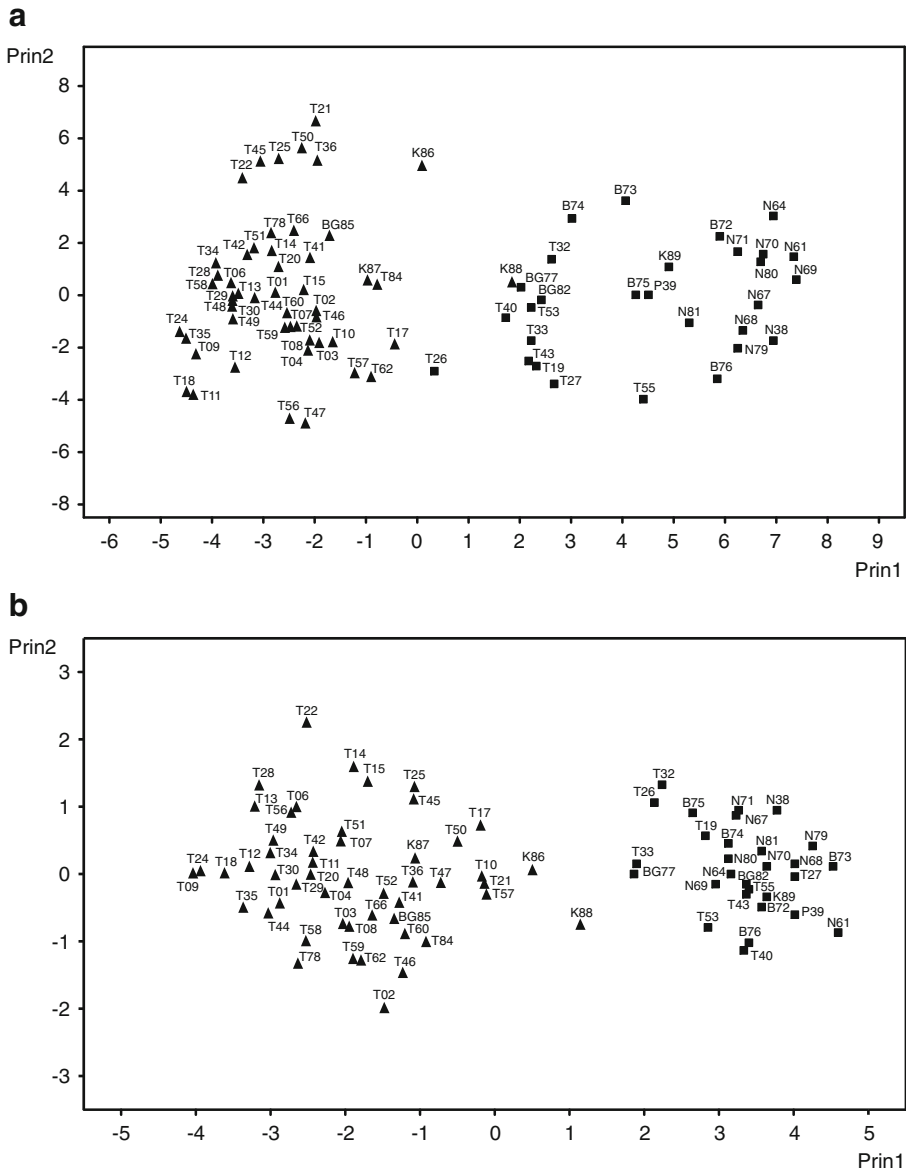


**Fig. 2** Cluster analyses of 80 populations of the *Solidago virgaurea* group. **a** UPGMA, 32 characters; **b** Ward method, 32 characters; **c** UPGMA, nine characters; and **d** Ward method, nine characters

in Group 2 (Fig. 2b,d). Unlike the Ward method, a UPGMA based on 32 characters placed population T10 (Tatra Mts., 1,159 m a.s.l.) in Group 1 (Fig. 2a) whereas a UPGMA based on nine characters placed populations K86 and K88 (Karkonosze Mts., 1,404 m a.s.l. and 1,164 m a.s.l., respectively) in Group 1, but these populations appeared to be separate from the rest of the populations in Group 1 (Fig. 2c).

In the ordination diagrams of PCA based on population samples (Fig. 3a,b), the populations of *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta* formed two groupings; *S. virgaurea* is





**Fig. 3** PCA ordination graph of 80 populations of the *Solidago virgaurea* group based on 32 (a) and nine (b) morphological characters. The first two components explain 44.6 % and 19.5 % (a) and 80.9 % and 6.7 % (b) of the observed variation, respectively. Triangles – *Solidago minuta*, squares – *Solidago virgaurea*

shown on the right and *S. minuta* on the left of the diagrams. In the analysis based on 32 characters (Fig. 3a), the separation of the two population groups was not as clear as it was in the analysis based on nine characters (Fig. 3b). In PCA based on 32 characters, population K88 (Karkonosze Mts., 1,164 m a.s.l.), which in most cluster analyses was grouped in Group 2 (*S. minuta*), was resolved in a position among the populations of *S. virgaurea*, whereas population T26 (Tatra Mts., 947 m a.s.l.), which

was grouped in Group 1 (*S. virgaurea*) in all cluster analyses, was resolved in a position close to the *S. minuta* populations (Fig. 3a). PCA ordination based on the subset of nine characters resulted in two distinct non-overlapping groupings (Fig. 3b), but one population (K88) lay between the two groups. The characters with the highest correlations (Table 2) with the first axis in the set of 32 characters were involucre height (InvH), number of tubular florets per capitulum (NTF) and inner involucre bract length (BL). The characters with the highest correlations in the set of nine characters were involucre height (InvH), number of tubular florets per capitulum (NTF) and capitulum height (CH).

In the PCA using individuals as objects, the plants from the two taxa formed two groupings; *S. virgaurea* is shown on the right and *S. minuta* on the left of the diagrams (Fig. 4a,b). The ordination of plants based on all 32 characters did not clearly separate the plant groupings within the two taxa, leaving a zone of overlap (Fig. 4a). However, the PCA based on nine capitulum and floret characters distinctly grouped the *S. minuta* and *S. virgaurea* plants, leaving only a very narrow overlap zone (Fig. 4b). The characters with the highest correlations (Table 2) with the first axis in the set of 32 characters were involucre height (InvH), number of shoot nodes (NSN), number of inflorescence branches having more than three capitula (NB3), number of tubular florets per capitulum (NTF), number of capitula per plant (NC) and plant height (PH). The characters with the highest correlations with the first axis in the set of nine characters were the number of tubular florets per capitulum (NTF), involucre height (InvH), tubular floret length (TFL) and involucre bract length (BL).

The Pearson (parametric) and Spearman (non-parametric) correlation coefficients did not exceed 0.95 for any pair of characters in the entire dataset; therefore, all 32 quantitative characters were included in the subsequent discriminant analyses. The pair of characters for which the Pearson correlation coefficient exceeded 0.90 was ULL–ULLL (0.922); the Spearman correlation coefficient exceeded 0.90 for ULL–ULLL (0.925), NC–NCB (0.916), NCB–NB3 (0.916) and NC–NB3 (0.901) (see Table 1 for character abbreviations).

