



Botanical tour in Crete: new species, new records and high-rank syntaxonomy update



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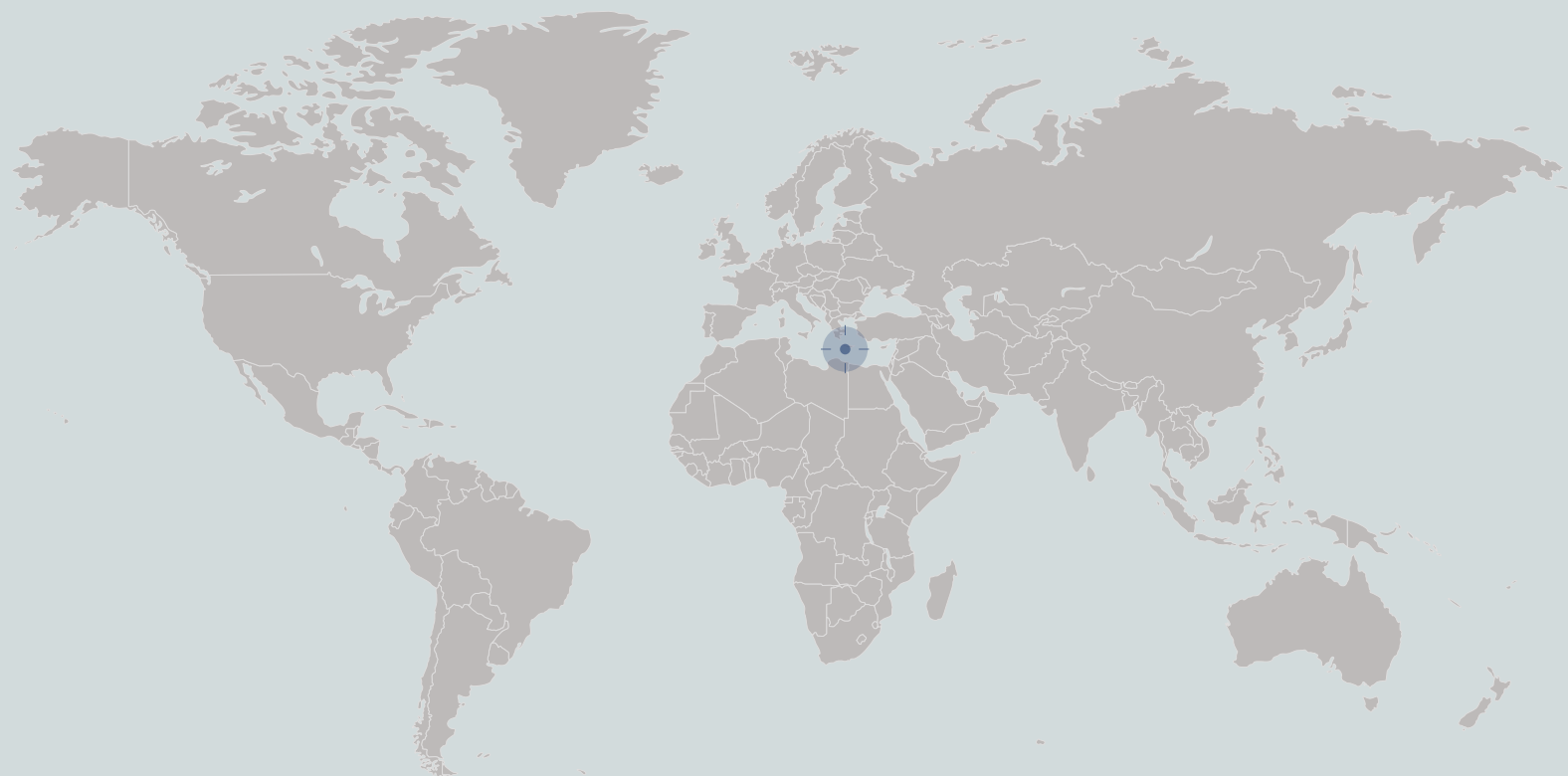
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Résumé :

Ce compte-rendu présente le résultat de plusieurs missions botaniques ayant eu lieu sur l'île de Crète à différentes périodes de l'année. Il fait suite à un précédent rapport (BOUCHET, 2016) traitant de la même région. Les espèces sont présentées par site géographique en mettant en avant les espèces endémiques et patrimoniales. Ces voyages ont permis notamment de découvrir une nouvelle espèce pour la Crète, *Viola kitaibeliana* Schult, et de nouvelles stations d'espèces peu répandues. Une mise à jour des principaux syntaxons a été réalisée et fait l'objet d'un paragraphe. Enfin, une analyse des endémiques et espèces patrimoniales est présentée en fin de rapport.

Abstract :

This account presents the results of several botanical trips which took place on the island of Crete at different periods of the year. It follows a former report of this region (BOUCHET, 2016). Species are presented for each location and with special emphasis on endemic species and species of conservation concern. Thus during these trips a new species for Crete is discovered, *Viola kitaibeliana* Schult, as well as new locations of uncommon species. A high-rank syntaxonomy update is also presented. Then an analysis of endemic species and species of conservation concern is made.



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• Introduction

This account presents the results of several botanical trips which took place on the island of Crete at two different periods of the year: 8 to 13 April and 14 to 22 October 2018. It follows a former report of this region (BOUCHET, 2016) involving the same team and thus gives additional information as well as a phytosociological review. Only the western part of the island was visited in spring to complete the former report. Then a visit in autumn on the whole island was an opportunity to observe different species or species at a different stage of their annual cycle. The aim of these trips was to discover the Aegean flora and vegetation, in particular endemic species of the island as well as species of conservation concern. The identification of the species was possible thanks to the Atlas of the Aegean Flora (STRID, 2016a & 2016b) and Flora Europaea (TUTIN *et al.*, 1964-1980). Syntaxa nomenclature follows MUCINA *et al.* (2016) or WAGENSOMMER (2017) as far as thermophilous rocky plant communities are concerned.

Most of the island is made of limestone and dolomite. The climate is considered as mild and Mediterranean with four distinct seasons. Winter is rainy and mild while summer is warm and dry. However, due to its extraordinary geographical and ecological diversity, the island which is extremely mountainous presents a great variety of climates depending on the region and location. Annual rainfall never exceeds 620 mm on the shore while it can reach 1,000 mm and more in the mountains (BARBERO & QUEZEL, 1980). According to EMBERGER (1930), the climate can be considered as varying from arid to humid with intermediate situations, i.e. semi-arid and sub-humid.

