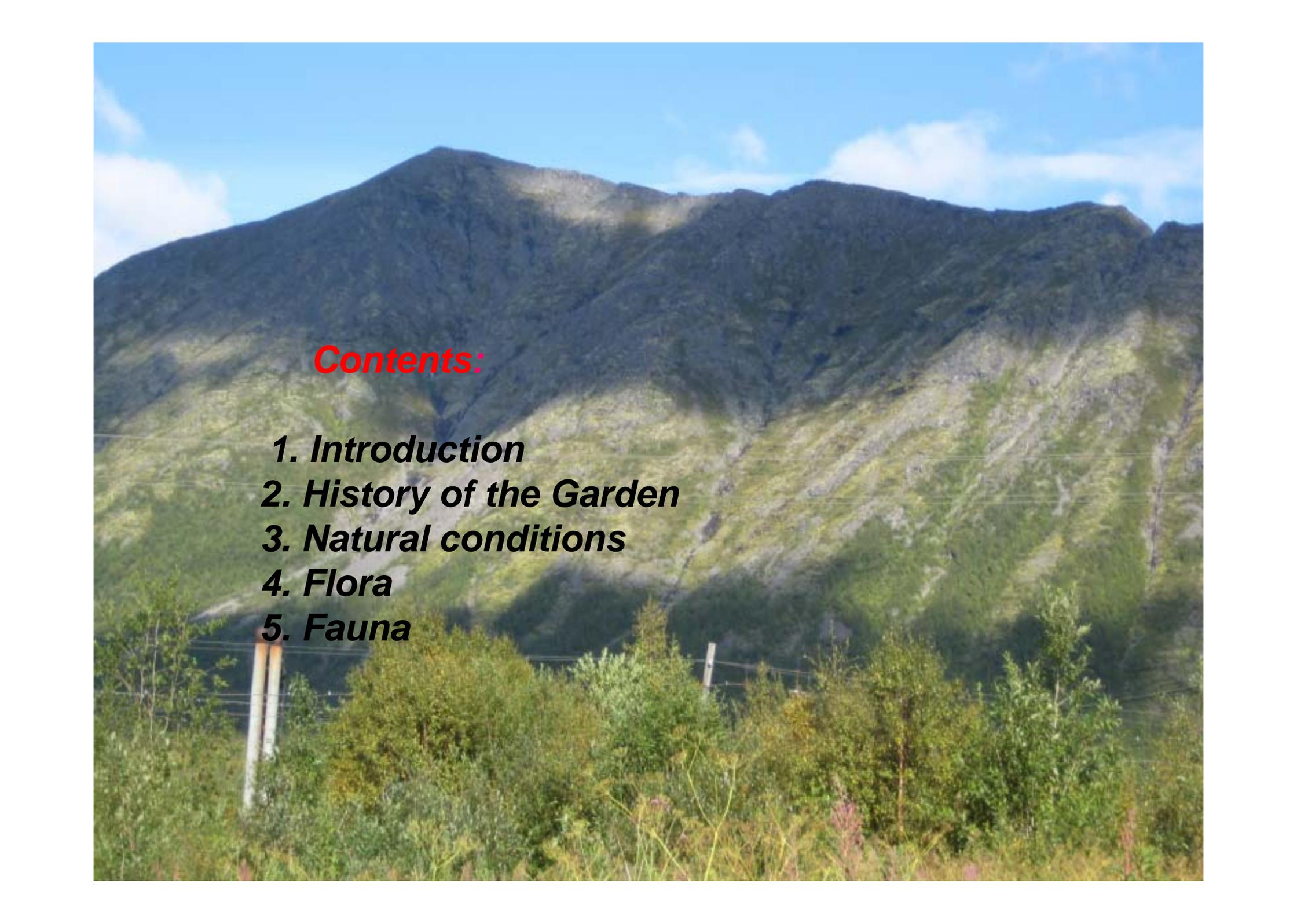


Polar – Alpine – Botanical Garden Institute

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**I am Inessa. I am a
pupil of 7th form.**



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Introduction



Dark-gray Khibiny Mountains lie in the center of Kola Peninsula, between cold White and Barentz seas.

Polar-alpine botanical garden-institute (PABGI) is situated in the western part of Voudjavr Lake valley, 7 km from Kirovsk. Total area of the garden is more than 1300 hectares.

Until recently PABGI was the northernmost botanical garden in the world. Thousands of tourists, schoolchildren and students visit PABGI all the year round. Many universities organize field practice for students in PABGI's laboratories and hatcheries.

Pabgi history

Academic A.E. Fersman established the Kola branch of Academy of Science in 1930. Young botanist N.A. Avrorin who had graduated from Leningrad University not long before joining the Kola expedition, proposed the «Project of Polar-alpine botanical Garden in Khibiny» in 26 August, 1931.

