

The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Small Grants Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. We understand that projects often do not follow the predicted course but knowledge of your experiences is valuable to us and others who may be undertaking similar work. Please be as honest as you can in answering the questions – remember that negative experiences are just as valuable as positive ones if they help others to learn from them.

Please complete the form in English and be as clear and concise as you can. We will ask for further information if required. If you have any other materials produced by the project, particularly a few relevant photographs, please send these to us separately.

Please submit your final report to jane@rufford.org.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Mykyta Peregrym
Project title	Conservation of natural habitats of <i>Tulipa gesneriana</i> L. (Liliaceae) in Ukraine
RSG reference	22.11.07
Reporting period	March 2008 – September 2009
Amount of grant	£4255
Your email address	peregrym@ua.fm
Date of this report	11 September 2009

1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
Investigation of geographical distribution, ecological features and the condition and the structure of populations of <i>Tulipa gesneriana</i> L.			+	<p>During realisation of the project we found out that <i>Tulipa gesneriana</i> L. in Ukraine is known from 132 places and 39 from them are disappeared at present. The south-west border of distribution of the species is situated in Ukraine and it was reduced to the east and to the south by 50-150 km in the last 100 years under anthropogenic influence. <i>T. gesneriana</i> disappeared from Odessa and Dnipropetrovs'k administrative regions and from Dnieper upland according geographical division. As a result of our investigation we can conclude that <i>T. gesneriana</i> has narrow ecological limits and grows only in 9 associations of 5 alliances of order <i>Festucetalia valesiacae</i> Br.-Bl. et R.Tx. 1943 of class <i>Festuco-Brometea</i> Br.-Bl. et R.Tx. 1943.</p> <p>The majority of <i>T. gesneriana</i> populations in Ukraine grow in extremely critical condition and therefore are close to extinction. Only Syvasch and some Crimea populations of the species are normal.</p>
Development and practical realization of effective methods of conservation of the species habitats in Ukraine			+	<p>Our investigations show that <i>T. gesneriana</i> in Ukraine is protected in 2 Biosphere Reserves, 7 Natural Reserves, 2 National Natural Parks, 3 Regional landscape parks and in other 10 small wildlife preserves of national and regional levels at present. Also there are 6 Ukrainian botanical gardens and 2 arboreta cultivating the species from natural populations of the country.</p> <p>We prepared and passed scientific backgrounds for creation of Regional landscape park "West Syvasch" (Kherson region) and 8 small wildlife preserves of national and regional levels in Lugans'k, Kherson, Mykolaiv regions and Crimea. All of these are places where natural</p>

				populations of <i>T. gesneriana</i> will be protected. Now mentioned scientific backgrounds are sending to the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine for future consideration. Besides, we supported initiatives of our colleagues in creation of the Karalar National Natural Park (Crimea), Regional landscape parks: "The Valley of kurgans" (Kherson region), "Olvia chora" (Kherson region). Recommendations for restoration and repatriation of natural populations of <i>T. gesneriana</i> were designed.
The discussion of conservation problems of <i>Tulipa gesneriana</i> with local population for raising their level of ecological consciousness			+	The information bulletin about conditions of the species' habitats and necessity of their conservation in A3 format was published in autumn 2008. Then we distributed it among scientists, school teachers and naturalists. Besides, several articles about the project in local newspapers and in O.V. Fomin Botanical Garden website were issued. Such activities gave good results: we received several letters and oral messages from different people which reported about many <i>Tulipa gesneriana</i> locations and their conditions, and also about new two locations of the tulip which were unknown before.
The edition of the monograph « <i>Tulipa gesneriana</i> L. (<i>Liliaceae</i>) in Ukraine»		+		The manuscript of the monograph is ready to printing and was passed to the press. But, I haven't received three book reviews in time because of summer vacations of my colleagues. It is obligatory requirement to publication of scientific books in Ukraine. Therefore, the monograph will be published in early October 2009. It is my fault, because I didn't take into consideration this nuance earlier.

2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

First difficulty: Member of the team project (Iuliia Peregrym) bears son in summer 2008, therefore she helped us only on first and last stages of the project partly. I was obliged to find equivalent substitute as minimum. But, I was lucky, because very good geobotanist (Dr. Ivan Moysiienko) gave his agreement to participate in the project and join to our team immediately.

Second difficulty: I had planned to visit natural habitats of *Tulipa gesneriana* by trains and buses. Practically it appears as unreal; therefore we decided to use the car of Dr. Ivan Moysiienko for field expeditions.

Other difficulties were insignificant and aren't worthy of special attention.