Canonical discriminant analysis based on individual plants demonstrated a strong separation between *S. minuta* and *S. virgaurea* (Fig. 5). The characters exhibiting the highest correlations with the canonical axis were the number of tubular florets (NTF), involucre bract width (WB), involucre height (InvH) and capitulum height (CH) (Table 2). A very high number of plants were correctly assigned to the corresponding taxa in the classificatory discriminant analysis. For *S. minuta*, 866 of 889 individuals (97.4 %) were correctly classified, and for *S. virgaurea*, 486 of 491 individuals (99.0 %) were correctly classified. Misclassified plants predefined in CDA as *S. minuta* originated from populations in the Tatra Mts. (T10, 1,159 m a.s.l., two plants; T17, 1,073 m a.s.l., four plants; T57, 1,165 m a.s.l., three plants; T47, 1,411 m a.s.l., two plants) and the Karkonosze Mts. (K88, 1,164 m a.s.l., 10 plants; K87, 1,257 m a.s.l., two plants). The misclassified *S. virgaurea* plants were from populations in the Tatra Mts. (T26, 947 m a.s.l., one plant; T43, 996 m a.s.l., one plant; T32, 1,318 m a.s.l., one plant) and on Mt. Babia Góra (BG77, 883 m a.s.l., two plants).

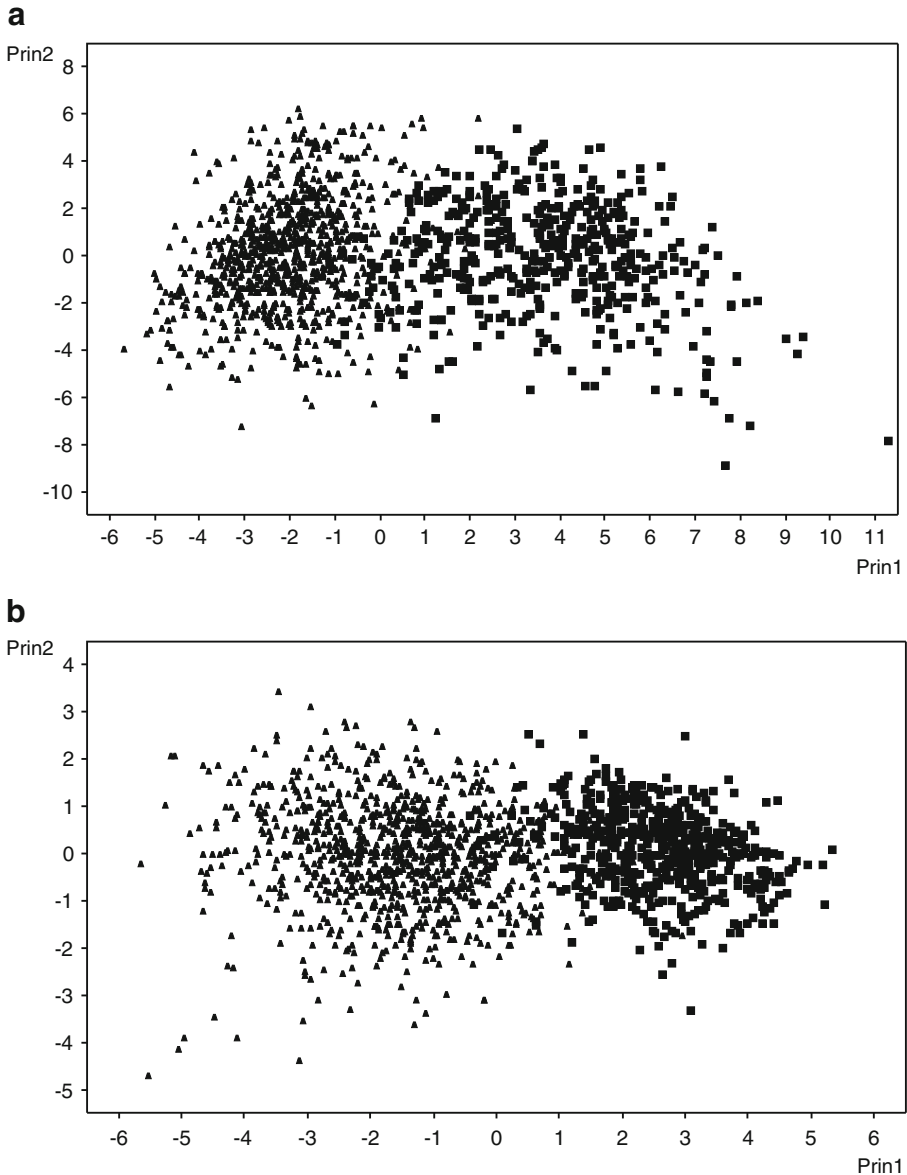
The means, standard deviations, minima, maxima, and the 10th and 90th percentiles for quantitative characters are presented in Table 3. Figure 6 shows the variation in characters with the highest contributions to separating *S. minuta* and *S. virgaurea*, as revealed by PCA and CDA. Although the minima and maxima of

**Table 2** Results of morphometric analyses of the *Solidago virgaurea* group

	A (Fig. 3a)		B (Fig. 3b)		C (Fig. 4a)		D (Fig. 4b)		E (Fig. 5)
	Prin1	Prin2	Prin1	Prin2	Prin1	Prin2	Prin1	Prin2	Can1
InvH	-0.240	-0.075	-0.380	0.131	-0.262	-0.097	-0.351	-0.075	0.472
CH	-0.218	-0.078	-0.357	0.164	-0.239	-0.099	-0.325	-0.221	0.402
NB	-0.220	0.031	-0.319	-0.492	-0.208	-0.011	-0.332	-0.345	0.373
NLF	-0.226	-0.012	-0.292	-0.483	-0.199	-0.037	-0.332	-0.254	0.350
NTF	-0.240	0.031	-0.363	-0.351	-0.249	-0.011	-0.355	-0.185	0.587
BL	-0.236	-0.069	-0.346	0.189	-0.237	-0.097	-0.341	0.067	0.372
BW	-0.229	0.115	-0.337	0.115	-0.238	0.028	-0.335	0.253	0.514
TFL	-0.227	-0.042	-0.349	0.297	-0.228	-0.089	-0.345	0.089	0.379
LW	-0.186	0.038	-0.234	0.470	-0.153	-0.024	-0.278	0.807	0.211
LFL	-0.211	-0.181			-0.209	-0.141			0.278
LFW/LFL	0.008	0.232			0.010	0.080			0.009
BW/BL	-0.110	0.254			-0.063	0.119			0.148
SL	-0.167	-0.118			-0.156	-0.124			0.217
PH	0.208	-0.141			0.240	-0.169			-0.357
InfL	0.159	-0.179			0.152	-0.287			-0.164
InfL/PH	-0.099	-0.102			-0.091	-0.215			0.136
NSN	0.223	-0.024			0.255	-0.049			-0.373
NB3	0.230	-0.062			0.252	-0.141			-0.354
IBL	0.195	-0.098			0.177	-0.224			-0.181
IBL/InfL	0.161	0.012			0.122	-0.077			-0.119
NCB	0.228	-0.067			0.230	-0.176			-0.303
NC	0.223	-0.050			0.241	-0.158			-0.300
MLL	-0.027	-0.367			-0.036	-0.307			-0.001
MLLL	0.072	-0.347			0.065	-0.283			-0.157
MLLW	0.031	-0.328			0.017	-0.257			-0.104
ULL	-0.137	-0.312			-0.134	-0.338			0.149
ULLL	-0.096	-0.356			-0.095	-0.348			0.088
ULLW	-0.111	-0.322			-0.113	-0.312			0.105
ULL/InfL	-0.153	0.159			-0.144	0.162			0.179
MLLW/MLLL	-0.093	0.000			-0.072	-0.001			0.060
ULLW/ULLL	-0.082	-0.006			-0.076	-0.025			0.074
ULL/MLL	-0.165	0.002			-0.135	-0.113			0.196

