

► Contents

Contents	11
Foreword	13
I. Peatlands as an ecological phenomenon	
Introduction	17
Entering the mysterious world of peatlands	18
Unique bog-mosses are a peatbog phenomenon	31
Special features of vascular plants in peatlands	41
Fauna of peatlands and their life strategies	51
Adaptations of animals to life in peatlands	63
Resources and interrelations in peatlands	75
Peatlands as unique archives of nature	85
Saving the endangered world	93
II. Peatlands in the Šumava landscape	
Mire types in the Šumava mountains	105
Flora and vegetation of Šumava mires	117
Mountain raised bogs	119
Valley raised bogs	122
Transitional mires	124
Minerotrophic meadow mires and moss fens	128
Spruce mires and waterlogged spruce forest	130
Peaty birch stands	131
Spring mires	132
Important plants of Šumava mires	133
Topography of Šumava peatlands	152
Kochánovské pláně – Kochánov Plains	153
Modravské slatě – Modravské slatě Peatlands	159
Kvildské pláně – Kvilda Plains	169
Slatě na Vydřím potoce – Bogs at Vydří brook	174
Knižecí Pláně – Strážný – Knižecí Plains	177
Hornovltavský luh – Upper Vltava river valley	182
Peatlands and man in Šumava landscape	189
Conservation of Šumava peatlands	193
Picture Credits	200
Acknowledgements	201
Publisher's note	202
Further reading	203
Glossary	205
Afterword	209