The nomenclature of taxa follows that of the Atlas of the Aegean Flora (STRID, 2016a).

Species recorded are presented site by site hereafter.



Rocky area on Korokos peninsula
(*verbascum arcturi*-*Campanulion creticae*)



• Detail report

Falassarna

Our first stop was at the westernmost part of the island, in Φαλάσαρνα (Falassarna). This area is rocky with sparse vegetation called phrygana dominated by evergreen Mediterranean shrubs.



Falassarna

- *Anthemis rigida*;
- *Ballota pseudodictamnus*;
- *Bupleurum gracile*;
- *Calicotome villosa*;
- *Carlina corymbosa*;
- *Cheilanthes acrostica*;
- *Cichorium spinosum*;
- *Convolvulus oleifolius*;
- *Crepis neglecta*;
- *Daucus guttatus*;
- *Drimia maritima*;
- *Ebenus creticus* (endemic to Crete);
- *Erica manipuliflora*;
- *Galactites tomentosus*;
- *Genista acanthoclada*;
- *Hyoseris scabra*;
- *Inula candida*;
- *Lagurus ovatus*;
- *Lamyropsis cynaroides*;
- *Malcolmia flexuosa*;
- *Malva parviflora*;
- *Medicago disciformis*;
- *Muscari spreitzenhoferi* (endemic to Crete);
- *Notobasis syriaca*;



Ballota pseudodictamnus



Parietaria cretica

- *Onopordum bracteatum*;
- *Ornithogalum collinum*;
- *Parietaria cretica*;
- *Phagnalon rupestre* subsp. *graecum*;
- *Phlomis fruticosa*;
- *Picris pauciflora*;
- *Pistacia lentiscus*;
- *Plantago coronopus*;
- *Rhamnus lycioides* subsp. *oleoides*;
- *Sarcopoterium spinosum*;
- *Satureja thymbra*;
- *Scrophularia heterophylla*;
- *Sedum litoreum*;
- *Smilax aspera*;
- *Thymbra capitata*;
- *Tordylium apulum*;
- *Trifolium nigrescens*;
- *Urospermum picroides*;
- *Valantia hispida*;
- *Valantia muralis*.



Sedum litoreum

Falassama

Further north, in Χερσόνησος Κώρυκος (Korikos peninsula), we discovered a typical example of the *Verbasco arcturi*-*Campanulion creticae* community, an endemic rocky alliance, including the following species:



Rocky area on Korikos peninsula
(*Verbasco arcturi*-*Campanulion creticae*)

- *Arabis verna*;
- *Ballota pseudodictamnus*;
- *Delphinium staphysagria*;
- *Euphorbia dendroides*;
- *Origanum dictamnus* (endemic to Crete);
- *Orobanche pubescens*;
- *Petromarula pinnata* (endemic to Crete);
- *Scrophularia peregrina*;
- *Stachys spinulosa*.



The plateau is covered with a phrygana dominated by *Genista acanthoclada* and *Ballota pseudodictamnus* but also by open swards mainly composed of annual species:

- *Biscutella didyma*;
- *Campanula erinus*;
- *Knautia integrifolia* subsp. *mimica*;
- *Linum pubescens* subsp. *sibthorpiatum*;
- *Moraea mediterranea*;
- *Nigella damascena*.



Omalos Viannou

We then headed to Ομαλός Βιάννου (Omalos Viannou), a Natura 2000 site and an area bounded by the Omalos Viannou mountain plain and the Erganos stream to the north, and the southern peaks of Dikti to the south. This is where we found Mediterranean ponds at an elevation of 1,060 m. The most characteristic vegetation community was the *Isoetion* surrounded by other accompanying species:



Mediterranean pond in Omalos Viannou (Isoetion)

- *Berberis cretica*;
- *Eleocharis palustris*;
- *Isoetes hystrix*;
- *Ranunculus lateriflorus*;
- *Ranunculus peltatus*;
- *Romulea bulbocodium*;
- *Scilla nana* (endemic to Crete).



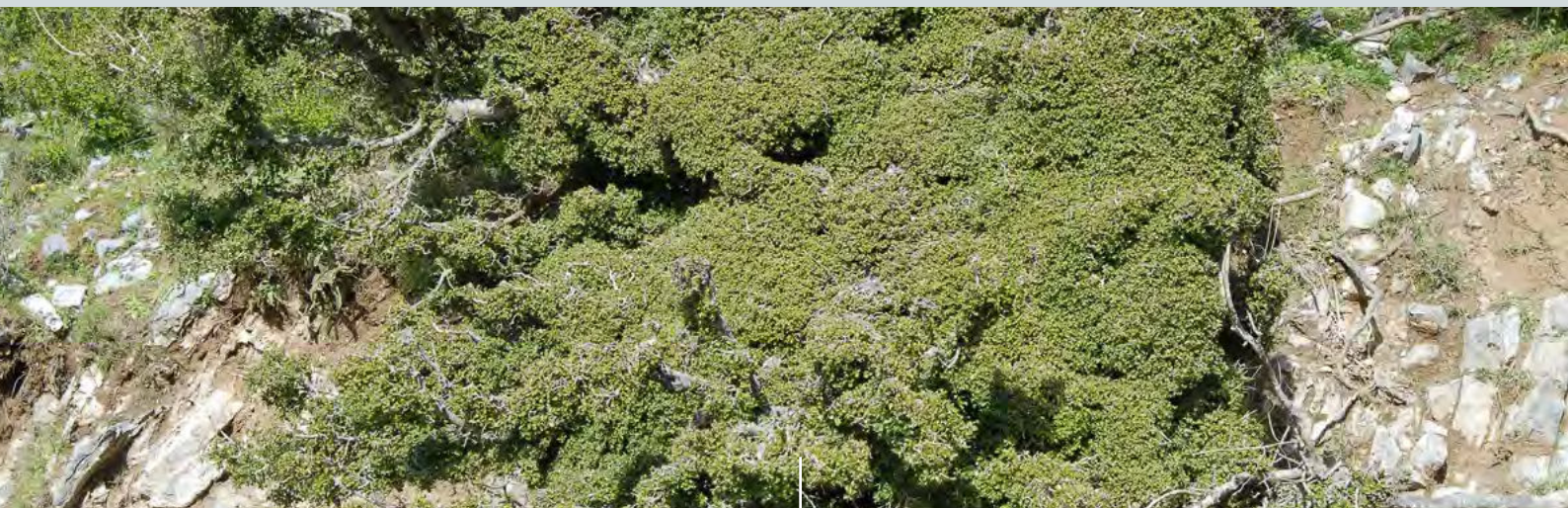
Isoetes hystrix



Ranunculus peltatus

Xyloskalo

Further south-east, on the way to the Samaria Gorge, we toured around the Ξυλόσκαλο resort (Xyloskalo). This was the perfect place to discover the open mountainous woodland dominated by the Mediterranean Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) and the Cretan Maple (*Acer sempervirens*) belonging to the *Berberido creticae-Juniperion foetidissimae* community. It was also one of the rare locations where *Zelkova abelicea* was to be found: this is the only endemic tree species of the island.