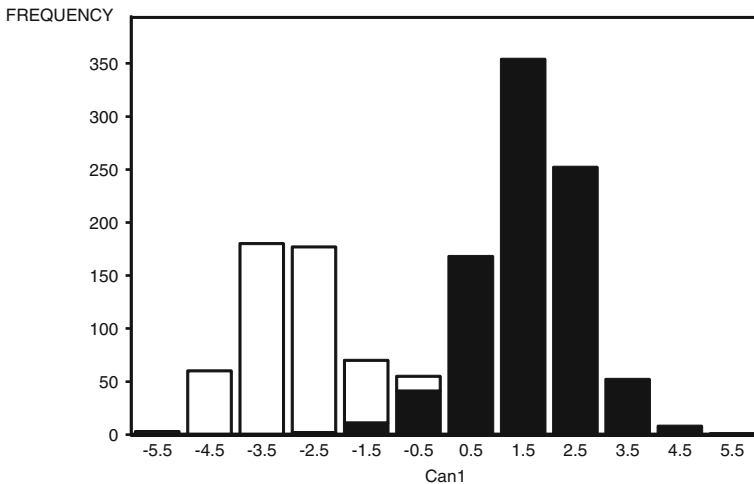
A, B – eigenvectors expressing correlations of 32 (A) and nine (B) measured characters with the principal component axes of PCA based on 80 population samples; C, D – eigenvectors expressing correlations of 32 (C) and nine (D) measured characters with the principal component axes of PCA based on 1,300 and 1,578 individuals, respectively; E – total canonical structure expressing correlations of the measured characters with the canonical axis. For character explanations, see Table 1.

all characters presented in Fig. 6 overlap considerably for the two taxa, the range of means $\pm$ 1 standard deviation of most do not overlap at all. The involucres of *S. minuta*



**Fig. 4** PCA ordination graph of individuals of the *Solidago virgaurea* group based on 32 (**a**, 1,300 individuals) and nine (**b**, 1,578 individuals) morphological characters. The first two components explain 30.0 % and 17.2 % (**a**) and 60.1 % and 12.0 % (**b**) of the observed variation, respectively. Triangles – *Solidago minuta*, squares – *Solidago virgaurea*

and *S. virgaurea* differ highly with respect to the number of rows formed by involucre bract apices (semi-quantitative character DHB). The involucre bract apices of *S. minuta* most often formed two (86.1 %) but rarely one (5.2 %) or three (8.7 %) rows whereas those from *S. virgaurea* formed mainly three (79.4 %) but rarely four (14.7 %) or two (5.9 %) rows.



**Fig. 5** CDA histogram of *Solidago virgaurea* (white) and *Solidago minuta* (black) individuals based on 32 morphological characters

### Common Garden Experiment

Transplanted *S. minuta* and *S. virgaurea* plants were cultivated for three and four years in an experimental field in the lowlands; the results (Fig. 7) show that the differences in morphological characters between the two taxa are conspicuous and stable. *Solidago minuta* and *S. virgaurea* differed both in vegetative (Fig. 7a,b,c) and in capitulum and floret (Fig. 7d,e,f) characters. The phenotype of *S. minuta* grown under lowland conditions did not exhibit a tendency to change over the cultivation period.

### Discussion

Our morphological analyses support the separation of two well-delimited and morphologically distinct taxa within the *Solidago virgaurea* group in Poland, which correspond well with the division of the group into lowland and high-mountain taxa in European floras. The most important characters for their division are the number of tubular florets per capitulum (NTF), involucre bract width (WB) and involucre height (InvH).

European floras and keys in which the high-mountain taxon is distinguished provide discriminative characters referring to the plant's habit and some characters of its capitula, involucre and florets. All the measured vegetative characters in this study described the typical lowland and high-mountain morphotypes but had less value than the capitulum characters for the identification of the two taxa. Cluster analyses and principal component analysis based on nine capitulum characters separated the groups of taxa more clearly than the analyses based on 32 characters, including many characters related to plant habit and leaves. The importance of capitulum and floret characters for delimiting the two taxa was confirmed in canonical discriminant analysis as performed for all 32 quantitative characters studied.

**Table 3** Mean ( $\bar{x}$ ), standard deviation (s.d.), minimum (min.), maximum (max.) and percentiles (10 %, 90 %) of quantitative characters used in morphometric analyses of the *Solidago virgaurea* group in Poland (upper row for *S. minuta*, lower for *S. virgaurea*)

