

INVENTORY OF SOSNOWSKY'S HOGWEED (*HERACLEUMS SOSNOWSKYI*  
MANDEN) AND STAGHORN SUMAC (*RHUS TYPHINA* L.)

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**ABSTRACT**

The studies were performed to locate and map all the habitats of highly invasive plants: The Sosnowsky's Hogweed (*Heracleums sosnowskyi* Manden) and Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina* L.) in the area of Kielce city. The habitats were marked on the city topographical map and the level of risk posed by these plants was assessed. As a result of the study, 13 habitats of Sosnowsky's Hogweed and 166 habitats of Staghorn sumac were found in the charted area. The biggest number of sumac was noticed on housing estates which were constructed in the 90's (Ślichowice and Kochanowski's housing estates), some individuals on older estates like KSM housing estate, Sady housing estate and on protected areas like the Wietrznia Reserve. Three populations of Hogweed with single plants were marked. These locations are: the Wietrznia Reserve and its surroundings, Szydłówska Hill and uncultivated lands at the northern foothills of Karczówka Hill. The conducted research led to the following conclusions:

- *Rhus typhina* L. (166 plants) poses a greater risk of being invasive in comparison to *Heracleum sosnowskyi* (13 plants).
- invasion of the Staghorn sumac started in the 1990s and is still spreading because sumac is a perennial plant.
- Sumac populations are located all over the examined area (attachment 1).
- The Sosnowsky's Hogweed occupies the outskirts of the city – no single plants were found around housing estates.
- due to the risks it poses to health and life, The Sosnowsky's Hogweed should be destroyed by means of chemical and mechanical methods which prevent it from spreading over housing estates.

**Key words:** *invasive plants, habitat, topographical map*

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