Here are the few species we were able to discover:

- *Acer sempervirens*;
- *Astragalus depressus*;
- *Cupressus sempervirens*;
- *Cynosurus effusus*;
- *Orchis pauciflora*;
- *Saxifraga rotundifolia*;
- *Zelkova abelicea* (endemic to Crete).

In rocky ground some species relying to the xeric oromediterranean calcicolous cushion-tragacanthic scrub of western Crete (*Verbascion spinosi*) also occurred:

- *Aethionema saxatile subsp. graecum*;
- *Aubrieta deltoidea*;
- *Verbascum spinosum* (endemic to Crete).

Zelkova abelicea



Acer sempervirens



Verbascum spinosum

Another conspicuous species was to be found on the Omalos mountain plain in spring: *Tulipa bakeri*, an endemic species, though possibly a stabilised hybrid.



Tulipa bakeri



Aubrieta deltoidea

Akrotiri peninsula

Back on the lowland, we crossed the Χερσόνησος Ακρωτήρι (Akrotiri peninsula), north east of Χανιά (Chania) to the Ιερά Μονή Καθολικού (Katholiko monastery). Going down the trail to the beach, we crossed amazing gorges with a high diversity of rocky plant species belonging to the *Verbascum arcturi-Campanulion creticae*, the typical low-elevation rocky community of western Crete:



Katholiko monastery



Scutellaria sieberi



Verbascum arcturus

- *Achillea cretica*;
- *Anchusella variegata*;
- *Anogramma leptophylla*;
- *Bellium minutum*;
- *Brassica cretica* subsp. *cretica* (endemic to Crete);
- *Crupina crupinastrum*;
- *Ebenus cretica* (endemic to Crete);
- *Enarthrocarpus arcuatus*;
- *Ephedra foemina*;
- *Helichrysum orientale*;
- *Inula candica* (endemic to Greece)
- *Lactuca acanthifolia*;
- *Lamyropsis cynaroides*;
- *Matthiola incana*;
- *Petromerula cretica* (endemic to Crete);
- *Rosularia serrata*;
- *Scutellaria sieberi* (endemic to Crete);
- *Silene sedoides*;
- *Symphytum creticum* (endemic to Greece);
- *Valerianella echinata*;
- *Verbascum arcturus* (endemic to Crete).

Kalami



Galium fruticosum

On the northern coast, west of Καλάμι (Kalami), at the bottom of a cliff, several species drew our attention:

- *Achillea cretica*;
- *Ferulago nodosa*;
- *Galium fruticosum* (most probably endemic to Crete);
- *Hypericum empetrifolium*;
- *Lathyrus annuus*;
- *Nepeta scordotis* (endemic to Crete);
- *Teucrium divaricatum*.



Nepeta scordotis

Rodopos peninsula

Our next destination was Χερσόνησος Ροδοπού (Rodopos peninsula).



Rodopos peninsula

This is where we found *Solenopsis minuta* subsp. *annua*: this plant is mostly found on western Crete (endemic) (CRESP0 *et al.*, 1998). It is one of the species that could be associated to the *Adiantetetea* community.



Solenopsis minuta subsp. *annua*

Further north, along 'Ovuxac 'Opoc (Mount Onichas), we crossed lowland phrygana.

Here are some more species occurring in the peninsula:

- *Adonis cretica* (endemic to the S Aegean area);
- *Arenaria muralis*;
- *Arum concinatum*;
- *Calicotome villosa*;
- *Centaurea argentea* (endemic to Crete and Kithira);
- *Coronopus squamatus*;
- *Crepis pusilla*;
- *Crepis tybakensis* (endemic to Aegean Islands);
- *Cynara cornigera*;
- *Daucus guttatus*;
- *Ferulago thyrsoflora* (endemic to Crete);
- *Genista acanthoclada*;
- *Mentha pulegium*;
- *Nepeta melissifolia* (endemic to Crete);
- *Ptilostemon chamaepeuce*;
- *Sagina apetala*;
- *Thymra capitata*;
- *Trifolium resupinatum*;
- *Trifolium tomentosum*;
- *Valeriana asarifolia* (endemic to the S Aegean area);
- *Verbascum macrurum*.



Adonis cretica - Photo J.-P. Brizard



Ferulago thyrsoflora - Photo L. Teulade

Chania beach



Sandy coast in Chania - Photo L. Teulade

Sandy coasts have a very specific flora. Actually, the psammophytic vegetation in Crete is patchy and fragmentary. It belongs to the *Ammophilon* Br.-Bl. 1921 community: the *Agropyron-Diotis* group was the name provisionally proposed by ZOHARY & HORSHAN (1965). Here is the composition of this community on Chania beach:

- *Allium commutatum*;
- *Centaurea spinosa*;
- *Cutandia maritima*;
- *Cyperus capitatus*;
- *Eryngium maritimum*;
- *Medicago marina*;
- *Otanthus maritimus*;
- *Pancreatium maritimum*;
- *Pseudorlaya pumila*;
- *Silene colorata*;
- *Thymelaea hirsuta*.



Cyperus capitatus

Mavri

Our next destination was a mountainous area inland south of Chania called Μαύρη (Mavri).



Surroundings of Mavri

Here we found upper level communities of the *Rhamno lycioidis*–*Quercetum cocciferae* community as mentioned by TSIOURLIS *et al.* (2009). More interestingly this is the place where we discovered *Viola kitaibeliana*: this is the first record of the species on the island as confirmed by STRID (pers. comm.). *Viola kitaibeliana* is widespread on mainland Greece and also found on a few other islands including Lesvos but had never been recorded in Crete before.

- *Acer sempervirens*;
- *Acinos alpinus*;
- *Arabis auriculata*;
- *Aristolochia sempervirens*;
- *Arum creticum*;
- *Asphodelina lutea*;
- *Cardamine graeca*;
- *Cupressus sempervirens*;
- *Dryopteris pallida*;
- *Erica arborea*;
- *Gagea amblyopetala*;
- *Lamium garganicum* subsp. *striatum*;
- *Orchis pauciflora*;
- *Orchis quadripunctata*;
- *Orchis tridentata*;
- *Paeonia clusii* (endemic to the Dodecanese and Crete);
- *Saxifraga rotundifolia* subsp. *chrysospleniiifolia*;
- *Scilla nana* (endemic to Crete);
- *Viola kitaibeliana* (new for Crete).



