

## The Bioecological Features of Species of *Nepeta* L. (Lamiaceae) of the Small Caucasus Area.

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**Aim of the study:** The information has been given about the biological and ecological features of Lamiaceae species spread in Lesser Caucasus in the article. The root system and substratum attitude of the perennial and annual species have been identified. The forms of life of *Nepeta* species were compared.

*Nepeta* L. is the most polymorphic representative of the Lamiaceae Lindl- Dead nettle family and there is nearly 250 species in temperate zones of the world. 82 species for the former Soviet Union area by A.I. Poyarkova, 39 species (including 12 new species of them) for Caucasus were described. Most of them are saved in the flora of Azerbaijan yet.

**Materials and methods:** The research was carried out in 2014-2016 expedition and half stationary conditions. 11 types of species of Lamiaceae widespread in the Small Caucasus were studied as object. The life-forms, and morphological features of plants have been appointed according to system of Serebriakov. Besides with the literature informations, the microscope lens has been used to determine the roots of the plant. Geobotanical and systematic studies have been carried out with generally accepted methods. The species were named in accordance with the nomenclature. The named of family and plants were done for "Flora of Azerbaijan (I-VIII) and Cherepanov.

**Results:** During investigation it was determined that, the species of flowering frequent are the dominant between Lamiaceae species in Azerbaijan. The blooming dates back to the second half of April until August in the species of *Mussiniana* and *Heterodonta*. In the species of high mountain occurs blooming in the second half of Summer. The annual plants are Spring ephemerals. Roots are mile, thin, short, weak branched in the annual plants. Perennials plants have low or very strong, tree shaped roots, sometimes they are pass to working into the top surface of the land many-headed, to short or reptile rhizomatous. Formation of rhizomatous usually are formed with short or reptile rhizomatous. Our aim is that during learning Lamiaceae family from flora of the Small Caucasus, also to learn the biological and ecological characteristics of (*Nepeta* L.) species. The species of the area are collected and used by local communities for their medicine and essential oil characteristics. As a result of investigations, the taxonomic review of Dead nettle has been drawn for the first time in the flora of the Small Caucasus by us. By gender: *Stachys* L. - *Poruq* 9, *Salvia* L. *Sage* 6, *Nepeta* L.-Lamiaceae 5, each of the remaining 19 species 1-4 (35 species) flora of KG species are represented.

**Keywords:** Small Caucasus, species, *Nepeta* L., flora, biological characteristics.