Character	$\bar{x}$	s.d.	min.	10 %	90 %	max.
Plant height – PH (mm)	337.2	121.32	60.0	175.0	490.0	760.0
	622.2	253.17	125.0	310.0	970.0	1450.0
Inflorescence length – InfL (mm)	144.3	76.04	8.0	50.0	245.0	420.0
	219.5	123.25	25.0	80.0	380.0	780.0
InfL/PH	0.42	0.1528	0.06	0.22	0.62	0.93
	0.35	0.1209	0.09	0.20	0.51	0.83
Number of shoot nodes – NSN	17.6	4.26	6	13	23	37
	30.4	11.9	10	17	46	71
Number of branches with more than 3 capitula	1.5	2.42	0	0	5	14
	7.6	5.53	0	0	15	26
Inflorescence branch length – IBL (mm)	40.3	30.14	1.0	13.0	75.0	235.0
	90.1	85.59	10.0	20.0	220.0	590.0
IBL/InfL	0.28	0.1302	0.04	0.15	0.46	1.00
	0.38	0.2120	0.07	0.15	0.70	1.12
Number of capitula per plant – NC	24.7	18.35	2	8	46	174
	100.6	92.16	5	20	202	762
Number of capitula per single branch – NCB	3.4	2.62	1	1	6	21
	13.1	12.07	1	3	27	144
Capitulum stalk length – SL (mm)	13.0	7.38	1.0	6.0	23.0	60.0
	6.9	2.94	2.0	4.0	11.0	22.0
Capitulum height – CH (mm)	9.1	1.15	6.5	8.0	10.5	14.0
	7.2	0.76	5.0	6.0	8.0	10.0
Involucre height – InvH (mm)	7.4	0.88	4.5	6.5	8.5	10.0
	5.7	0.71	4.0	5.0	6.5	7.5
Number of involucre bracts per capitulum – NB	23.5	3.56	15	19	28	40
	17.9	2.76	11	15	22	30
Inner involucre bract length – BL (mm)	7.1	0.92	4.0	6.0	8.3	10.5
	5.7	0.76	3.7	4.7	6.7	7.8
Inner involucre bract width BW (mm)	1.5	0.23	1.0	1.3	1.8	2.5
	1.1	0.15	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.6
Number of ligulate florets per capitulum – NLF	11.0	2.13	5	8	14	20
	8.1	1.55	5	6	10	13
Number of tubular florets per capitulum – NTF	28.4	6.20	11	21	36	64
	14.4	2.94	5	11	18	26
Ligulate floret length – LFL (mm)	9.8	1.22	6.0	8.3	11.4	14.1
	8.3	1.05	5.4	7.1	9.7	12.3
Ligule width – LW (mm)	1.8	0.31	0.9	1.5	2.2	3.0
	1.5	0.27	0.9	1.2	1.9	2.5
Tubular floret length – TFL (mm)	6.6	0.57	4.8	5.9	7.3	9.0
	5.6	0.51	3.6	5.0	6.3	7.1

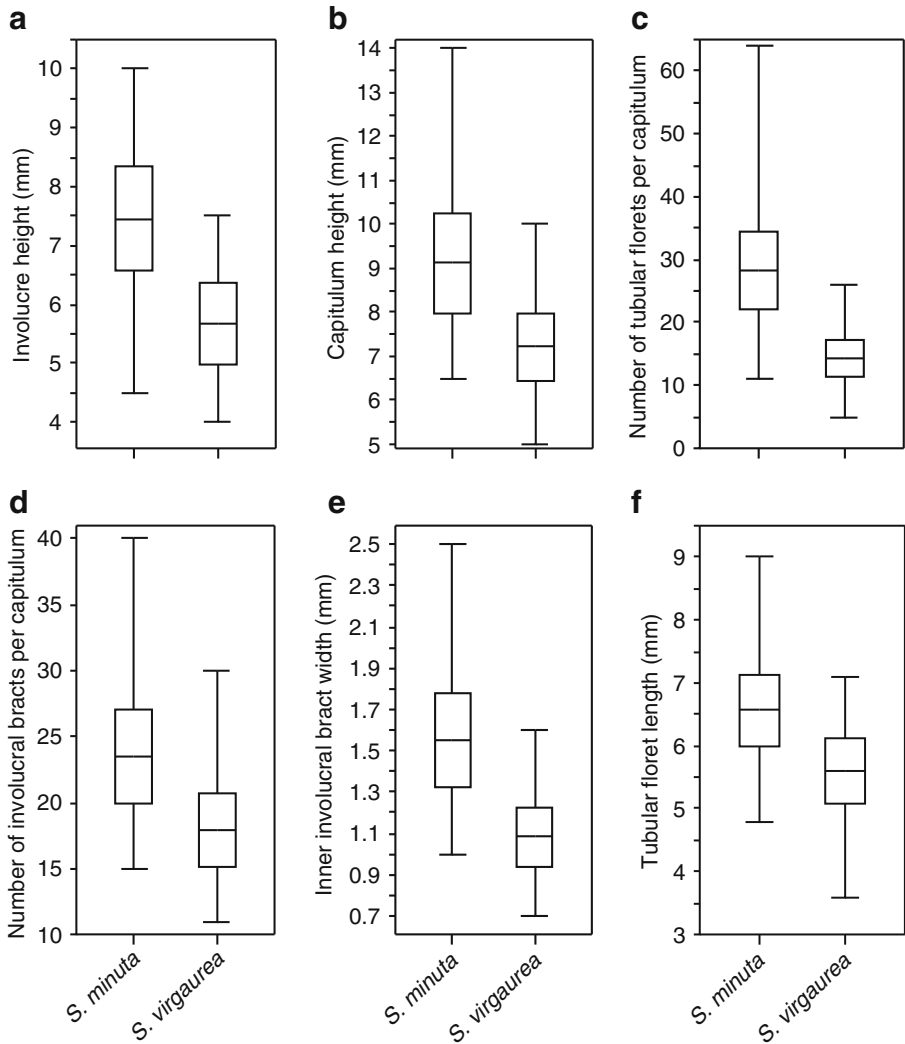
**Table 3** (continued)

Character	x	s.d.	min.	10 %	90 %	max.
BW/BL	0.22	0.0410	0.12	0.17	0.27	0.39
	0.19	0.0365	0.11	0.15	0.24	0.37
LW/LFL	0.19	0.0378	0.08	0.14	0.24	0.38
	0.19	0.0364	0.10	0.14	0.23	0.31
Middle stem leaf length – MLL (mm)	117.4	31.33	30.0	76.0	155.0	217.0
	116.5	33.86	45.0	73.0	161.0	225.0
Middle stem leaf lamina length – MLLL (mm)	71.0	21.57	17.0	45.0	100.0	155.0
	85.9	25.28	30.0	52.0	120.0	185.0
Middle stem leaf lamina width – MLLW (mm)	22.5	7.44	4.0	14.0	32.0	62.0
	25.9	9.52	7.0	14.0	40.0	60.0
MLLW/MLLL	0.32	0.0624	0.03	0.24	0.40	0.69
	0.30	0.0700	0.13	0.21	0.40	0.53
Upper stem leaf length – ULL (mm)	83.2	25.87	20.0	50.0	117.0	190.0
	67.0	23.06	20.0	39.0	97.0	162.0
Upper stem leaf lamina length – ULLL (mm)	66.3	20.21	12.0	40.0	92.0	165.0
	58.1	20.53	17.0	34.0	86.0	127.0
Upper stem leaf lamina width – ULLW (mm)	18.9	6.29	3.0	12.0	27.0	44.0
	15.9	7.29	3.0	8.0	26.0	46.0
ULLW/ULLL	0.29	0.0586	0.11	0.22	0.36	0.61
	0.27	0.0722	0.10	0.18	0.36	0.53
ULL/Infl	0.74	0.4650	0.16	0.39	1.16	6.62
	0.41	0.2773	0.09	0.15	0.80	1.63
ULL/MLL	0.73	0.1568	0.24	0.52	0.93	1.4
	0.59	0.1547	0.17	0.38	0.79	1.1

Numerical analyses also revealed that morphologically intermediate forms exist between *S. minuta* and *S. virgaurea*. This was shown in the cluster analyses in which, depending on the algorithm employed (UPGMA, Ward method), populations T10 (Tatra Mts., 1,159 m a.s.l.) and K88 (Karkonosze Mts., 1,164 m a.s.l.) were classified differently. The different classification of population K86 (Karkonosze Mts., 1,404 m a.s.l.) was most likely explained by the small capitula of plants growing at the high altitudes of the Sudetes. The existence of intermediate plants was also suggested by the overlapping of plants in the PCA ordination diagrams and in the CDA histogram. However, the zone in which plants of the two taxa overlapped by morphology was relatively narrow and did not obscure the separation of two well-defined groups.