3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

- I. Effective methods of *Tulipa gesneriana* natural habitat conservation have been designed and now our methodology is implemented practically.
- II. Important scientific data about geographic distribution, ecological features and condition as well as structure of populations of *Tulipa gesneriana* in Ukraine have been collected and analysed.
- III. Letter to the President of Ukraine with descriptions of problems preservation of steppes in Ukraine was prepared. At the moment these materials passed from the President Secretariat to the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine and the Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine. We hope that our activities will be the beginning of reforms in the cause of steppe conservation in Ukraine.

4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project (if relevant).

Initially I planned publication and distribution between local population of the information bulletin about conditions of the *Tulipa gesneriana* habitats and necessity of their conservation only. And we were happy to receive feedback in form of several letters and oral messages from different people which reported about many *Tulipa gesneriana* locations and their conditions, and also about new two locations of the tulip which were unknown before.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We not plan to continue the studying of natural populations of *Tulipa gesneriana* in Ukraine directly, because this work was already carried out during the project. But, our future investigations will be concentrated to practical reintroduction of *Tulipa gesneriana* populations and increasing of their resistance to anthropogenic influence. Also we plan to continue the studying of Ukrainian rare plants for development of effective methods of their conservation, because majority populations of these species are close to extinction in Ukraine.

6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

Basic results of our scientific investigation are published in the monograph «*Tulipa gesneriana* L. (*Liliaceae*) in Ukraine» and other publications in scientific and public papers. Besides, it was and will be discussed on conferences of different levels, the meeting of the Ukrainian Botanical Society and the Scientific Council of O.V. Fomin Botanical Garden of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Also I discussed and gave consultation for my colleagues about applying the documents to the Rufford Small Grants Foundation.

7. Timescale: Over what period was the RSG used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

All stages of the project were carried out without changes and in scheduled terms with small correcting of dates.

- I. Processing of herbarium materials and references (was planned: 15.03. – 15.04.2008; really: 01.04. – 01.06.2008).
- II. Expeditions to natural species' habitats for investigation of their modern conditions (was planned: 15.04. – 15.06.2008, 15.04. – 31.05.2009; really: 15.04. – 20.05.2008, 15.04. – 20.05.2009)
- III. Processing the results of expeditions. Preparation of scientific substantiations with the subsequent transfer to the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine for consideration of protected territories creation (was planned: 16.06.2008 – 15.04.2009, 01.06.2009 – 15.08.2009; really: 25.05.2008 – 15.04.2009, 23.05.2009 – 15.08.2009).
- IV. The message about the project and its results in media. Preparation and distribution of the information bulletins about conditions of the species' habitats and necessity of their conservation in public (was planned: 15.04.2008 – 15.06.2009; really: the information bulletin was published in October 2008, publications of current project results in media and scientific journals was started in August 2008 and is still continue).
- V. The final report. The edition of the monograph «*Tulipa gesneriana* L. (*Liliaceae*) in Ukraine» (was planned: 15.08.2009 – 15.09.2009; really: 15.08.2009 – 15.09.2009, but the monograph will be pressed in early October 2009).

8. Budget: Please provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used.

First of all, I would like to note that the time of realisation of the project coincided with the World financial crisis. It was unpredicted in our current work through nervousness and small problems which appeared, especially with the rate of exchange and work of Ukrainian banks.

I had asked of the Rufford Small Grants Foundation in my application form - 4255 £ sterling and received 5308€ on my bank account. I change this money in Ukrainian grivnas (UAH) by parts. First time (April 2008) 3400€ was changed in Euros-to-UAH rate 7, 75; second time (April 2009) 1100€ was changed in Euros-to-UAH rate 10, 5; and the last time (August 2009) 808€ was changed in Euros-to-UAH rate 11, 8¹. Accordingly £ sterling-to-UAH rate changed 10, 1077 – 11, 0090 – 12, 9369².

¹ Euros-to-UAH rate is given according fact of change in commercial banks.

² £ sterling-to-UAH rate is given according rate of the National Bank of Ukraine

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
GPS navigator	525,67	445,70	79,97	Garmin Colorado 300 with Map of Ukraine
Laptop	573,46	584,11	-10,65	ASUS F3SR
Photo camera	764,61	751,51	13,1	Canon EOS 400D with objective EFS 17-85 mm
Transport expenses on travel by trains and buses	382,3	313,57	68,73	The rest of the money in this item appeared because I have to rearrange finance adopted for car using (petrol).
Petrol	0	251,12	-251,12	This item wasn't plan initially, but investigations of <i>Tulipa gesneriana</i> habitats with using trains and buses only for travel was not real. It is my mistake. I should have taken this into consideration from the beginning of the project. Therefore, we had used car of Dr. Ivan Moysiyenko for field expeditions. The car – "NIVA", average fuel consumption – 11 litre on 100 km. We travelled by car about 5000 km.
Food	382,3	430,93	-48,63	The unfavourable differences between 2008 and 2009 are connected with the World crisis, inflation and considerable increasing of prices in 2009.
Payment for residing in hotels	573,46	496,05	77,41	Sometimes we stayed overnight in houses of our friends and colleagues, therefore some money of the item was saved.
The writing goods (paper, cartridges for printer and another)	95,58	119,15	-23,57	-
Polygraph print of the information bulletins	477,88	98,93	378,95	500 colour information bulletins in A3 format were published. At the beginning of the project I didn't know exactly about number of printed copies, which will be need really. Therefore I over-evaluated budget in the item.
Polygraph print of the monograph « <i>Tulipa</i>	477,88	649,31	-171,43	300 copies in A5 format, 128 pages with colour photos. I didn't know

