



Understory Plants resources in Lithuania

Jolita Radušienė

Nature Research Centre

Vilnius

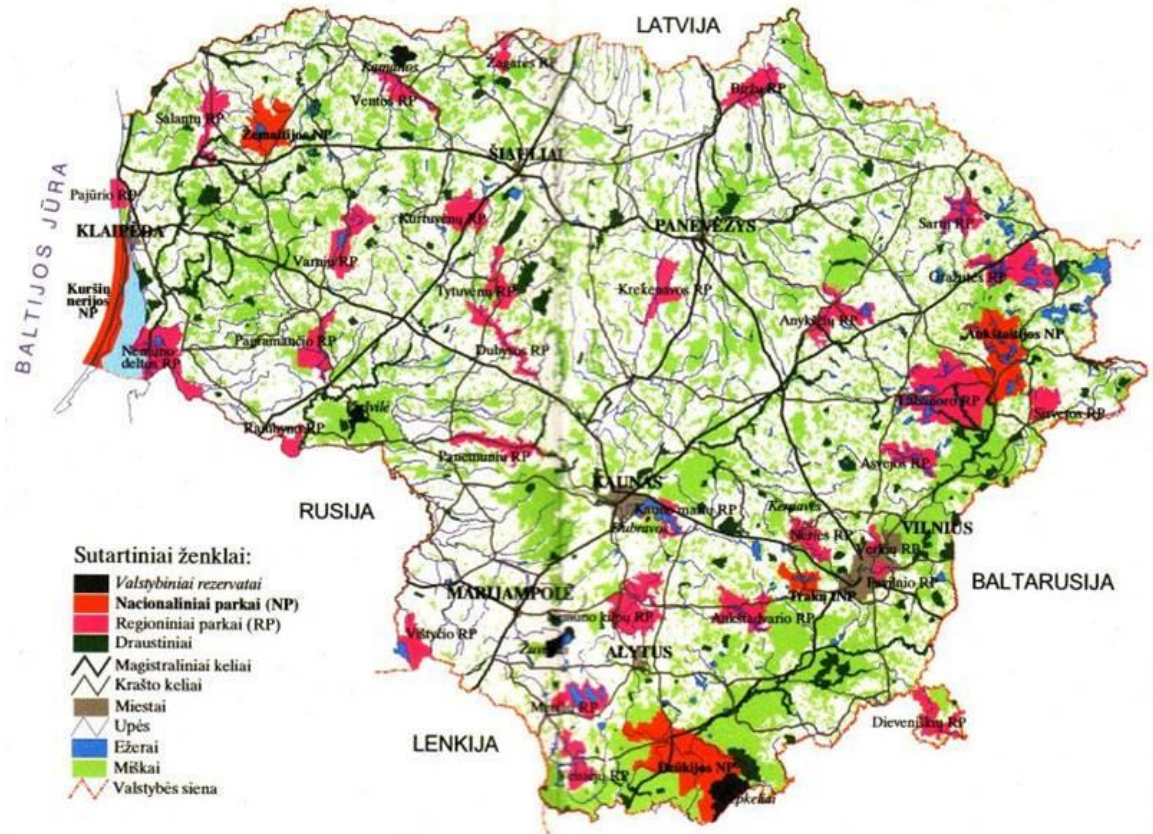
Forests in Lithuania occupy 32.5% of country's territory.

Dominant tree species:

- pine 38 %
- birch 22 %
- spruce 20 %
- other 20 %

The most forested region is southeast, the least - central.

In Dzūkija National Park forests occupied nearly 90%.



Non-timber resources

The incomes from non-timber products make up 13% of the total amount earned from forest activities.

A horizontal bar chart with three bars of different lengths, representing the percentage of income from different non-timber resources. The bars are light blue with a dark blue outline. The data is as follows:

Resource	Percentage
Berries and mushrooms	77%
Christmas trees	10%
Game	10%

Berries and mushrooms (77%)

