

„NATIONAL PARKS OF EUROPE”

HUNGARY - NATIONAL PARK OF KISKUNSZÁG

Pusztamérges Secondary School



Hungary 2011 / Magyarország



What is the National Park?

It is such a unit of areas where the ecological uniformity should be preserved for the generations of the present and the future.

It should be protected from agricultural and industrial utilization.

It provides possibility for scientific, educational and free-time activities.

National Parks of Hungary



Fertő-Hanság National Park
(1991)



Duna-Ipoly National Park
(1997)



Aggtelek National Park
(1985)



Bükk National Park
(1976)



Hortobágy National Park
(1973)



Órség National Park
(2002)



Balaton-felvidék National Park
(1997)



Kiskunság National Park
(1975)



Körös-Maros National Park
(1997)



Duna-Dráva National Park
(1996)

Kiskunság National Park - as for preservation and presentation

The Kiskunság National Park was founded in 1975, as seven separate units. It aimed to protect wet floodplains, swamps, bogs, meadows, sodic lakes, dry sand and lick lawns and yellow soil barrens.

In the 21st century preservation and presentation are the two most important factors.

A significant part of its roughly 53,000 hectare (130,963 acre) area is designated as Biosphere Reserve, where in accordance with the principles of sustainable use, environmentally friendly landscape management is increasingly employed in order to ensure the preservation of the original ecological conditions.