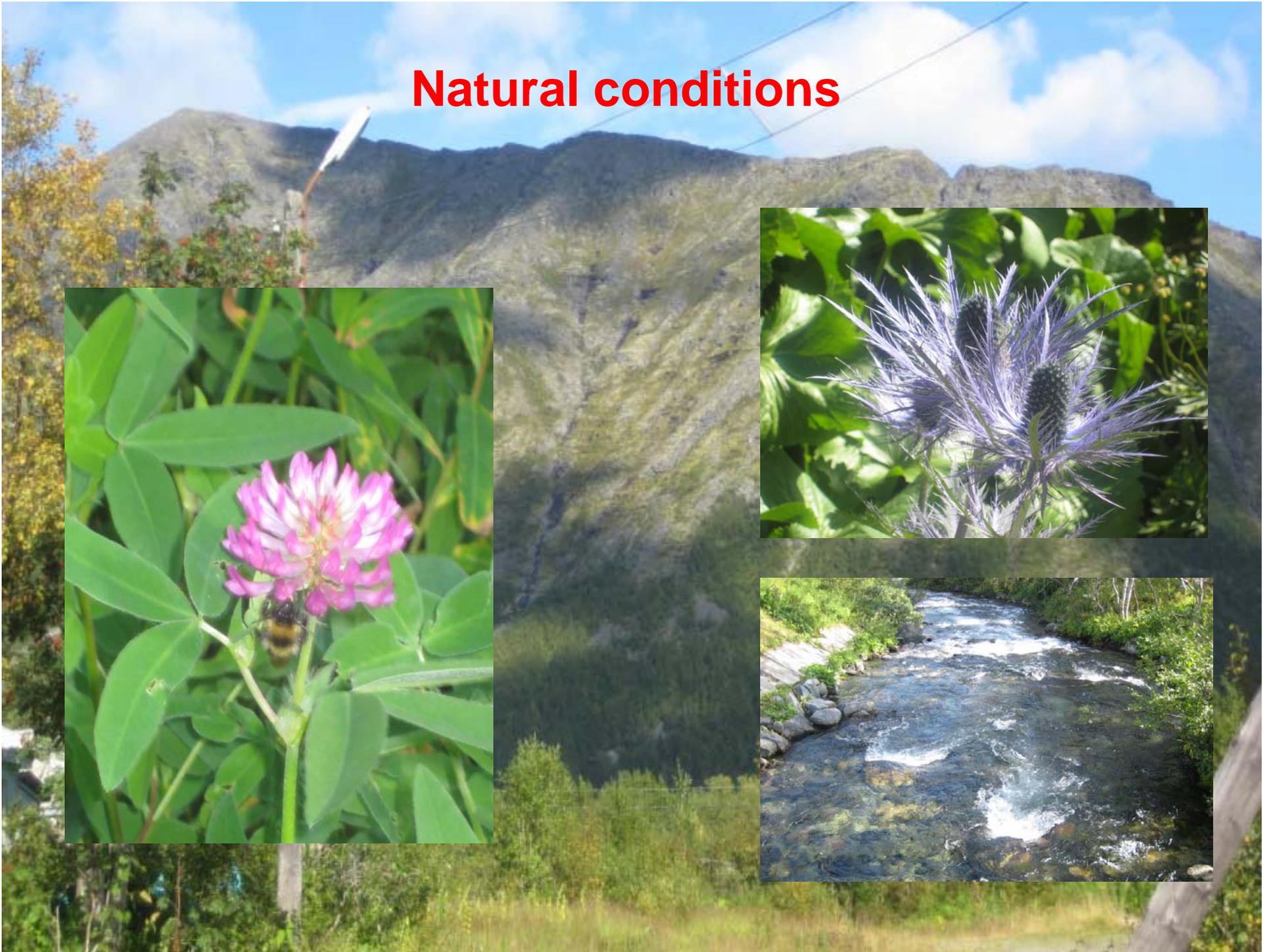
The Project provided for detailed investigation of vegetative and soil resources of the region, solving problems of trees and shrubs cultivation in northern towns.



In 1967 the Garden was given the status of institute in 1981. Institute was conferred the Order of the Badge of Honour in 2002 PABGI was conferred the name of his founder and first director NAAvrorin. At present PABGI is scientific and research body of the Kola Science Center of Russian Science Academy.



Natural conditions



Climate of PABGI is defined by its geographical position. Day length changes from 0 during polar night (from 10th of December to 3d of January) to 24 hours during polar day (from 26th of May to 18th of July).

Winter. Lasts for 6.5 months (from mid-October to late April). Average winter temperature is — 10 - -15° C, it rarely falls below -35 -38° C.

Spring is short and rapid, it lasts from late April to mid-June.

Summer is short, only about 2.5 months (from mid-June to late August).

Autumn is also short and rainy (it lasts from late August to mid-September), with the strong winds, frosts, rains, fogs, low clouds, high humidity and short snowfalls.

Flora



The Garden's protected area covers northern, north-eastern and partially southern and south-eastern slopes of Voudjavrchorr Mountain and north-eastern slope of Takhtarvourchorr Mountain. Different types of vegetation are represented in this relatively small area.

Haemanthus albiflos



Thuja occidentalis





Амазуллисс
Амариллисс

Iivia miniata В

св.

Pelargonium grave olens L. Herit



Fauna

Animal kingdom is represented by shrew, mice-like rodents, and lepus. These animals feed on aspen bark, willow, birch and rowan sprigs.

There are many birds in the area.

Snow Bunting, Common Redpoll are first to fly to the Garden in spring, later on Chaffinch and Song Thrush and Fieldfare, Willow Warbler and Spotted Flycatcher appear. Great Tit and Willow Tit stays in the Garden in winter.

There are many duck species — Mallard, Common Teal, Goosander and others.



I wrote about our PABGI and to my mind it is an interesting information. I live in Apatity. It is in Murmansk region. But PABGI is situated in Kirovsk. It is not far from my town.

PABGI is one of the famous garden in our region. This garden allow people to enjoy plants, different trees, animals and birds. Many tourists, naturalists and people. It is one of the most popular tourist places. Some people come there just to walk.

I invite you to visit PABGI.

Bye.