Berberis cretica



Cardamine graeca



Viola kitaibeliana

Gorge Therisiano

Back to the north we stopped in the Θερισιανό Φαράγγι (Gorge Therisiano) where chasmophytic species occur, including many endemic species. It is also one of the rare locations where the Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*) is to be found on the island:

- *Arenaria muralis*;
- *Brassica cretica* subsp. *cretica* (endemic to Crete);
- *Centaurea argentea* (endemic to Crete and Kithira);
- *Centaurea redempta* (endemic to Crete);
- *Ceratonia siliqua*;
- *Cionura erecta*;
- *Crepis tybakensis* (endemic to Aegean Islands);
- *Ferulago thyrsoiflora* (endemic to Crete);
- *Galium fruticosum* (most probably endemic to Crete);
- *Lactuca acanthifolia*;
- *Legousia pentagonia*;
- *Melica uniflora*;
- *Origanum dictamnus* (endemic to Crete);
- *Petromarula pinnata* (endemic to Crete);
- *Quercus ilex*;
- *Salvia fruticosa*;
- *Scutellaria sieberi* (endemic to Crete);
- *Securigera globosa* (endemic to Crete);
- *Stachelina petiolata* (endemic to Crete);
- *Teucrium divaricatum*.



Securigera globosa



Stachelina petiolata

Sougia harbour and Lissos

Then we headed to the south coast between Λιμάνι Σούγιας (Sougia harbour) and Λίσσος (Lissos). We first went up a canyon to a plateau before going down to a small beach.



Lissos

The rocky low-altitude vegetation belongs to the *Verbascum arcturi*-*Campanulion creticae* community:

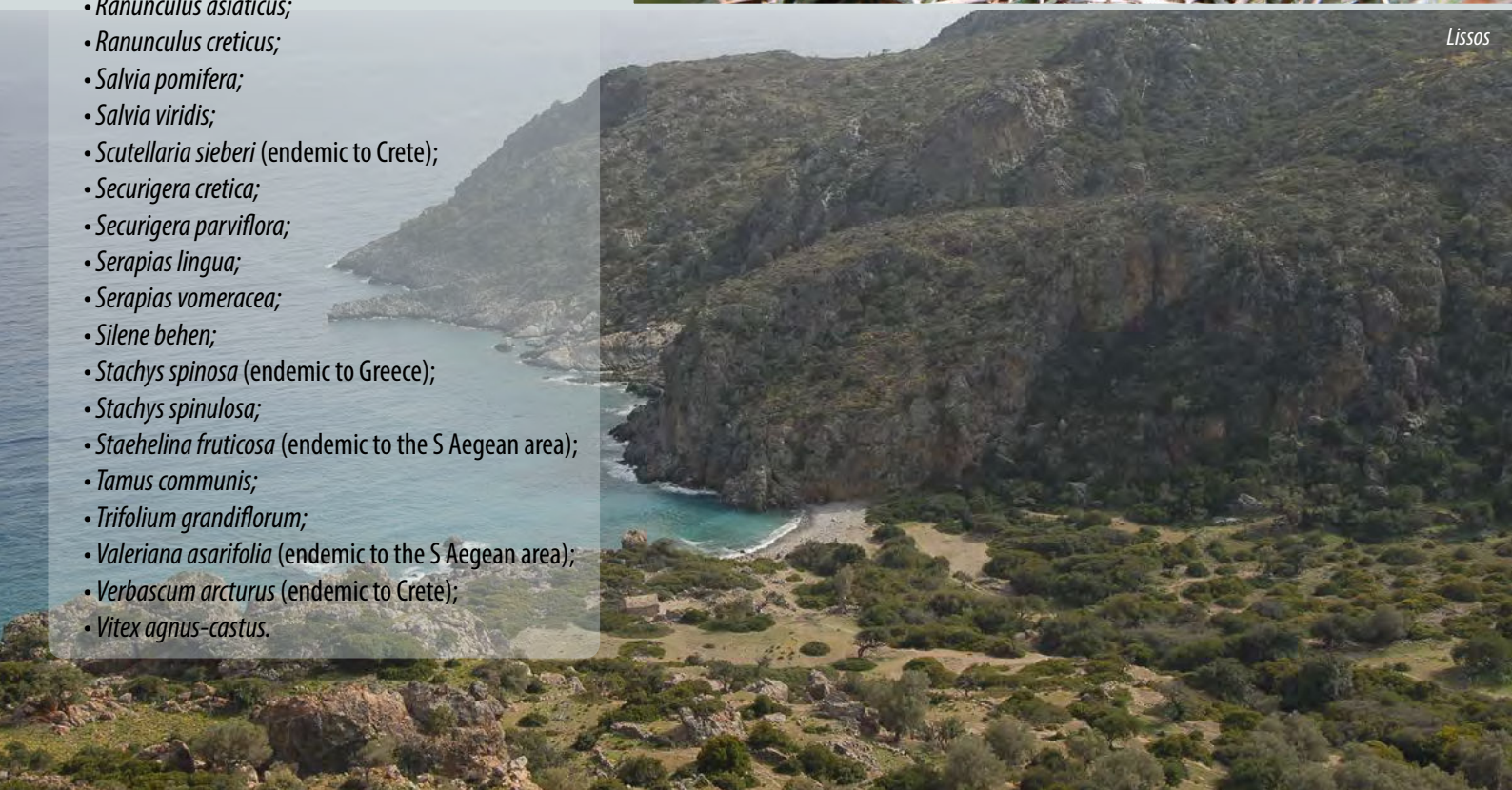
- *Anthyllis hermanniae*;
- *Ballota pseudodictamnus*;
- *Capparis spinosa*;
- *Caucalis platycarpus*;
- *Centaurea argentea* (endemic to Crete and Kithira);
- *Convolvulus althaeoides*;
- *Dracunculus vulgaris*;
- *Ebenus creticus* (endemic to Crete);
- *Euphorbia dendroides*;
- *Ferulago thyrsoiflora* (endemic to Crete);
- *Galium fruticosum* (most probably endemic to Crete);
- *Gagea graeca*;
- *Inula candida* (endemic to Greece);
- *Lamyropsis cynaroides*;
- *Lithodora hispidula* subsp. *hispidula* (endemic to the S. Aegean area);
- *Ophrys sphegodes*;
- *Origanum dictamnus* (endemic to Crete);
- *Petromarula pinnata* (endemic to Crete);
- *Phlomis fruticosa*;
- *Pinus brutia*;
- *Prasium majus*;
- *Ranunculus asiaticus*;
- *Ranunculus creticus*;
- *Salvia pomifera*;
- *Salvia viridis*;
- *Scutellaria sieberi* (endemic to Crete);
- *Securigera cretica*;
- *Securigera parviflora*;
- *Serapias lingua*;
- *Serapias vomeracea*;
- *Silene behen*;
- *Stachys spinosa* (endemic to Greece);
- *Stachys spinulosa*;
- *Stachelina fruticosa* (endemic to the S Aegean area);
- *Tamus communis*;
- *Trifolium grandiflorum*;
- *Valeriana asarifolia* (endemic to the S Aegean area);
- *Verbascum arcturus* (endemic to Crete);
- *Vitex agnus-castus*.