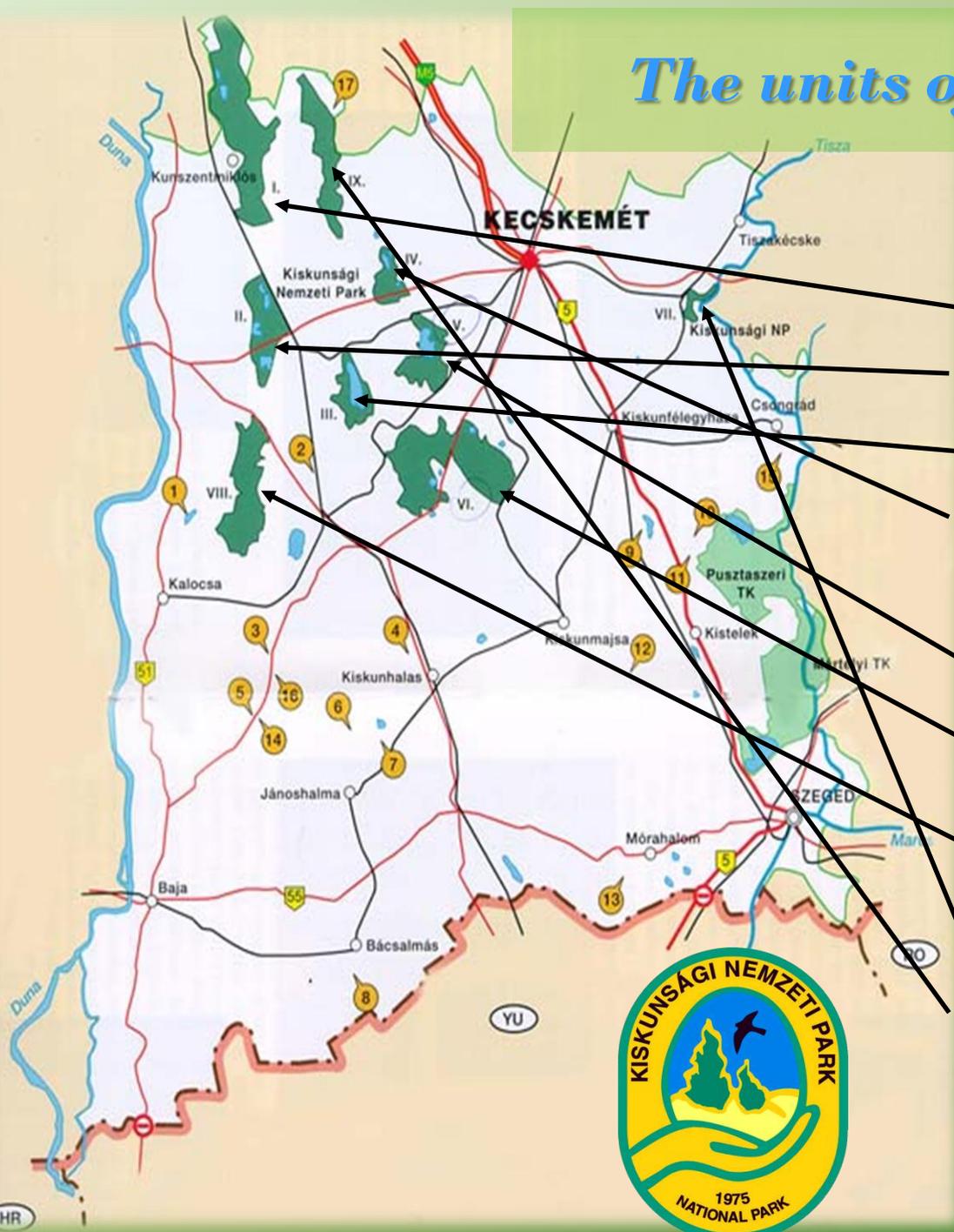


The egg in the sheltering human hand signals the delicacy of the nature.

The pattern on the painted egg depicts the dunes of the Kiskunság, the juniper which is typical here

and the kestrel which can be found in Petőfi Sándor's poem 'The Plain'.

The units of the national park



- I. Upper Kiskunság Puszta
- II. Upper Kiskunság Lakes
- III. Lake Kolon
- IV. Sand Dune area of Fülöpháza
- V. Orgovány Meadows
- VI. Sand Dune area of Bócsa-Bugac
- VII. Szikra and Alpari-meadow
- VIII. Miklapuszta
- IX. Peszéradacsi Meadows

The units of the national park III.

Lake Kolon, Izsák



Lake Kolon

- The largest freshwater swamp in Central-Europe, its area is 2962 hectares.
- It's an aqueous habitat of international importance on the ground of the Ramsar Convention
- Reedy, swampy, boggy area
- Protected rare plants
- Fauna which is rich in protected kinds





Early Spider Orchid
Ophrys sphegodes



White Waterlily
-Nymphaea alba



Military Orchid –
Orchis militaris



Grape hyacinth -
Muscari botryoides



Early Marsh Orchid -
Dactylorhiza incarnata



Siberian Iris
Iris sibirica



Purple Heron –
Ardea purpurea



Buzzard –
Buteo buteo



Little Egret –
Egretta garzetta



Great Reed Warbler –
Acrocephalus arundinaceus



Grey Heron –
Ardea cinerea



Great White Egret –
Egretta alba

Bittern - *Botaurus stellaris*





Common Shrew - Sorex araneus

European Otter - Lutra lutra



**Great Crested Newt –
Triturus cristatus**



Grass snake - Natrix natrix

**European weatherfish
Misgurnus fossilis**



**European pond turtle –
Emys orbicularis**



**European mudminnow
- Umbra krameri**

The units of the national park IV.

Sand Dune area of Fülöpháza



Sand Dune area of Fülöpháza

✦ The shifting sand of the countryside was formed by the north-west - south-east winds.

✦ The sand dune area is changing its character even today. The wind carries the sand and builds a dune of it somewhere else.

✦ The vegetation can come into being on the leeward sides.

✦ The sun rose, the delay caranation, a Globe Thistle and the „homoki vértő” can adapt well to the drought.

✦ The representatives of the fauna are mainly insects providing nourishment to the sand-lizards.

✦ There are valuable bird species, for example the golden oriole, the bee-eater and the roller.

- ✦ The majority of sand dunes are covered with grasslands.
- ✦ The sand fescue (*Festuca vaginata*) grows in loose clusters relatively far from each other.
- ✦ Between its stems lichens and mosses cover the soil.