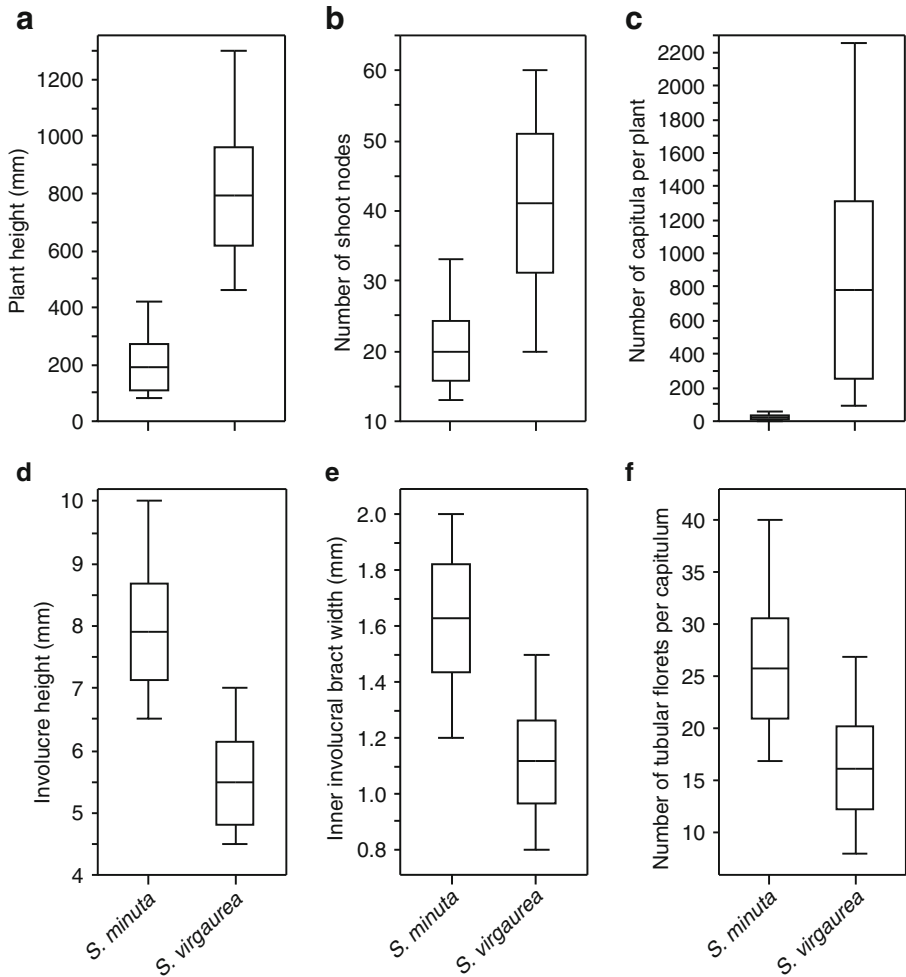
In the *Flora Europaea*, the author of the genus *Solidago* (McNeill 1976) did not clearly distinguish between high-mountain and lowland taxa. McNeill presented a morphological description and the values of some quantitative characters for *S. virgaurea* sensu lato but provided values for only two of them (stem height and involucre height) for subsp. *minuta*, which were completely within the range of variation of *S. virgaurea* s.l., making it impossible to identify lowland and high-mountain taxa on that basis.





**Fig. 6** Variation of selected morphological characters in *Solidago minuta* ( $N=1128$ ) and *Solidago virgaurea* ( $N=618$ ). Horizontal lines represent means, rectangles define means  $\pm$  1 standard deviation, and whiskers represent minima and maxima

One of the characters distinguishing the high-mountain from the lowland taxon of the *S. virgaurea* group is capitulum size. This character was noted in the first description of the high-mountain morphotype (*Virga Aurea Omnium minima Floribus maximis*, in Hermann 1698) and was subsequently repeated in floras and keys. The character was later quantitatively expressed as capitulum diameter, which was measured to be 10–15 mm for the lowland and 15–20 mm for the high-mountain taxon (Hess et al. 1972; Dostál 1989; Rothmaler 1994; Slavík 2004). In this work, however, the capitulum size is expressed as the number of florets, a character not biased by herbarium specimen pressing and one that is widely used in taxonomic works on the genus *Solidago* (e.g., Weber 1997; Nishizawa et al. 2001) and on other taxa from the



**Fig. 7** Variation of selected morphological characters of *Solidago minuta* ( $N=62$ ) and *Solidago virgaurea* ( $N=47$ ) cultivated in an experimental field in the lowlands. Horizontal lines represent means, rectangles define the means  $\pm$  1 standard deviation, and whiskers represent minima and maxima

Asteraceae family (e.g., Hodálová 1999; Španiel et al. 2008). Our results show that *S. minuta* has considerably more florets than *S. virgaurea*, especially tubular florets (Table 3, key below).

Another important character for expressing capitulum size as given in some European floras for discriminating between *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta* is involucre height; for the lowland and high-mountain taxa, these were determined to be (4.5) 5–7 mm and 7–9 (10) mm, respectively (Rostański 1971; Hess et al. 1972; Wagenitz 1979; Slavík 2004). Our results approximately match these values (Table 3). The range overlap of involucre height for the two taxa is partly due to the small size of the capitula of some *S. minuta* plants growing in the Tatra Mts. at elevations greater than 2,000 m a.s.l.

The results of our morphometric study differ from data presented by Slavík (2004) in the Flora of the Czech Republic. The discrepancies concern morphological characters of

the capitulum, that is, the number of involucre bracts and the numbers of ligulate and tubular florets. For subsp. *virgaurea*, Slavík reports approximately 30 involucre bracts per involucre, most often 13 ligulate florets per capitulum and approximately 30 tubular florets per capitulum; for subsp. *minuta* the reported values are 18–22 involucre bracts, 11 ligulate florets and 26 tubular florets. The values we noted most frequently (modes) were 17 involucre bracts, 8 ligulate florets and 14 tubular florets for *S. virgaurea*, and 24 involucre bracts, 11 ligulate florets and 26 tubular florets for *S. minuta*. These differences are important because they concern diagnostic characters. Because the tubular and ligulate florets do not differ greatly in size between *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta*, the data presented by Slavík (2004) appear to imply that the lowland taxon has a capitulum slightly larger or equal in size to that of the high-mountain taxon. This, however, would contradict not only our results but also the data presented in many European floras (mentioned above) and in the Flora of the Czech Republic (Slavík 2004). Morphometric revision of the plant material of the *S. virgaurea* group from the Czech Republic is required to clarify this issue.