Staehelina fruticosa



Stachys spinosa



Lissos

Lefka Ori

The next destination took us to one of the highest mountains of the island: the Λευκά Όρη (Lefka Ori meaning «White Mountain»), the highest point reaching 2,454 m. Above 1,400 m of elevation, vegetation communities are dominated by the *Satureja spinosae-Scutellarietalia hirtae* community which is an order endemic to Crete. Many species were recorded on this picturesque site:



- *Acantholimon androsaceum* (endemic to Crete);
- *Anchusa cespitosa* (endemic to Lefka Ori);
- *Anthemis rigida*;
- *Asplenium aegeum*;
- *Astragalus angustifolius*;
- *Bufonia stricta* (endemic to Greece);
- *Centaurea idaea* (endemic to Crete);
- *Colchicum cretense* (at high altitude) (endemic to Cretan mountains);
- *Colchicum pusillum* (at low altitude);
- *Crepis sibthorpiana* (endemic to Crete);
- *Crocus laevigatus* (endemic to Greece);
- *Dianthus sphacioticus* (endemic to Lefka Ori);
- *Draba cretica* (endemic to Cretan mountains);
- *Erica manipuliflora*;
- *Euphorbia herniariifolia*;
- *Helianthemum hymettium* (endemic to Greece);
- *Helichrysum italicum*;
- *Hypericum empetrifolium* subsp. *tortuosum* (endemic to Crete);
- *Lomelosia sphaciotica* subsp. *sphaciotica* (endemic to Lefka Ori);
- *Ormosolenia alpina*;
- *Paronychia macrosepala*;



- *Petrorhagia illyrica* subsp. *taygetea* (endemic to Greece);
- *Ranunculus bullatus*;
- *Satureja thymbra*;
- *Scilla autumnalis*;
- *Scutellaria hirta* (endemic to Crete);
- *Sternbergia lutea* subsp. *greuteriana*;
- *Taraxacum megalorhizon*;
- *Thesium bergeri*;
- *Thymra capitata*;
- *Verbascum spinosum* (endemic to Crete);
- *Veronica thymifolia* (endemic to Greece).



Anchusa cespitosum



Acantholimon androsaceum



Scutellaria hirta



Lomelosia sphaciotica subsp. *sphaciotica*



Lefka Ori

Karavos and Plakias

On the southern coast, autumn is the right time to discover species of the *Cichorio spinosi-Limonium roridi* (BRULLO *et al.*, 2017) community growing on rocky coasts. This is what we recorded in Κάραβος (Karavos):



Karavos

- *Capparis spinosa*;
- *Dianthus fruticosus* subsp. *creticus* (endemic to Crete);
- *Limonium roridum*.

Further west and south of Πλακιάς (Plakias) extends a small peninsula covered with phrygana:

- *Biarum davisii* (endemic to Crete);
- *Carlina gummifera*;
- *Convolvulus dorycnium* subsp. *dorycnium*;
- *Daphne gnidioides*;
- *Euphorbia acanthothamnos*;
- *Euphorbia characias*;
- *Euphorbia dendroides*;
- *Inula crithmoides*;
- *Lamyropsis cynaroides*;
- *Phlomis cretica*;
- *Phlomis fruticosa*;
- *Prasium majus*;
- *Sarcopoterium spinosum*.



Dianthus fruticosus subsp. *creticus*



Limonium roridum



Daphne gnidioides



Biarum davisii

Gious Kampos

On our way to Ψηλορείτης (the Mount Ida), we stopped in Γιους Κάμπος (Gious Kampos) to discover another endemic crocus: *Crocus oreocreticus*.



