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present phenological spectra of every sociation and every type, not to mention the fact that the spectrum varies according to the exposure, altitude, as well as to climatic regions, etc.

IX. Shrub vegetation below canopy.

There are not, always, many strata in beech forests. The moss covering is nearly always lacking, the herbaceous undergrowth (in one or two layers) is more or less well developed but can also be suppressed (see *Fagetum nudum*), and the shrubby growth (young trees and true shrubs) is very unequally developed. As the most characteristic shrubs accompanying the beech, the following can be mentioned:

<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	<i>Rosa pendulina</i>
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	<i>Rubus idaeus</i>
<i>Daphne mezereum</i>	<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>
<i>Lonicera nigra</i>	<i>Sorbus aria</i> (chiefly on limestone)
<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i>	<i>Sorbus torminalis</i>
<i>Ribes alpinum</i>	<i>Spiraea media</i> (only in Subcarpa-
<i>Ribes grossularia</i>	thian Russia)

Rather characteristic for some beech forests are also *Evonymus verrucosa*, *Ligustrum vulgare* (ab.), *Stachylea pinnata* and *Viburnum opulus*. Besides, a good many other shrubs (for instance *Cornus mas*, *Crataegus*, *Cotoneaster tomentosa* (Carpathians only), *Berberis vulgaris*, *Rhamnus cathartica*, *Viburnum lantana* and some *Rosa* and *Rubus* species are sometimes present in some beech forest sociations.

X. Ground vegetation.

The ground vegetation is the most reliable basis for a sociological classification of beech forests, because the general tree stratum is uniform and the small number of accompanying trees cannot be depended upon for establishing definite sociations. Since a sociological classification of beech forests is exceedingly difficult, many authors avoid a definite evaluation and distinguish simply «types», often characterised also ecologically. These types, however, are not identical with the well-known C a j a n d e r 's forest types, because these authors interpret the beech forest, including its tree