

Contents

Foreword	4
PART I - INTRODUCTION	
1. Introduction	6
2. Cultural landscapes and field patterns in history (the Czech Republic, the European context)	8
2.1 From the Neolithic period to the Middle Ages	9
2.2 Medieval society, agriculture and field patterns – pluzinas	10
2.3 Post-medieval development of pluzinas	14
3. Remnants of medieval pluzinas in present-day landscapes	18
3.1 The typology of pluzinas	18
3.2 Features of pluzinas found in the present-day landscape	22
4. Hedgerows and hedgerow patterns in landscape ecology	24
4.1 Hedgerows as corridors or matrix in various landscapes	24
4.2 Hedgerow connectivity and networks, mesh size	24
4.3 Hedgerows and environmental qualities	25
4.4 Microenvironment within a hedgerow	25
4.5 Impact of a hedgerow on the surrounding environment	26
4.6 Impact of the surrounding environment on hedgerows	27
4.7 Hedgerows as habitat, conduits and barriers to plant and animal communities	28
4.8 Addressing possible ecological disadvantages of hedgerows	30
5. Aesthetic values of pluzinas	31
6. Resources and methods in pluzina research	33
6.1. Historical resources - cartographic, written and photographic	33
6.2. Archaeological methods	34
6.3 Natural science methods	37
7. Aspects of pluzina conservation	38
7.1. The experts' perspective	38
7.2 The perspective of farmers and other members of local communities	39
7.3 The general public's perspective	40
8. Overview of Czech and English terms specific to the Czech cultural landscape as used in this dissertation	42
PART II – DISSERTATION PAPERS	
1. Notes	44
2. Paper 1	49
3. Paper 2	64
4. Paper 3	80
References	95