Name and surname:	**Daniel Pruchniewicz**
Academic Degree:	dr hab. inż. (DSc.)
Institute/Department:	Department of Botany and Plant Ecology
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UPWr Base of Knowledge - link:	https://bazawiedzy.upwr.edu.pl/info/author/UPWrfb83896c916f4b4089f7d8c598db22fc?r=author&tab=&title=Profil%2Bosoby%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2BDaniel%2BPruchniewicz%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2BUniwersytet%2BPrzyrodniczy%2Bwe%2BWroc%25C5%2582awiu&lang=pl
Researchgate:	
Personal website / Working group website:	
Participation in projects in last 5 years (chronological; with distinction into PI (kierownik) and RF (wykonawca)):	none
Do you plan to engage support of second supervisor or auxiliary supervisor?	YES
	Auxiliary supervisor
Name and surname:	Marta Czarniecka-Wiera
Academic Degree:	dr (Dr.)
Faculty, Institute/Department:	Institute of Agroecology and Plant Production
e-mail address:	marta.czarniecka-wiera@upwr.edu.pl
ORCID:	https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3294-5853
UPWr Base of Knowledge - link or most important publications from last 3 year (JCR) / patents from last 3 years (maximum 5):	https://bazawiedzy.upwr.edu.pl/info/author/UPWR07db76aee2144ba9a7c9508b896c6029?r=author&tab=&title=Profil%2Bosoby%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2BMarta%2BCzarniecka-Wiera%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2BUniwersytet%2BPrzyrodniczy%2Bwe%2BWroc%25C5%2582awiu&lang=pl&qp=
Researchgate:	
Personal website / Working group website:	
Projects in last 5 years (chronological; with distinction into PI (kierownik) and RF (wykonawca)):	2021-2024 - "Integrated approach to the protection of ecosystems against invasive alien plants in southern Poland" financed by the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021. Function - team coordinator 2021-2022- "Developing rules for invasive alien species removal, including social education" financed by the European Union under the Infrastructure and Environment Program 2014-2020. Function - team coordinator 2014-2020 - "Monitoring of the environmental effects of Agricultural Policy tools implemented in 2014-2020, with emphasis on the agri-environment-climate measure" financed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Function - Function - RF
PhD topic:	Analysis of processes occurring on micro-habitat scale in grassland plant communities with a disturbed species and spatial structure.
Research discipline in Doctoral School:	Agriculture and Horticulture

Short description of the research problem to be solved in the PhD (minimum 1000 characters):	The development of plant communities with often extremely basic species and spatial structure in marginal abandoned or transformed areas is an important contemporary issue in terms of maintaining biodiversity in anthropogenic landscapes. Such communities develop spontaneously in the course of secondary succession in falowed agricultural areas, post-industrial grounds, or ruderalized in other way, e. g. as a result of earthworks. Their degeneration is manifested by a strong domination of usually one expansive species, which leads to a radical decrease in species richness and diversity, and often to extremely simplified spatial structure in both vertical and horizontal directions. This often results in a very severe reduction in the biocenotic value of such natural habitats, leading to the decline in species diversity of higher trophic levels. Maintaining a high biocenotic value of marginal areas as refugia of biological diversity at all its levels is an essential goal of active nature conservation. The study will be carried out on model sites with vegetation dominated by various expansive species in unused areas. They will be carried out in a twofold way. The first goal will be to determine the impact of microhabitat properties on the species composition, density, biomass and morphometric properties of the dominant species and on the spatial patterns of the plant community. The second part of the study will be experimental in nature, and its main goal will be to develop methods for overcoming the dominance of the species that degenerate the phytocenosis and for increasing its species diversity through various ways of actively influencing the habitat and vegetation. It is therefore assumed that the final results will not only have a purely cognitive aspect, explaining the nature of the observed phenomena and processes, but also a utilitarian one, leading to the development of methods for enriching the diversity of plant communities that are the subject of the study.
Professional skills for PhD candidate (e.g. master program, specializations, softwares, language, analytical techniques, minimum 500 characters):	Graduation from higher education courses in environmental protection, agriculture, horticulture or other related fields. Basic knowledge of botany, ecology, nature conservation and environmental protection is necessary. The following features are expected: communication skills, commitment and conscientiousness in performing scientific research, as well as availability, independence, and the ability to solve unusual problems. Knowledge of English is required to study scientific literature in the English-language.
a) Project title:	none
b) Agreement number:	none
c) Number of months in the project to support PhD student (in months; starting from 1st of October 2024):	0
Project website:	