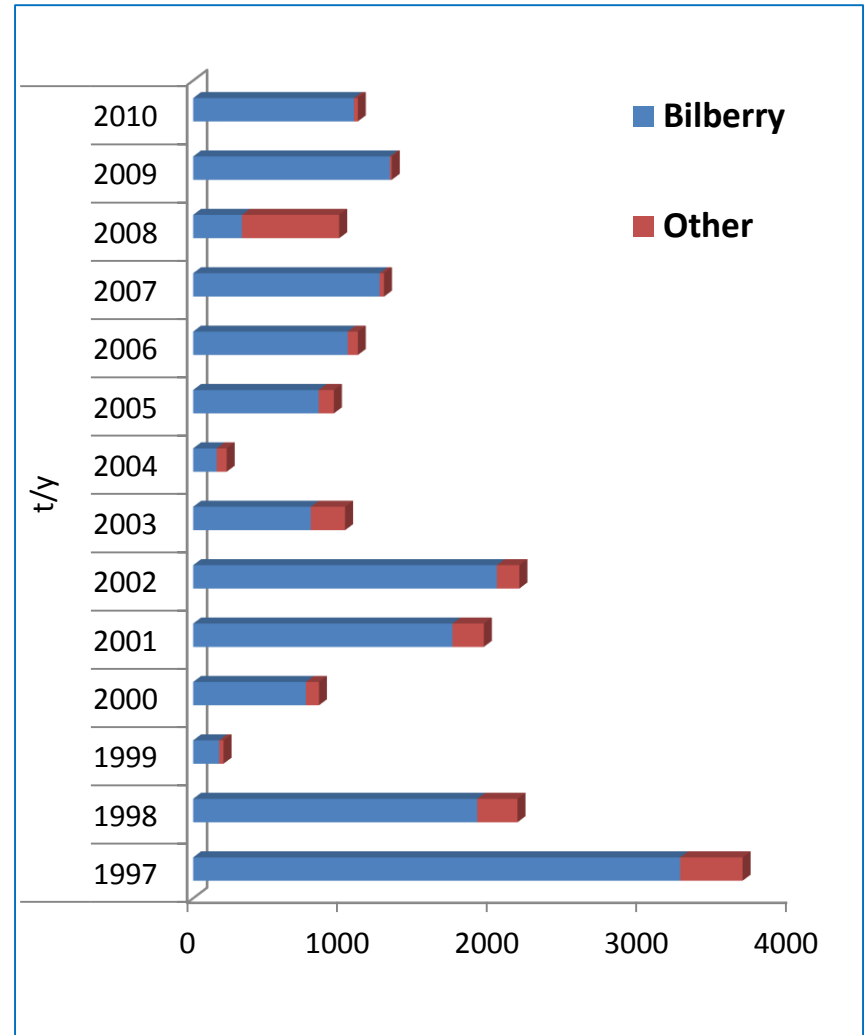
Christmas trees (10%)

Game (10%)

Food plants: Wild berries resources

The biggest areas are:

- bilberries (*Vaccinium myrtillus*)
- raspberries (*Rubus idaeus*)
- lingonberries (*V. vitis-idaea*)
- cranberries (*V. oxycoccos*)



WH berries purchased in 1997-2010



Vaccinium myrtillus: coniferous forest

Rubus idaeus: mixed forest

Berries used for food, leaves - as medicinal herbs

Gathering of cranberries: pine forest



Berries used for food, leaves used as medicinal herbs

Cranberries



Culinary herbs: Ramsons (*Allium ursinum*)



Grows in semi-
broad-leaved
forests.
Used for salad.



Medicinal plants

The most important MAP species wild collected for a commercial use

Rubus idaeus
(leaves)

Thymus serpyllum

Cetraria islandica
(Iceland moss,
lichen)

*Vaccinium vitis-
idaea* (leaves)



Medicinal plants



Lycopodium clavatum
(Stag's horn)

Spores used as
pharmaceuticals.
Grows in coniferous
forests.

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi
(Bearberry)
Leaves used as medicinal herbs.
Grows in coniferous forests.

Ornamental plants



Traditionally *Lycopodium* and *Cetraria* plants are collected, and used for Palm Sunday and Easter decorations, sold in markets.

Ornamental plants



Convallaria majalis (Lily of the valley)

Grows in mixed forests. Flowers are sold in markets, however **Regulations on the use of resource of wild flora** forbidden for collection (not for medicinal purposes).

Ornamental plants



Hepatica nobilis (Common hepatica) in semi-broad-leaved forests.



Pulmonaria officinalis (lungwort) in semi-broad-leaved forests. Used as medicinal plant.

Ornamental plants



Polygonatum multiflorum (Solomon's seal)



Polygonatum odoratum

Grows in semi-broad-leaved or mixed forests (medicinal plant).

Forage plants



Coronilla varia (crownvetch) legume plant grows at the edge of the forest.

Forage plants



- *Onobrychis arenaria* (Sainfoin).
- Legume forage for grazing animals.
- Grows in clearings, at the edge of the pine forests, cultivated.



Vicia sylvatica (wood vetch).
Legume forage often grows in clearings or in the margins of semi-broad-leaved forests.



Thank You for your attention !