GENERAL INFORMATION

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MATERIALS & METHODS

study area	5 n (scientific zone)
time period	
goal	examine the spatial variation of soil pH at different depths in relation to vegetation composition
set-up	169 plots of 10 m x 10 m: soil and vegetation sampling - Plot 1.1 m radius: moss - 50 cm x 50 cm plot: humus - centre of 78 of the grid plots: soil - 169 plots: vegetation 10 strip plots of 20 m (6 sampling points): soil sampling
data collection	grid & strip plots: - vegetation o moss o Braun-Blanquet o herb layer: April-May, July-August - soil (L F H, 0–5, 5–15) o L F H: thickness, description (138 plots) o soil: pH (125 points)
remarks	

RESULTS

Four vegetation groups were identified: two with acid mull humus and indicator species for (relatively) rich stands with a moderate-high pH, two with mor-moder humus characterized by indicator species of low pH and rather poor sites. pH at 5–15 cm was strongly correlated with vegetation composition. The pH was significantly different in the ash stand and in the oak-beech stand; the pH was low in the H and 0–5 cm layer of the oak-beech stand.