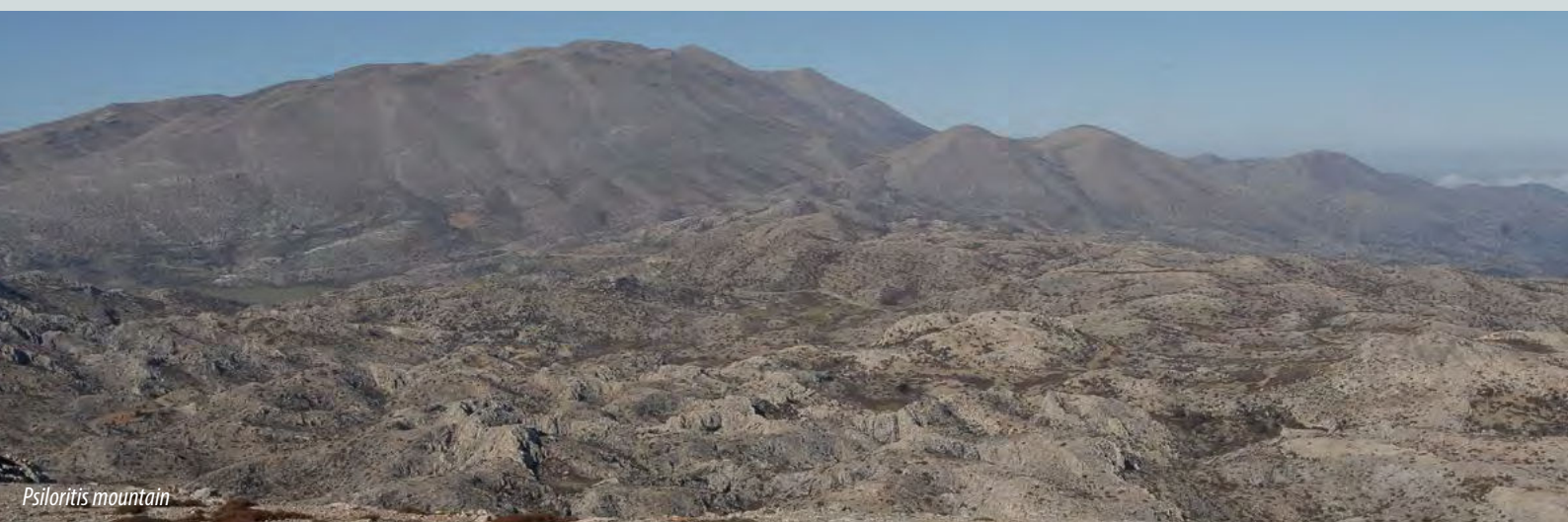
Gious Kampos



Crocus oreocreticus

Psiloritis mountain

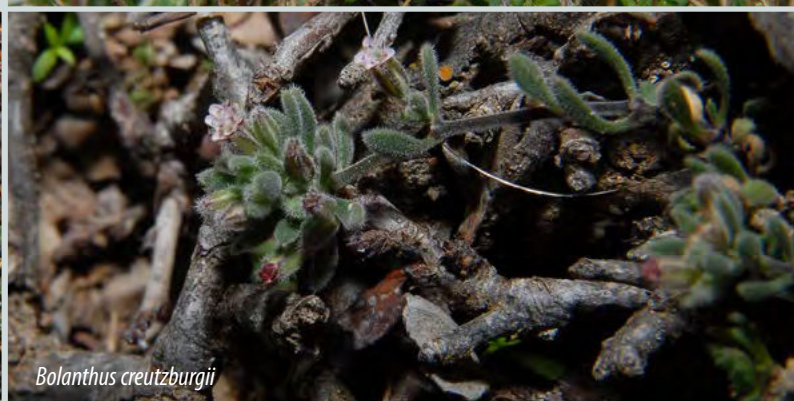
The Psiloritis mountain (Mount Ida) in central Crete includes the highest point of the island reaching 2,456 m high.



Psiloritis mountain

This is where we discovered the *Astragalion cretici* community which extends from central to eastern Crete at high altitude:

- *Acantholimon androsaceum* (endemic to Crete);
- *Acinos* sp.;
- *Anthemis abrotanifolia* (endemic to Crete);
- *Asparagus aphyllus*;
- *Asplenium scolopendrium* subsp. *antri-jovis*;
- *Astragalus angustifolius*;
- *Astragalus creticus* subsp. *creticus*;
- *Astragalus depressus*;
- *Atriplex patula*;
- *Berberis cretica*;
- *Bolanthus creutzburgii* subsp. *creutzburgii* (endemic to Crete);
- *Centaurea idaea* (endemic to Crete);
- *Colchicum cretense* (endemic to Cretan mountains);
- *Crocus laevigatus* (endemic to Greece);
- *Crocus oreocreticus* (endemic to Crete);
- *Cystopteris fragilis*;
- *Phlomis lanata* (endemic to Crete);
- *Pimpinella tragium*;
- *Polygonum idaeum* (endemic to Crete);
- *Silene antri-jovis* (endemic to Crete);
- *Sternbergia lutea*;
- *Teucrium alpestre* (probably endemic to Crete);
- *Viola alba* subsp. *cretica* (endemic to Crete).



Elounda saltmarshes



Elounda shore

Back to the northern coast, we stopped in Σχίσμα Ελούντας (Elounda) saltmarshes. This is a place where the *Salicornietea* community is to be found, even if this class is poorly represented:

- *Beta vulgaris* subsp. *adanensis*;
- *Cressa cretica*;
- *Halimione portulacoides*;
- *Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum*;
- *Salicornia europaea*.



Salicornia europaea

Cressa cretica and *Halimione portulacoides* are not mentioned here in the Atlas of the Aegean flora (STRID, 2016). So, these species could have been recorded for the first time in Elounda saltmarshes.



Cressa cretica

Kato Zakros

Our final destination was Κάτω Ζάκρος (Kato Zakros) on the eastern part of the island. This site is a rocky and narrow valley passing through hills.

The vegetation here is a mosaic of *Asterion cretici* (chasmophytic vegetation of calcareous cliffs at low and mid-altitudes of eastern Crete) and *Hyperico empetrifolii*-*Micromerion graecae* (thermo- to supramediterranean calcicolous phrygana of the central and southern regions of Hellas, the Aegean region and Crete). Here are some of the species recorded:

- *Capparis spinosa*;
- *Cynara cornigera*;
- *Delphinium staphysagria*;
- *Dianthus fruticosus* subsp. *sitiacus* (endemic to Crete);
- *Euphorbia characias*;
- *Euphorbia dendroides*;
- *Helichrysum orientale*;
- *Hypericum empetrifolium*;
- *Linum arboreum*;
- *Origanum onites*;
- *Phillyrea media*;
- *Phlomis* sp.;
- *Ruta chalepensis*;
- *Satureja thymbra*;
- *Scorzonera* sp.;
- *Stachys spinosa* (endemic to Greece);
- *Staezelina fruticosa* (endemic to the S Aegean area);
- *Thymbra capitata*.

In the gravelly bed of the watercourse, it is interesting to notice the abundance of *Nerium oleander* and *Vitex agnus-castus*.



Zakros Gorge or Gorge of the Dead



Satureja thymbra



Staezelina fruticosa



Riverbanks with Vitex agnus-castus

FONDATION
biotope
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• Synthesis and Analysis

New species and new records for the island

During these trips one species new for the island was discovered as confirmed by A. STRID (pers. comm.):

• *Viola kitaibeliana* Schult

This South Eurasian species was known from most of Greece including Thasos, Agios Evstratios, Samothraki, Alonnisos, Kira Panagia, Gioura, Skantzoura, Skiros, Lesvos, Evvia, Andros, Tinos, Ikaria and Kalimnos. So, this species is new for the whole South Aegean area even if species widespread in Peloponnisos could usually extend to western Crete. Furthermore, it must be pointed out that this is the southernmost location this species has yet been recorded in the Aegean islands.

The following map shows the distribution of the species across the Aegean area according to the Flora Hellenica Database dated 5.10.2018 and provided by STRID.

Historically, only *Viola rauliniana*, a close-related taxon was recorded in Crete (ERBEN, 1985). This latter species is clearly different, having even smaller flowers, entire leaves and reduced stipules. *V. rauliniana* is mainly a species of thorncushion communities in the Cretan mountains, whereas *V. kitaibeliana* occurs in a variety of semi-natural habitats at lower altitude (STRID, pers. comm.)