<i>gesneriana</i> L. (<i>Liliaceae</i>) in Ukraine»				print parameters format and volume of the monograph at the beginning of the project, therefore unfavourable balance appear in this item
Bank operations	0	20,91	- 20,91	It is bank tax, which wasn't included in budget proposal initially.
TOTAL	4253,14	4161,29	91,85	I have the small rest of money in result. These and other differences in balance of some items are connected with inexperience of myself in planning of project budget, because it was my first project of such level.

9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?

Firstly, we wish to complete and have maximum positive results from our appeal to the Ukrainian President with letter about problems of Ukrainian Steppes. It is very difficult process, but the first success and public echo give optimism for us at present. Secondly, we plan to prepare application for our new project to the Rufford Small Grants Foundation. Thirdly, we will be seeking the financial support for practical repatriation investigation of *Tulipa gesneriana* populations and the increase of their resistance to anthropogenic influence.

10. Did you use the RSGF logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?

The RSGF logo was used in the information bulletin about conditions of the species' habitats and necessity of their conservation and also in cover page of the monograph «*Tulipa gesneriana* L. (*Liliaceae*) in Ukraine». Besides, we acknowledged of the RSGF for support of our project in the following publications:

Peregrym M.M. The conservation of natural habitats of *Tulipa gesneriana* L. in Ukraine: the first steps // Planta Europa news. – September 2008. – P. 13-14 – In English; (please, see [http://www.plantaeuropa.org/assets/Newsletter/Planta%20Europa%20News%20Autumn%202008%20\(final\).pdf](http://www.plantaeuropa.org/assets/Newsletter/Planta%20Europa%20News%20Autumn%202008%20(final).pdf))

Peregrym M.M. «Країна тюльпанів» - Голландія чи Луганщина? (Are "Tulips country" the Holland or Lugans'k region?) // Наша газета (Our newspaper). – 8.11.2008. – 135 (2960). – P. 5. – In Ukrainian

Peregrym M.M. «Країна тюльпанів» - Голландія чи Луганщина? (Are "Tulips country" the Holland or Lugans'k region?) // Фермерське господарство (Farmer economy). – November, 2008. – 44 (412). – P. 30. – In Ukrainian

Peregrym M.M. Сохранения тюльпана Шренка в Украине (*Tulipa schrenkii* conservation in Ukraine) // Степной бюллетень (Steppe bulletin). – Spring 2009. - № 26. – P. 57-59 – In Russian; (please, see <http://sibecocenter.ru/sb.htm>)

Peregrym M.M., Moysiyyenko I.I., Kolomyychuk V.P. Нові знахідки *Tulipa gesneriana* L. в Україні (New findings of *Tulipa gesneriana* L. in Ukraine) // Чорноморський ботанічний журнал (Black Sea Botanical Journal). – 2009. – 3, 5. – In press. - In Ukrainian with English summary

Peregrym M.M., Moysiyyenko I.I., Melnik V.O., Peregrym Iu.S. Перші результати проекту «Збереження природних місцезростань *Tulipa gesneriana* L. (*Liliaceae*) в Україні (The first results of the project “Conservation of natural habitats of *Tulipa gesneriana* L. (*Liliaceae*) in Ukraine” // Materials of the International Conference of young scientists “Actual problems of botany and ecology”, 13-16 August, Kam’yanec’-Podil’skiy. – Kyiv, 2008. – P. 118-119 – In Ukrainian

Peregrym M.M., Moysiyyenko I.I., Peregrym Iu.S., Melnik V.O. *Tulipa gesneriana* L. (*Liliaceae*) в Україні (*Tulipa gesneriana* L. (*Liliaceae*) in Ukraine). – Kyiv: Kyiv National University Press, 2009. – In press. - – In Ukrainian

11. Any other comments?

I am very grateful to the Rufford Small Grants Foundation for financial support of our project and I hope that our cooperation will be continuing in the future for effective conservation of rare plants in Ukraine. Also I would like to use here an opportunity to thank my project team, referees of the project and all friends and colleagues who helped me during the project.

Separately I wish to emphasise that it was my first project of such level. I have got extremely valuable experience now, which I will be using in the future.