

## PHOTOSYNTHETIC APPARATUS OF TWO SPECIES OF THE GENUS TARAXACUM (ASTERACEAE) IN WEST SVALBARD

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The physiological features of two species of the genus *Taraxacum* (native *T. arcticum* and adventive *T. officinale*) in the West Svalbard flora are studied. A similar total chlorophylls content in the studied species was noted. The high potential photochemical activity of a unit of photosynthetic apparatus of both species was shown. In the Arctic, both species equally absorb and utilize light energy; the differences are only related to its subsequent expenditure. The lack of heat in *T. officinale* leads to a higher level of non-photochemical quenching.

**Keywords:** *Taraxacum arcticum*, *Taraxacum officinale*, pigment content, fluorescence parameters, West Svalbard

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