This population was discovered in the *Rhamno lycioidis*–*Quercetum cocciferae* community in semishaded conditions at an elevation of 1,180 m in Mount Mavri.

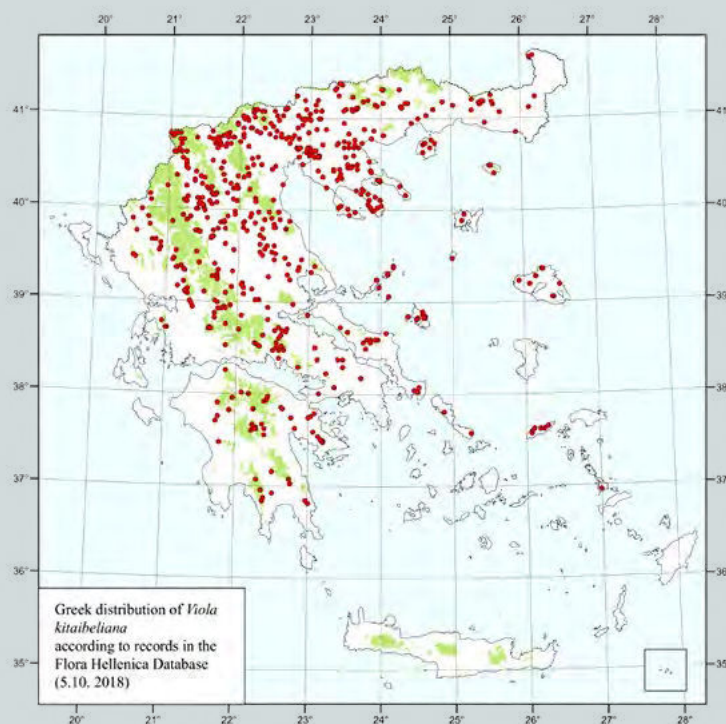
Consequently, the species has been added to the Flora Hellenica database.

Two more species were recorded in Elounda saltmarshes for the first time:

- *Cressa cretica* L. ;
- *Halimione portulacoides* (L.) Aellen

These two species grow in saltmarshes and are scattered on the island.

Cressa cretica has only been recorded on the eastern half of Crete along the shore while *Halimione portulacoides* grows on the northern and the eastern coast of the island.



• The high-rank syntaxa of Crete

This report is an opportunity to update the high-rank syntaxa classification on the island taking into account the last papers and syntheses available:

MOLINIO-ARRHENATHERETEA Tx. 1937

HOLOSCHOENETALIA Br.-Bl. ex Tchou 1948

Brachypodio sylvatici-Holoschoenion romani Gradstein et Smittenberg 1977

JUNIPERO-PINETEA SYLVESTRIS Rivas-Mart. 1965 *nom. invers. propos.*

BERBERIDO CRETICAE-JUNIPERETALIA EXCELSAE Mucina *ordo nov. hoc loco*

Berberido creticae-Juniperion foetidissimae S. Brullo et al. 2001

QUERCETEA ILICIS Br.-Bl. ex A. Bolòs et O. de Bolòs in A. Bolòs y Vayreda 1950

QUERCETALIA CALLIPRINI Zohary 1955

Aceri sempervirentis-Cupressio sempervirentis Barbero et Quézel ex Quézel et al. 1993

PINETALIA HALEPENSIS Biondi, Blasi, Galdenzi, Pesaresi et Vagge in Biondi et al. 2014

Salvio fruticosae-Pinon brutiae Konstantinidis, Mucina et Bergmeier *ined.* (KONSTANTIDINIS et al., 2012)

PISTACIO LENTISCI-RHAMNETALIA ALATERNI Rivas-Mart. 1975

Ceratonio-Pistacion lentisci Zohary et Orshan 1959 (TSIURLIS et al, 2016)

Phlomidio fruticosae-Euphorbion dendroidis Mucina et Dimopoulos *all. nov. hoc loco*

ONONIDO-ROSMARINETEA Br.-Bl. in A. Bolòs y Vayreda 1950

HYPERICO EMPETRIFOLII-GENISTETALIA ACANTHOCLADAE Mucina *ordo nov. hoc loco*

Hyperico empetrifolii-Micromerion graecae Barbero et Quézel 1989

CISTO-LAVANDULETEA STOECHADIS Br.-Bl. in Br.-Bl. et al. 1940

LAVANDULO STOECHADIS-HYPERICETALIA OLYMPICI Mucina *ordo nov. hoc loco*

Helichryso barrelieri-Phagnalion graeci (Barbero et Quézel 1989) R. Jahn in Mucina et al. 2009

LYGEO SPARTI-STIPETEA TENACISSIMAE Rivas-Mart. 1978 *nom. conserv. propos.*

LYGEO-STIPETALIA TENACISSIMAE Br.-Bl. et O. de Bolòs 1958

Scorzonero creticae-Lygeion sparti BRULLO et al., 2002

HELIANTHEMETEA GUTTATI Rivas Goday et Rivas-Mart. 1963

VULPIETALIA Pignatti 1953

Medicagini-Triplachnion nitentis Mayer 1995

DAPHNO-FESTUCETEA Quézel 1964

SATUREJO SPINOSAE-SCUTELLARIETALIA HIRTAE Dimopoulos et al. ex Bergmeier 2002 (apparently endemic to Crete)

Astragalion cretici Bergmeier 2002

Verbascion spinosi Zaffran ex Bergmeier 2002

Colchico cretensis-Cirsion morinifolii Bergmeier 2002

ALNO GLUTINOSAE-POPULETEA ALBAE P. Fukarek et Fabijanić 1968 (GRADSTEIN & SMITTENBERG, 1977)

SAGINETEA MARITIMAE Westhoff et al. 1962

SAGINETALIA MARITIMAE Westhoff et al. 1962 (GEHU et al., 1987)

Sileno sedoidis-Catapodion loliacei de Foucault et Bioret 2010

CRITHMO MARITIMI-LIMONIETEA Br.-Bl. in Br.-Bl., Roussine & Nègre 1952

CRITHMO MARITIMI-LIMONIETALIA Molinier 1934

Cichorio spinosi-Limonion roridi Brullo & Guarino 2000

AMMOPHILETEA ARENARIAE Br.-Bl. et Tx. ex Westhoff *et al.* 1946

AMMOPHILETALIA Br.-Bl. et Tx. ex Westhoff *et al.* 1946

Ammophilion Br.-Bl. 1921

ADIANTETEA Br.-Bl. *et al.* 1952

ASPLENIETEA TRICHOMANIS (Br.-Bl. in Meier *et* Br.-Bl. 1934) Oberd. 1977

ONOSMETALIA FRUTESCENS Quézel 1964

Verbasco arcturi-Campanulion creticae *all. nov. prov.* (endemic to Crete)

