

De secerat

From Maramureș, Romania
Presented by Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu

Located in northwestern Romania, Maramureș borders on Ukraine and features the Rodnei, Țibleș and Gutâi Mountains. The region abounds in cultural and natural attractions and craft traditions. It is known for its many wooden churches—eight of which have been declared World Heritage sites by UNESCO—its numerous museums and bustling local markets. There visitors have the pleasant sensation of being far removed from modern times, and folklore enthusiasts find unparalleled authenticity and ethnographic richness.

Maramureș is the realm of Christian festivities and age-old celebrations. Time isn't measured in months, weeks or hours. Instead people speak of the time to sow, Lent, Easter, the harvest, Advent and Christmas celebrations.

De secerat means “song to harvest to”.

Formation: mixed circle of dancers standing close to each other

Position: facing center, hands joined up in W position

Pronunciation: deh seh-tcheh-RAHT

Music: *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu Romanian Realm Vol. 9*, Band 9

Meter: 2/4

Description of *De secerat*

Meas. Count

Introduction

(Singing without rhythm, followed by 2 + 16 instrumental meas.)

1-18

No action

(Optional: Arms down at side. Raise to W position with guitar, up and down motion from knees)

Figure 1 (singing) (*grape-vine* and sway)
(Moving LOD)

1 1& Step L across in front
 2& Step swd on R

2 1& Step L across in back
 2& Step swd on R

Note: measures **1-2** = one *grape-vine* moving LOD

Style: arms movement up and down (from knees motion) on *grape-vine*

3 1& Step L across in front
 2& Step swd on R (Feet on second position)

4 1& Sway weight on L
 2& Sway weight on R

5-8 Repeat measures **1-4**

Meter: 2/4 Description of *De secerat* (continued)

Meas. Count **Figure 2**

1-6 Do measures **1-2** of **figure 1** three times (starting L ft across in front)

Note: measures **1-6** = three *grape-vine*

7-8 Do four *walking steps* starting L ft, moving LOD and facing slightly diag. to the right

Style for measures 7-8: Elegant walk with no up and down motion

Figure 3 (instrumental)

1 1 Small step on L
 & Small step on R
 2 Small step on L
 & Stamp on R near L ft (no wt)

2 Repeat measure **1** with opp ftwk (starting R ft)

Note: measures **1-2**, all the steps are flat-footed and moving LOD

3-6 Repeat measures **1-2** two more times (3 in total)

Style for measure 1-6: Sway body left when stepping L, and right when stepping R
(swinging the skirt)

7-8 Do four *walking steps* starting L ft (L, R, L, R)

Note: At the end of the dance, music slows.

Close R ft to L and face center at the end of the last measure.

Final pattern:

Introduction +
(F1 + F2 + F3) x 5.

Described and presented by Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu, © 2016
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Song for
De secerat

Dragu mi-i a secera când se leagănă holda	I love to harvest when the wheat sways in the wind
Dragu mi-i a secera măi dorule, măi Când se leagănă holda măi dor Vântul prinde a sufla, păsările a cânta Până-n seara om găta, măi.	With all my heart, I love to harvest. When the wheat sways The wind begins to blow, the birds sing. This evening, everything will be finished.
Drag m-i Maramureșul măi dorule, măi Vara când îi codru lung măi dor Neam cu neam din sat se-adună, mărg la seceră-n preună De-ar și vară-i voie bună, măi.	I love Maramureș* with all my heart. In summer when the forest is green All the villagers gather to harvest together The is joy in the summer.
Dumnezeu cel sfânt o dat măi dorule, măi Ploaie bună de-o plouat măi dor De veni-i s-o îndurat, holdă mare s-o nălțat Secera-om grâu curat, măi.	God gave us Plentiful rain The plants grew And we gathered the blessed wheat.
De pruncuță mi-o luat măi dorule, măi Mama de la secerat măi dor De cu zori până sara, pe clăiță aduna Și cu glasu le horea, măi.	From childhood My mother taught me to harvest From morning to evening, she stacked the hay While singing.
Moc de grâu de na-i si tu măi dorule, măi Sărăciu ar pământu măi dor N-ar fi holdele mănoase și nici pită bună-n casă Nici prescurea-șă frumoasă	Ear of wheat, if you didn't exist The soil would be poor The field would be small and the bread not good. And the host would not turn out well.
Spic ușor de grâu uscat, fi cu binecuvântat Multumim cui ni-i te-o dat, măi.	Ear of light wheat, be blessed We give thanks that you exist.

*Northern region of Romania