It is worth noting that Nishizawa et al. (2001) found analogous morphological patterns for other taxa of the *Solidago virgaurea* complex along an elevation gradient in Japan, that is, lowland *S. virgaurea* subsp. *asiatica* Kitam. and high-mountain *S. virgaurea* subsp. *leiocarpa* (Benth.) Hultén. The high-mountain taxon exhibited a greater number of tubular florets per capitulum than the lowland taxon, and the number of tubular florets per capitulum was found to be an important diagnostic character for the lowland and high-mountain taxa.

Although not used in numerical analyses, the differentiation of involucre bract height (DHB), a semi-quantitative character of the capitulum, proved useful for identifying taxa. The values we obtained for this character in *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta* (see Results) agree with the characteristics given by Wagenitz (1979).

We did not use the morphological characters of the basal and lowest stem leaves in this study, which had previously been used to distinguish the two taxa (Rostański 1971) because they are already wilted at the flowering stage. In our material, basal leaves were present only in 22 % of the specimens, and the lowest stem leaves were present in 41 %.

During three and four years of the *S. minuta* and *S. virgaurea* cultivation in the lowland plot, both taxa showed stable phenotypes, which must therefore have a genetic background. None of the observed morphological characters in *S. minuta* that were transplanted from high-mountain altitudes to the lowlands changed during the cultivation period. In cultivating transplanted *S. minuta*, we allowed for the possibility that high-mountain plants exhibit floral preformation; that is, buds may be formed underground one, two or even three years before starting their development (Billings 1974; Körner 2003). The very longest preformation period was reported to be four years in *Polygonum viviparum* (Diggle 1997). Assessing the characters of plants grown in lowland conditions from buds formed previously in an alpine environment may be a potential source of methodological error. To rule out this possibility, we extended the cultivation period to four years for some populations. During cultivation, the plants of both taxa also exhibited differences in phenology. The flowering of *S. minuta* lasted for approximately one month from mid-May to mid-June and that of *S. virgaurea* from the lowlands lasted approximately two months from mid-July to mid-September. However, *S. virgaurea* plants

transplanted from low altitudes in the Tatra Mts. (populations T19, 942 m a.s.l. and T53, 965 m a.s.l.) flowered during a time that was intermediate between those of lowland *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta*, starting approximately in mid-June and ending at the beginning of August.

Altitudinal vicariance exhibits a different pattern in different taxa groups. For example, Marhold (1992) found in *Cardamine amara* from the Carpathians and Sudetes that lowland-lower montane *C. amara* subsp. *amara* is replaced in the mountains by subalpine-upper montane *C. amara* subsp. *opicii* with an overlap zone at the altitude of 850–1,350 m a.s.l.; in this group, intermediate types besides the typical morphotypes were also frequently noted. In the *Caltha palustris*-*C. laeta* pair, Cieślak (2004) found that lowland *C. palustris* reached an altitude of 1,300 m a.s.l. in the Carpathians whereas mountain *C. laeta* descended from the subalpine and alpine belts to 300 m a.s.l. in the lowlands; therefore, the two taxa have a very wide altitudinal zone of common occurrence. Filipová and Krahulec (2006) found in the pair of *Anthoxanthum odoratum*-*A. alpinum* in the Karkonosze Mts. (Sudetes) that lowland-lower montane *A. odoratum* and subalpine-alpine *A. alpinum* overlap at 900–1,290 m a.s.l., but *A. alpinum* was found to descend in favourable habitats to as low as 750 m a.s.l. In the *Solidago virgaurea* group, lowland *S. virgaurea* stays in mountains mainly in the lower montane belt and occasionally reaches lower elevations of the upper montane belt (1,337 m a.s.l. in the Bieszczady Mts., 1,318 m a.s.l. in the Tatra Mts.); *Solidago minuta*, the range of which is above the timber line in the subalpine and alpine belts, descends to the upper montane belt and rarely to the upper part of the lower montane belt (1,073 m a.s.l. in the Tatra Mts.). Thus, the zone of altitudinal overlap for *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta* is quite narrow. According to a classification of vascular plant altitudinal ranges in the Carpathians (Mirek 1989), *S. virgaurea* can be classified as lowland-lower montane, and *S. minuta* classified as subalpine-alpine. For all pairs of altitudinal vicariants mentioned above, the common pattern is that lowland taxa reach the lower montane belt or lower elevations of the upper montane belt. Thus, the width of the overlap zone depends mainly on the altitudinal ranges of the alpine taxa.

In this work we adopted and consistently applied a species rank for *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta* by following their author, Linnaeus. We share the view of Porter (1893) that the divergence between lowland *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta* (noted there as *S. alpestris*) “is so wide that it may be well counted a good species”. In our opinion, the differences between *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta*, with their many morphological characters, phenology, different distributions along the altitudinal gradient and related differences in occupied habitats, fully justify treating them as separate species. All of the morphological characters that we studied in the two taxa proved to be stable in cultivation. Typical *Solidago virgaurea* and *S. minuta* plants have very different habits, which are not related to the effects of species plasticity (ecological modifications) but must have a genetic background. The existence of intermediate populations between *S. virgaurea* and *S. minuta* in the contact zone of the two taxa, which are most likely the result of hybridisation, did not prevent us from distinguishing morphologically distinct taxa. This acknowledgment does not constitute a case against treating taxa at the species level, as for example, in the *Senecio nemorensis* group (cf. Hodálová and Marhold 1998; Hodálová 1999).

## Key to the Species of the *Solidago virgaurea* Group Occurring in Poland

Character values given in the key represent 10th and 90th percentiles; those in parentheses represent minima and maxima.

- 1a Number of tubular florets per capitulum (5–)11–18(–26), involucre height (4.0–)5.0–6.5(–7.5) mm, involucre bract width (0.7–)0.9–1.3(–1.6) mm, capitulum height (5.0–)6.0–8.0(–10.0) mm, number of involucre bracts per capitulum (11–)15–22(–30), tubular floret length (3.6–)5.0–6.3(–7.1) mm, most often bract apexes form at involucre three or four rows ..... *Solidago virgaurea*
- 1b Number of tubular florets per capitulum (11–)21–36(–64), involucre height (4.5–)6.5–8.5(–10.0) mm, involucre bract width (1.0–)1.3–1.8(–2.5) mm, capitulum height (6.5–)8.0–10.5(–14.0) mm, number of involucre bracts per capitulum (15–)19–28(–40), tubular floret length (4.8–)5.9–7.3(–9.0) mm, most often bract apexes form at involucre two rows ..... *Solidago minuta*

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**Appendix 1** List of localities of the population samples. Records are given as follows: population code, locality description, geographic coordinates (WGS84), altitude and number of plants used for morphometric analyses in brackets. “trans” indicates populations from which plants were transplanted to the experimental field.