Sand fescue - *Festuca vaginata*

Lichen - *Cladonia furcata*



- ✦ The girlorphaned sandy hair blooms in May which covers all the dunes.
- ✦ Later the Alkanet (Alkanna tinctoria) blossoms in blue petals, and the „homoki vértő” (onosoma arenaria), the „szalmagyopár” (Helichrysum arenarium) and the tiny yellow-flowered sand orpine (Sedum hillebrandtii), as well.



Alkanet –
Alkanna tinctoria



Girlorphaned sandy hair–
Stipa sabulosa

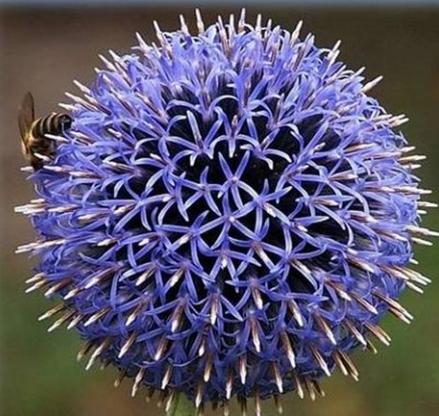


„Homoki vértő” –
Onosma arenaria

- ✦ In mid-summer the globe thistle (*Echinops ruthenicus*),
- ✦ the Field Iringa (*Eringium campestre*)
- ✦ and the Caltrop, (*Tribulus terrestris*) bloom, whose prickly fruits ripen from the middle of August.



**Long lasting pink -
Dianthus diutinus**



**Globe Thistle -
Echinops ruthenicus**



**Field Iringa—
Eringium campestre**



**Caltrop –
Tribulus terrestris**



**Late carnation –
Dianthus serotinus**

✦ Out of the fauna of the countryside the arthropod are the richest in kinds

✦ It's easy to find the ant-lions' cones in the open sand,

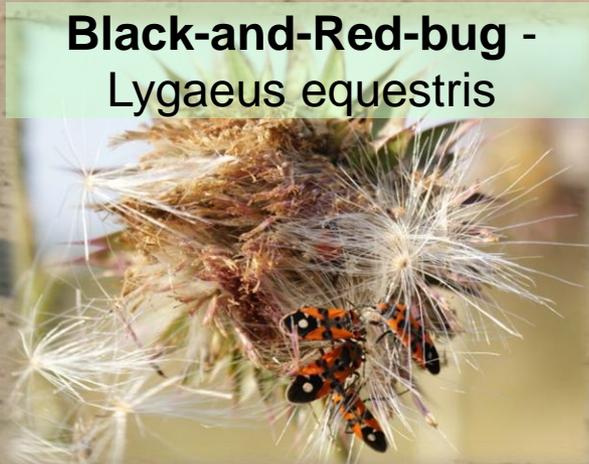
✦ But a lot of bedbugs, locusts, grasshoppers and spiders live in the sand which can grow hot and drain easily.



Common ant-lion-
Myrmeleon formicarius



Nosed grasshopper -
Acrida hungarica



Black-and-Red-bug -
Lygaeus equestris



Praying Mantis-
Mantis religiosa

✦ The pipit is a frequent bird in the sand dunes. It nestles on the ground. Other birds prefer the bushes.

✦ The woodpeckers nestle in the holes of the old aspens. The Roller occupies their nests that they don't use. Their number is decreasing as well as the number of the hoopoes.

✦ However, you can see more and more bee-eaters with their colourful feathers.



Roller –
Coracias garrulus

Bee-eater –
Merops apiaster



Hoopoe –
Upupa epops





✦ The sand dune area of Fülöpháza is also a preferred place for trips. You can find here the Sunrose Forest School which has made for the environmental education for decades.

✦ Near the school there is a woodland open-air P.E. field and the Alkanet nature trail which are created for the hikers.

✦ Among the sand dunes, near horse farms leads the red lane blaze which meshes the whole country and goes through all the protected areas of the Sand ridge.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

