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show the validity of the above mentioned facts. The vast virgin beech forests of Subcarpathian Russia have, in general, very advantageous soil conditions, though the geological substrata are formed here by sandstone and schists of the so-called Flysch formation. The soil reaction, according to Zlatník (4, pp. 411), shows here a wide range from pH 3.9 to 7.4, but the markedly acid soils are characteristic only for the «spruce» associations of the beech forests, especially those with *Vaccinium myrtillus*. Podzolation, even at high altitudes is only slight.

#### V. Regeneration of the beech within the forest.

The regeneration of the beech is good in natural beech growths, but not very uniform. Of special interest is the type without herbaceous undergrowth having instead, real thickets of a very rich natural growth of young beech. This type is to be found in the virgin forests of Subcarpathian Russia where imposing beeches, a hundred to three hundred years old, attain a height of 30 to 40 meters; these forests are not very dense. Pure virgin beech forests with only *Acer pseudoplatanus* interspersed, as well as mixed forests, are usually never densely developed. The thick layer of half-decayed beech leaves on the forest floor does not favour the growth or germinating beeches. In the Little Carpathians, I have seen mighty bare-floor beech forests with a dense undergrowth of beech-seedlings, but the thick layer of dry leaves checked their development so that only a few out of thousands could maintain themselves. In a loose *Carricetum pilosae* growth, the conditions for beech-seedlings already are somewhat more favourable. The shrubby beech colonies in old bare-floor beech forests arise in such manner that, under the protection of a young beech that has somewhat disturbed the dry-leaf carpet, new beech-seedlings take root and finally form these characteristic colonies.

#### VI. Dominance of the beech and mixture of other trees.

We know all possible intermediate stages of forests beginning with a 100 % dominance of the beech, to various types of coniferous and deciduous forests in which the beech is only scattered. Typical trees accompanying the beech in our beech forests are: deciduous *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *A. platanoides*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Ulmus*