#### *Solidago virgaurea* L.

**B72** – Bieszczady Mts., near side of road between Cisna and Wola Michowa villages, 49°12'59.3" N, 022°14'03.3" E, 662 m, (25), trans; **B73** – Bieszczady Mts., Tamica peak, 49°04'30.0" N, 022°43'34.6" E, 1,337 m (11); **B74** – Bieszczady Mts., Szeroki Wierch ridge below Tarnica peak, 49°04'51.9" N, 022°43'06.2" E, 1,283 m (10); **B75** – Bieszczady Mts., W slope of Tamica Mt., 49°04'37.3" N, 022°43'14.5" E, 1,168 m (12); **B76** – Bieszczady Mts., forest on SW slope above Wołosate village, 49°04'05.9" N, 022°41'49.4" E, 838 m (7); **BG77** – Babia Góra Mt., Przełęcz Krowiarki pass, 49°36'04.6" N, 019°34'28.5" E, 883 m (23); **BG82** – Babia Góra Mt., forest above Zawoja-Markowa village, 49°36'20.0" N, 019°31'11.4" E, 730 m (25); **K89** – Karkonosze Mts., forest in town of Karpacz, 50°46'35.3" N, 015°43'35.1" E, 820 m (25); **N38** – Lubelskie Province, E of Kamionka village, in forest at side of road between Kamionka and Firliej villages, 51°28'52.8" N, 022°28'19.0" E, 157 m (25), trans; **N61** – Mazowieckie Province, Płudy district of Warsaw, municipal forest, 52°20'08.6" N, 020°58'39.8" E, 91 m (24), trans; **N64** – Mazowieckie Province, fallow field near town of Radziejowice, on S side of main road between Warsaw and Mszczonów, 51°59' N, 020°32' E (coordinates taken from map), 110 m (24); **N67** – Pomorskie Province, Słajszewo village near Leba city, 54°45'51.0" N, 017°47'31.8" E, 24 m (25), trans; **N68** – Warmińsko-Mazurskie Province, Lasy Taborskie forest near Ostróda city, on forest edge, 53°44'24.9" N, 019°56'20.9" E, 55 m (13); **N69** – Mazowieckie Province, near Gliniojeck city, 52°46'37.2" N, 020°17'19.4" E, 98 m (24), trans; **N70** – Świętokrzyskie Province, Wola Łagowska village near town of Łagów, fallow field 50°45'53.5" N, 021°04'06.4" E, 320 m (25), trans; **N71** – Świętokrzyskie Province, Paprocice village, 50°49'52.9" N, 021°04'23.9" E, 368 m (25); **N79** – Zachodnio-Pomorskie Province, Czapla village near Walcz city, forest edge, 53°15'41.0" N, 016°34'57.6" E, 120 m (24), trans; **N80** – Warmińsko-Mazurskie Province, Olecko city, fallow field, 54°01'12.9" N, 022°31'23.9" E, 174 m (25), trans; **N81** – Podlaskie Province, Puszcza Białowieża Forest (Białowieża Primeval Forest), Stara Białowieża, 52°43'39.6" N, 023°47'20.7" E, 146 m (23), trans; **P39** – Pieniny Mts., E slope of Polenica Mt., 49°25'10.8" N, 020°20'32.7" E, 625 m (24); **T19** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Lejowa valley, forest on E slope of Cisowa Turnia Mt., 49°16'33.9" N, 019°50'53.5" E, 942 m (23), trans; **T26** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Kościeliska valley, forest by Zahradziska glade, on W slope of Kończysta Turnia peak, 49°15'48.5" N, 019°52'15.1" E, 947 m (14); **T27** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Kościeliska



valley, forest N of hiking trail to Polana na Stołach glade, 49°15'17.7" N, 019°51'51.3" E, 1,010 m (25); **T32** – Tatra Mts., S slope of Przednia Kopa Sołtysia peak near Dolina Pańszczyca valley, 49°16'28.9" N, 020°03'35.8" E, 1,318 m (25); **T33** – Tatra Mts., Kościeliskie Kopki hills between Dolina Kościeliska valley and Dolina Lejowa valley, pass between Pośrednia Kopka hill and Zadnia Kopka hill, near Świńska Tumia peak, 49°15'43.5" N, 019°51'21.7" E, 1,251 m (25); **T40** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Bystrej valley, NW slope of Nosal peak, 49°16'43.9" N, 019°58'59.9" E, 1,031 m (25); **T43** – Tatra Mts., Stanikow Żleb gully between Dolina Kościeliska valley and Dolina Mała Łąka valley, 49°16'22.5" N, 019°52'53.6" E, 996 m (13); **T53** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Bystrej valley, NW slope of Nosal peak, 49°16'43.6" N, 019°58'55.0" E, 965 m (25), trans; **T55** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Długa valley in Dolina Chochołowska valley, 49°15'35.5" N, 019°48'14.6" E, 1,071 m (24);

