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### Supplementary file 1

Characteristic	Spruce mires			Pine mires		Site VIII	
	Mineral soils (a)	Transforming phase (b)	Transformed phase (c)	Transforming phase (d)	Transformed phase (e)	Poorly productive land (f)	Waste land (g)
	N = 2074	N = 108	N = 131	N = 319	N = 102	N = 37	N = 30
Coverage of bilberry (%)	8.7 (0-71)	6.7 (0-46)	4.2 (0-28)	4.6 (0-85)	7.3 (0-51)	8.4 (0-67)	3.0 (0-12)
on site I	0.5 (0-7) [N = 34]	-- <sup>2</sup>	-- <sup>2</sup>	-- <sup>3</sup>	-- <sup>3</sup>	--	--
on site II	5.9 (0-49) [N = 408]	1.7 (0-10) [N = 23] <sup>2</sup>	2.0 (0-20) [N = 51] <sup>2</sup>	-- <sup>3</sup>	-- <sup>3</sup>	--	--
on site III	11.7 (0-71) [N = 957]	8.1 (0-46) [N = 73]	5.7 (0-28) [N = 74]	3.7 (0-48) [N = 39] <sup>3</sup>	8.2 (0-41) [N = 27] <sup>3</sup>	--	--
on site IV	7.2 (0-53) [N = 572]	7.7 (0-40) [N = 12]	3.5 (0-20) [N = 6]	6.2 (0-85) [N = 155]	8.6 (0-51) [N = 54]	--	--
on site V	2.3 (0-36) [N = 85]	--	--	2.9 (0-54) [N = 125]	3.1 (0-15) [N = 21]	--	--
on site VII	2.6 (0-12) [N = 18]	--	--	--	--	--	--
Altitude (m)	132 (0-410)	119 (10-270)	96 (0-220)	138 (20-310)	112 (10-260)	335 (100-540)	434 (180-830)
Temperature sum (dd)	1100 (602-1360)	1112 (798-1349)	1145 (908-1354)	1056 (789-1334)	1100 (852-1348)	607 (531-663)	549 (414-646)
Stand age (a)	61.2 (0-334)	70.1 (0-164)	57.9 (0-145)	61.2 (0-175)	65.8 (2-154)	-- <sup>4</sup>	-- <sup>4</sup>
Stand basal area (m <sup>2</sup> ha <sup>-1</sup> )	16.0 (0-48)	18.0 (0-45)	19.5 (0-46)	12.3 (0-33)	16.7 (0-34)	-- <sup>4</sup>	-- <sup>4</sup>

Main characteristics of the PSP3000 data used in this study, by categories (a)-(g). Categories (a)-(e) pertain to forest land. For each category, number of stands (N), mean values and ranges of variation (min-max) of the characteristics are presented. Sites I-V and VII-VIII refer to different site quality classes (I = herb-rich forests, eutrophic mires, II = herb-rich heath forests, mesotrophic mires, III = mesic heath forests, meso-oligotrophic mires, IV = sub-xeric heath forests, oligotrophic mires, V = xeric heath forests, poor oligo-ombrotrophic mires, VII = rocky and sandy soils, VIII = summit and fell forests).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In this study, site quality class VI (barren heath forests, ombrotrophic bogs) was omitted because it contained only a few sample plots.

<sup>2</sup> In this study, site quality classes I and II of spruce mires were combined into one.

<sup>3</sup> In this study, site quality classes I-III of pine mires were combined into one.

<sup>4</sup> On poorly productive land and waste land, only a limited number of characteristics is recorded in the NFI.