The optimal, from the production point of view, meadow soil moisture is not a frequent phenomenon today and the peat deposits excessively dewatered over years have lost their properties irrevocably. The soil degradation resulted in qualitative and quantitative changes in the species composition of the sward. Unfavourable changes in the phytocenosis structure of grasslands are also observed in the Tuchola Pinewoods where still in the mid 20th century there were noted well-preserved communities of wet meadows, of variable moisture content and phytocenoses with a large share of sedges.

The paper demonstrates the phytosociological structure, functional and natural value of grasslands in the Golionka River Valley, as well as habitat conditions, determined with Ellenberg’s indicator values.

In total there were differentiated between 2 syntaxa different in weight: the plant community with *Urtica dioica*, reed beds (*Magnocaricion*), *Scirpetum sylvatici*), the plant communities with *Deschampsia caespitosa*, the plant communities with *Bromus hordeaceus*, the plant communities with *Potentilla anserina*, *Ranunculo-Alopecuretum geniculati*, the plant communities with *Antoxanthum odoratum*, the plant communities with *Holcus lanatus*, the plant community with *Poa pratensis-Festuca rubra*, the plant community with *Carex nigra*, and the plant community with *Origanum vulgare*.

The parameters, such as the number of species per relevé and the species diversity coefficient, do not fully reflect the natural value. One shall consider the share of habitat-compatible rare and protected species a more objective indicator. Usually they persist in the habitat almost optimal. As for the meadow complex on the Golionka River they occur on a more moist soil and extremely dry, acid or alkaline as well as low fertility soil; in the communities of tall sedge, the community with *Carex nigra* as well as the community with *Origanum vulgare*.

Preserving a high natural value of phytocenoses is not helped by dewatering and other treatments leading to making the habitat homogeneous. In such conditions there develop the communities with a slightly higher functional value, represented in a given area by the community with *Antoxanthum odoratum*, with *Holcus lanatus, Poa pratensis-Festuca rubra* as well as the community with *Origanum vulgare*.