

MICRO CLIMATE IN THE BELOJAČA KARST CAVE IN PANNONIAN SLOVENIA

Ana Vovk Korže, Mednarodni center za ekoremediacije, Filozofska fakulteta Maribor, Koroška c. 160, 2000 Maribor, ana.vovk@um.si

Silvija Zeman, Međimursko veleučilište u Čakovcu, bana Josipa Jelačića 22 A, Čakovec 40 000 szeman@mev.hr

Vanesa Korže, Inštitut za promocijo varstva okolja, Koroška c. 57, 2000 Maribor, vanesa.korze@gmail.com

Belojača cave lies on the west corner of the Pannonian basin, on contact between the Eastern Karavanke Alpes and Haloze. Within the research about the Belojača cave a six-month research about its ecosystem characteristics was performed with an emphasis on micro climate. The information was collected by field measurements in the period from October 2016 to March 2017. Cave ecosystems are classified as extreme because their ecosystem characteristics change much slower and later than the characteristics of all other common ecosystems. Many animal species, especially bats are drawn to habitats like that. Bats are known for using caves like the Belojača cave for hibernation and mating. Belojača cave is one of the rarest karst caves on the west corner of the Pannonian basin. With the help of all the measurements and gathered data we successfully showed interesting correlations between micro climate characteristics of the Belojača cave.

Key words: cave ecosystem, Belojača cave, water, soil, climate, bats.