

Scrubby Cinquefoil

Pentaphylloides fruticosa

Flowering period July-September. The species is known for Latvia since 19 century and it has been proved that this is a native species in Latvia. The nearest localities of *Pentaphylloides fruticosa* are in northern part of Estonia and in Gotland.



Nature conservation history and nature values

In order to protect the only *Pentaphylloides fruticosa* locality in Latvia, nature reserve Čužu Mire was established in 1999. However, this locality has been under the State protection already since 1924. Despite the small size of the nature reserve (96 ha), it is possible to find here various habitats characteristic for Abava River Valley, but uncommon in other parts of Latvia. These habitats include calcareous springs and fens as well as dry calcareous grasslands.

There are 17 plant, nine bird, 14 invertebrate, as well as two reptile species in the nature reserve, which are state protected in Latvia. Some of them you may see along the nature trail, for example, sand lizard and different orchids.

Abava River Valley landscape

Abava River is a natural meandering river with many oxbows, where frogs, toads and newts have found their kingdom among rich aquatic and tall-sedge vegetation. Large open grasslands with herds of cattle were key elements of the Abava River Valley landscape until the half of the last century. Nowadays, due to cessation of grazing in fens and grasslands, dense tree and shrub layer developed.

Springs and limestone deposits

The water of the Devil's Eye Spring is rich in different minerals and so are the rest of springs in this area. Many springs contain hydrogen sulphide. There are two major brooks, the Vēlna acs Brook and the Smirnieku Brook, which flow across the mire into the Abava River and are favored by beavers. Unfortunately, part of this unique site was destroyed in order to get lime for liming of agricultural lands in 1950ies, because

large limestone deposits are located in Čužu Mire. The local people call this place Snake Mire, because numerous snakes searched refuge from fire and abandoned this area during the last big fire.

Resort of sulphurous springs

The healing properties of the sulphurous springs in the Abava River Valley were discovered by Zhanis Dannenberg /Žanis Dannenbergs/ in the last century, who treated his rheumatism here. The resort, founded by him next to sulphurous springs, operated from 1903 till 1935, and it was very popular.



The nature trail is created only for pedestrians. Therefore, the resting place next to Abava River is accessible only by foot or by boat. It is the only place in the Čužu Mire, where making a fire is allowed in the nature reserve. The firewood, put in heaps, is found in forest nearby. Please, leave the place clean and tidy!

Regulations for visitors

- Enjoy nature by watching and let photos be the only memory you take away from the nature reserve!
- Please, lead the dogs with the dog's lead!
- Make sure you wear appropriate shoes as the nature trail may be wet and wooded path - slippery!

For more information or help, please call us!



Slīteres nacionālā parka administrācija
Phone: +371 63286000



Abavas ielejas attīstības centrs
Phone: +371 28396830



Latvijas valsts meži
Phone: +371 63007166



Kandavas Tūrisma informācijas centrs
Kūrorta 1 b, Kandava
Phone: +371 63181150, +371 28356520

ENGLISH



Specially protected nature territory

Čužu Mire

NATURE RESERVE



APZĪMĒJUMI/LEGEND

Dabas lieguma robeža
Border of the Nature Reserve

Taka/Nature trail

Laipu taka/Wooden path

Autostāvvietā
Parking place

Atpūtas vieta, tualete
Restig place, toilet

Āvots
Spring

Informācijas stends
Information board

Krāmu čužas audzes
Pentaphylloides fruticosa stand

KANDAVA

SĒRAVOTS

SABILE

ABAVA

SMIRNIEKU STRAUTS
VELNA ACS STRAUTS

VELNA ACS ĀVOTS

1 Marsh Helleborine
Epipactis palustris

2 Bird's-eye Primrose
Primula farinosa

3 Devil's-bit Scabious
Succisa pratensis

4 Fragrant Orchid
Gymnadenia conopsea

5 Carline Thistle
Carlina vulgaris

6 Blue Moor-grass
Sesleria caerulea



Text: Iveta Piese
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Ziedēšanas laiks
Flowering period