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**BG85** – Babia Góra Mt., N slope of Diablak summit, 49°34'27.5" N, 019°32'03.3" E, 1,690 m (21); **K86** – Karkonosze Mts., pass below Śnieżka summit, 50°44'18.8" N, 015°43'52.5" E, 1,404 m (25); **K87** – Karkonosze Mts., bench pass below Śnieżka, 50°44'27.6" N, 015°43'52.8" E, 1,257 m (15); **K88** – Karkonosze Mts., Wrota Przemyszników gully near Mały Staw tarn, 50°45'12.8" N, 015°41'58.3" E, 1,164 m (20); **T01** – Tatra Mts., pass below Grześ Mt., 49°14'18.5" N, 019°46'24.0" E, 1,500 m (25); **T02** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Goryczkowa valley, Niżnia Goryczkowa Polana glade, 49°14'46.2" N, 019°58'03.9" E, 1,318 m (13); **T03** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Kondratowa valley, Polana Kondratowa glade, 49°14'55.3" N, 019°57'12.3" E, 1,357 m (25), trans; **T04** – Tatra Mts., Długi Uplaz ridge between Grześ Mt. and Rakoń Mt., 49°13'47.5" N, 019°46'07.9" E, 1,622 m (16); **T06** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Gąsienicowa valley, E slope of Uhrocie Kasprowe ridge, 49°14'08.2" N, 019°59'40.1" E, 1,650 m (25); **T07** – Tatra Mts., E slope of Magura Mt., Królowa Rówień 49°15'00.3" N, 020°00'25.2" E, 1,563 m (25); **T08** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Kościeliska valley, Polana na Stołach glade, 49°14'55.2" N, 019°51'12.6" E, 1,415 m (24); **T09** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Pańszczyca valley, Polana Waksmundzka glade, 49°15'31.7" N, 020°03'36.6" E, 1,375 m (24); **T10** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Suchej Wody valley, forest on W side of road to Dolina Gąsienicowa valley, 49°16'22.9" N, 020°02'05.8" E, 1,159 m (20); **T11** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Małej Łąki valley, forest near Wyżnie Kolebiska 49°15'13.2" N, 019°54'52.5" E, 1,232 m (24); **T12** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Małej Łąki valley, foot of Mnich Małotałki Mt., 49°14'46.8" N, 019°55'31.7" E, 1,460 m (25); **T13** – Tatra Mts., Wyżnia Kondracka Przełęcz pass, 49°14'55.8" N, 019°56'05.2" E, 1,760 m (25); **T14** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Pańszczyca valley, W slope of Kosztyła ridge, 49°14'55.8" N, 020°02'25.1" E, 1,721 m (25); **T15** – Tatra Mts., Wąwóz Kraków ravine in Dolina Kościeliska valley, Żleb Trzynastu Progów gully, 49°13'58.8" N, 019°53'12.8" E, 1,380 m (12); **T17** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Kościeliska valley, forest W of Polana Smytnia glade, near hiking trail to Hala Ornak mountain hostel, 49°13'58.3" N, 019°51'31.8" E, 1,073 m (25); **T18** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Tomanowa valley, upper part of Kamienisty Żleb gully below Przełęcz Tomanowa pass, 49°13'19.5" N, 019°53'58.9" E, 1,605 m (25); **T20** – Tatra Mts., SE slope of Grześ Mt., 49°14'13.3" N, 019°46'03.6" E, 1,630 m (24), trans; **T21** – Tatra Mts., below summit of Wołowiec Mt. from on E side, 49°12'25.9" N, 019°45'52.0" E, 2,040 m (25), trans; **T22** – Tatra Mts., E slope of Jarzabczy Wierch Mt., 49°12'17.6" N, 019°48'19.4" E, 2,016 m (25), trans; **T24** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Rybiego Potoku valley, SE slope of Miedziane ridge, Mnichowa Płaśń 49°11'54.3" N, 020°03'30.4" E, 1,670 m (25); **T25** – Tatra Mts., Przełęcz Szpiglasowa pass beneath summit of Szpiglasowy Wierch Mt., 49°11'50.7" N, 020°02'27.5" E, 2,120 m (18), trans; **T28** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Gąsienicowa valley, rock step of Zmarły Staw tarn, 49°13'32.3" N, 020°01'21.5" E, 1,775 m (20), trans; **T29** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Rybiego Potoku valley, scree above SE bank of Czarny Staw pod Rysami tarn, 49°11'09.6" N, 020°04'49.6" E, 1,652 m (24); **T30** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Rybiego Potoku valley, scree above SE bank of Czarny Staw pod Rysami tarn, 49°11'13.9" N, 020°04'45.0" E, 1,590 m (25); **T34** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Pięciu Stawów Polskich valley, N slope of Niżni Liptowski Kostur crag, 49°12'08.3" N, 020°01'58.0" E, 1,820 m (25), trans; **T35** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Rybiego Potoku valley, N slope of Bula pod Rysami peak, 49°11'02.4" N, 020°04'44.0" E, 1,724 m (25), trans; **T36** – Tatra Mts., S crag of Mały Kozi Wierch peak, 49°13'01.7" N, 020°01'14.7" E, 2,115 m (16), trans; **T41** – Tatra Mts., Suchy Wierch Kondracki peak, 49°14'02.7" N, 019°56'37.6" E, 1,850 m (21); **T42** – Tatra Mts., Goryczkowa Czuba peak, 49°13'55.2" N, 019°57'24.5" E, 1,880 m (25); **T44** – Tatra Mts., E slope of Uplaziańska Kopa peak, 49°14'34.1" N, 019°53'24.6" E, 1,697 m (21), trans; **T45** – Tatra Mts., Ciemniak summit, 49°13'52.9" N, 019°54'15.1" E, 2,090 m (25), trans; **T46** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Waksmundzka valley, Przysłop Waksmundzki beneath Gęsia Szyja hill, 49°15'28.1" N, 020°04'18.6" E, 1,446 m (25); **T47** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Miętusia valley, W slope of Niedzwiedź hill, 49°14'54.2" N, 019°54'18.5" E, 1,411 m (25); **T48** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Miętusia valley, S-exposed scree at foot of Litworowy Grzbiet ridge, 49°14'36.8" N, 019°54'26.4" E, 1,531 m (24); **T49** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Miętusia valley, Kobylarzowy Żleb gully, 49°14'40.1" N, 019°54'47.5" E, 1,802 m (25); **T50** – Tatra Mts., Litworowa Przełęcz pass, 49°13'59.5" N, 019°54'49.9" E, 2,044 m (24), trans; **T51** – Tatra

Mts., NW slope of Twardy Grzbiet ridge beneath Ciemniak peak,  $49^{\circ}14'09.2''$  N,  $019^{\circ}53'47.4''$  E, 1,872 m (12); **T52** – Tatra Mts., S slope of Sarnia Skała Mt.,  $49^{\circ}15'48.2''$  N,  $019^{\circ}56'32.8''$  E, 1,320 m (19); **T56** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Tomanowa valley, lower part of Kamienisty Żleb gully below Tomanowa Przełęcz pass,  $49^{\circ}13'17.9''$  N,  $019^{\circ}53'45.5''$  E, 1,481 m (25); **T57** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Tomanowa valley, bottom of valley near Tomanowy Potok stream,  $49^{\circ}13.5'$  N,  $019^{\circ}51.8'$  (coordinates taken from map), 1,165 m (23); **T58** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Rybiego Potoku valley, SE slope of Miedziane ridge,  $49^{\circ}11'57.5''$  N,  $020^{\circ}03'22.1''$  E, 1,775 m (23); **T59** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Rybiego Potoku valley, Szeroki Żleb gully above Morskie Oko Lake,  $49^{\circ}11'55.7''$  N,  $020^{\circ}03'51.4''$  E, 1,520 m (25); **T60** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Rybiego Potoku valley, Marchwiczny Żleb gully above Morskie Oko Lake,  $49^{\circ}12'05.1''$  N,  $020^{\circ}04'04.4''$  E, 1,435 m (25); **T62** – Tatra Mts., Wrótka pass beneath Kopa Kalacka peak,  $49^{\circ}15'17.9''$  N,  $019^{\circ}57'14.3''$  E, 1,582 m (25); **T66** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Rybiego Potoku valley, Bańdziuch cirque at foot of Mięguszowiecki Szczyt peak,  $48^{\circ}11'13.6''$  N,  $020^{\circ}03'57.8''$  E, 1,901 m (19), trans; **T78** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Rybiego Potoku valley, SE slope of Miedziane ridge,  $49^{\circ}11'52.1''$  N,  $020^{\circ}03'04.5''$  E, 1,860 m (11), trans; **T84** – Tatra Mts., Dolina Bystrej valley, SE slope of Krokiew hill,  $49^{\circ}16'06.4''$  N,  $019^{\circ}58'19.0''$  E, 1,220 m (15).