

THE SOUTH-BALTIC COASTAL ZONE

The South-Baltic coastal zone s.l. covers three type-regions:

1. The Baltic shore (P-u), which is a narrow belt along the sea-cliff, composed of beaches and dunes including the margins of moraine plateaus. The dune and halophyte vegetation dominates here, the pine and beech forests occur in patches. The contribution of atlantic (s.l.) species, a typical feature of the region, decrease gradually towards the east.
2. The Baltic coastal zone (P-t) adjacent to the Baltic shore and directly influenced by the sea is characterized by the landscape of numerous dunes and morainic plateaus overgrown by beech and mixed deciduous woods, dissected by the system of peri-marine pradolinas which are occupied mainly by the heath peat-bogs with *Erica tetralix* and *Rubus chamaemorus*.
3. The deltaic area of Vistula River (P-v) with the very fertile mud soils, its natural vegetation composed of rich multispecies riverine woods, alderwoods and mixed deciduous forests is not represented in this volume. The reference site for the Vistula deltaic area is the Druzno Lake — P-23 (Zachowicz et al. 1982; Zachowicz & Kępińska 1987).

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