European Vegetation Archive

Data Request Form

To obtain data from the European Vegetation Archive (EVA), including the ReSurveyEurope Database, please first enquire the EVA database administrator Ilona Knollová (ikuzel@sci.muni.cz) whether the data that meet your needs are available. If they are, please fill in the form below and submit it to Ilona or another member of the EVA Coordinating Board (or ReSurveyEurope Board if you ask for data from the ReSurveyEurope Database).

- Applicant's name:
  Jan Divíšek
- Applicant's institutional address:
  Masaryk University, Czech Republic
- Applicant's e-mail:
  divisekjan@sci.muni.cz
- Project title:
  Integration of alien plants to native communities
- Are you asking for core EVA data (non-repeated vegetation surveys) or for ReSurveyEurope data (repeated vegetation surveys)?
  Both
- Brief description of the aims and methods of the study:
  This EVA project is related to the Czech Science Foundation project, "Functional traits and phylogeny as determinants of invasion success in European plant communities." Using EVA data and a newly prepared European checklist of alien plants (Kalusová et al. 2024 – Preslia), we will examine the integration of alien plants into the functional trait space of local native communities across Europe. Specifically, we will (1) test the validity of the environmental filtering and limiting similarity hypotheses for alien species at different invasion stages (casual, naturalized, and invasive); (2) test whether and how functional and phylogenetic (dis)similarity between native and alien species varies across environmental (climate, soil properties, etc.) and geographical gradients (latitude, longitude, altitude); and (3) examine whether the (dis)similarity between alien species pools and resident native communities translate to invasion levels, i.e., the number or proportion of alien species in vegetation plots. Data on functional traits and phylogeny will be obtained from freely accessible databases and published phylogenetic trees, respectively. Environmental data will be extracted from databases such as CHELSA, SoilGrids, or CORINE Land Cover. Integration of alien species in the trait space will be tested using null models within the framework of Optimal Differentiation to the Edge of Trait Space (EoTS, Molofsky et al. 2022 – Evolutionary Ecology; Divíšek et al. 2025 – Ecology Letters). Relationships to environmental and geographical gradients will be assessed using appropriate regression techniques.
- Will someone else be involved in data editing or analysis in addition to the applicant?

Members of the Vegetation Science Group at Masaryk University

- Estimated time of delivery of results (e.g., manuscript submission):
  2026-2028

- Geographic area needed (e.g., countries or range of geographic coordinates):
  The geographical range of EVA, excluding North Africa, the Middle East (but including Turkey and the Caucasus countries), Russia, and islands in the Atlantic and Arctic Oceans (but including the British Isles).

- Do you need plots to be georeferenced? If so, what is the minimum accuracy of plot location (in metres or kilometres) needed for your project?
  No

- Vegetation types needed (syntaxa):
  All except for aquatic vegetation

- Other data selection criteria:
  No

- Envisaged publications:
  1-3 articles in international scientific journals.

- Data deposition. Some journals require data used for the analysis to be stored in a public repository to ensure the repeatability of the analysis. According to EVA Rules, you are not allowed to store the original vegetation-plot data obtained from EVA. However, if you plan to publish in such a journal, you may deposit a reduced EVA-derived dataset that (1) would make it possible to repeat the analysis published in the paper and (2) does not contain any information not used in the analysis. For example, such a dataset can contain only a subset of species (e.g., only angiosperms or only neophytes), or replace species names with codes, or replace species cover values with presences/absences, or remove all the header data, or replace the exact plot coordinates by coarse grid-cell coordinates etc. If you plan to deposit reduced information from vegetation plots, please describe here what might be deposited. If the project developed so that you needed to deposit more information than specified here, you would need to ask specific permission from the Custodians of the EVA databases used in your analysis before the dataset is deposited.
  If data deposition is requested by the journal, only the minimum dataset needed for the computational reproduction of the analyses will be deposited.

- Plant trait data from the TRY consortium. If you plan to combine your analysis of vegetation-plot data with plant trait data, you can also request a dataset of 18 gap-filled traits for a large number of plant taxa prepared by the TRY consortium. These traits include Leaf area, Specific leaf area, Leaf fresh mass, Leaf dry matter content, Leaf C, Leaf N, Leaf P, Leaf N per area, Leaf N:P ratio, Leaf delta15N, Seed mass, Seed length, Seed number per reproductive unit, Dispersal unit length, Plant height, Stem specific density, Stem conduit density, and Conduit element length. This dataset can be provided to you by the EVA manager together with the vegetation-plot data. If you use this dataset, you must inform about your project the TRY data contributors who might be potentially interested and invite them as potential co-authors, assuming they will make an intellectual contribution to your paper. The list of the TRY data contributors will be sent to you together with the gap-filled trait dataset.
  No

- Specification of the co-authorship arrangements in publications based on the requested data. Note that the EVA Rules recommend that co-authorship is offered to a representative of each database providing data that are particularly important for the project (e.g., a relatively large proportion of the final dataset used in the analyses or data from unique vegetation types or under-represented geographic areas). This database representative should be an expert in the topic of the project (not necessarily the custodian or deputy custodian), and this person should contribute to the project more than just by providing the existing data, e.g. by intellectual contribution to the concept of the paper, preparation of new data, or helping with data analysis, interpretation of the results or writing parts of the paper (see the IAVS Code of Professional Ethics: https://www.iavs.org/page/governance_code-of-proffesional-ethics). The project leader should enable active participation by regularly informing potential co-authors about the progress of the project from its early stage. The project leader should also make final co-authorship arrangements based on the real input of the individual contributors.

  We will share the preliminary results of individual studies with those data contributors who will register for this project in the EVA online form and whose data will be selected for each study. Co-authorship will be offered to a representative of each database that provided more than 1% of plots used in a particular study or fewer if those plots are of high relevance for the study and its representative expresses interest in this project in the EVA online form. Following the EVA rules, co-authors will be expected to provide intellectual contributions to the article.

- Eligibility of the applicant to receive EVA or ReSurveyEurope data. Specify to which EVA or ReSurveyEurope database the applicant has contributed; if the applicant is not the custodian or deputy custodian of an EVA or ReSurveyEurope database, give a name of a custodian or deputy custodian who supports this data request.

  Milan Chytrý is the Custodian of the Czech National Phytosociological Database.

- I agree with the terms of EVA Data Property and Governance Rules as approved on 26 May 2012 (http://euroveg.org/download/eva-rules.pdf).
- If I ask for ReSurveyEurope data, I agree with the terms of ReSurveyEurope Data Property and Governance Rules as approved on 6 April 2022 (http://euroveg.org/download/resurveyeurope-rules.pdf).
- In any result obtained based on EVA core data (non-repeated vegetation surveys), I will cite the EVA report article (Chytrý et al. 2016; https://doi.org/10.1111/avsc.12191). In any result obtained based on the ReSurveyEurope data (repeated vegetation surveys), I will cite the ReSurveyEurope report article as soon as it is published. In addition, I will cite individual source databases used in my project (if possible, in the list of References; if not possible, at least as a list of databases in the electronic supplementary material).
- If I ask for the plant trait data from TRY, I agree to invite to my project the TRY data contributors following the list received from the EVA database manager.

Brno, 25 November 2025

Jan Divíšek