Asterion cretici Zaffran ex Bergmeier *et al.* 2011 (endemic to Crete)

Campanulion jacquini Zaffran *all. nov. prov.* (endemic to Crete) (DIMOPOULOS *et al.*, 1997; WAGENSOMMER, 2017)

DRYPIDETEA SPINOSAE Quézel 1964

Drypidetalia spinosae Quézel 1964

Alyso sphaciotici-Valantion apricae Bergmeier 2002 (endemic to Crete)

JUNCETEA MARITIMI Br.-Bl. in Br.-Bl. *et al.* 1952

SALICORNIETEA FRUTICOSAE Br.-Bl. et Tx. ex A. Bolòs y Vayreda *et* O. de Bolòs in A. Bolòs y Vayreda 1950 (almost extinct according to GEHU *et al.* (1987))

SALICORNIETALIA FRUTICOSAE Br.-Bl. 1933

Salicornion fruticosae Br.-Bl. 1933

POTAMOGETONETEA Klika in Klika *et* Novák 1941

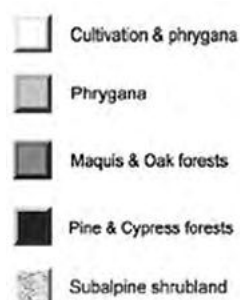
ISOETO-NANOJUNCETEA Br.-Bl. et Tx. in Br.-Bl. *et al.* 1952

PHRAGMITO-MAGNOCARICETEA Klika in Klika *et* Novák 1941

ARTEMISIETEA VULGARIS Lohmeyer *et al.* in Tx. ex von Rochow 1951

ELYTRIGIO REPENTIS-DITTRICHETALIA VISCOSAE Mucina *ined.*

Arundion collinae S. Brullo, Giusso, Guarino *et* Sciandello in S. Brullo *et al.* 2010



In order to have a general overview of the island here is a map of the vegetation
(from KYPRIATOKIS *et al.*, 1996):

• Endemism

Here is an interesting table (modified and enhanced from JAHN, 2003) giving an interesting analysis of the Cretan vascular flora and also highlighting the endemic species and subspecies (updated from JAHN & SCHÖNFELDER, 1995).

	All taxa		Endemic taxa		Endemic subspecies of non endemic species	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Species	1,890	94.5	165	8.2		
Subspecies	111	5.5	9	0.5		
Total	2,001	100	174	8.7	33	1.6

The number of endemic species of Crete increases in the mountains, above 1,400 m, due to high geodiversity and more or less constant long-term climatic conditions that enhance their role as refuges for relict taxa (JAHN, 2003). At this level, endemism may reach 25% to 31% of the total flora. Species numbers of mountain endemics decline from west to east due to a decrease in area and altitude of the mountain ranges. They remain low on elevations of 1,000 to 1,200 m, where the natural timberline is not reached. Numbers of lowland endemics are highest in the well isolated Sitia peninsula, on the eastern part of Crete.

A more recent paper (MENTELI *et al.*, 2019, updated from FIELDING *et al.*, 2005) assesses the total amount of endemic species and subspecies to 223 but the proportions given in the table are most probably still valid.

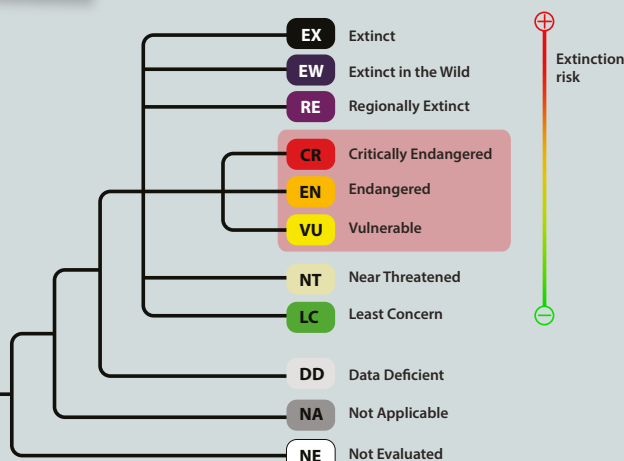
The total number of endemic taxa recorded during those trips was 48. Additionally, few more species endemic to the Southern Aegean area, to Crete and Cyprus or to Greece were recorded (see appendix 1).

As for vegetation communities, few of them are also endemic to the island:

- *Verbascum arcturi-Campanulion creticae* all. nov. prov.
- *Satureja spinosae-Scutellarietalia hirtae* Dimopoulos *et al.* ex Bergmeier 2002 (including three alliances).

• Species and natural habitats of conservation concern

Red lists are inventories of the conservation status of plant and animal species throughout the world, as directed and compiled by scientists and conservationists. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of species. It uses a set of quantitative criteria to evaluate the extinction risk of thousands of species. These criteria are relevant to most species and all regions of the world. With its strong scientific base, The IUCN Red List is recognised as the most authoritative guide to the status of biological diversity. There are eight IUCN Red List Categories based on criteria linked to population trend, size and structure, and geographic range. Species listed as Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) or Vulnerable (VU) are collectively described as threatened. Two red lists were checked in this report with respect to the geographic area studied: the IUCN European Red List (BLITZ *et al.*, 2011) and the Red Data Book of rare and threatened plants of Greece (PHITOS *et al.*, 2009).



Taxon	Family	European IUCN status	Greek IUCN status and main causes of decline	Range	Comments
<i>Bolanthus creutzburgii</i>	<i>Caryophyllaceae</i>	—	Main threat is overgrazing, particularly in summer. VU	Endemic to Cretean mountains: Lefka Ori and Psiloritis	Occurs between 1,550 m and 2,100 m high At least 8 sub-populations
<i>Phoenix theophrasti</i>	<i>Palmaceae</i>	—	As far as the tourism is respectful, it could survive. Recent changes in land management could also damage the population. VU	Endemic to Crete	The largest known Greek population stands in Vai, a touristic area. It has been declared an «Aesthetic Forest Preserve» in the late 1970s, and its core area was effectively protected by fencing in spring 1983. The preserve area covers 20 ha
<i>Zelkova abelicea</i>	<i>Ulmaceae</i>	EN	Overgrazing and browsing by goats and sheep. Livestock destroy seedlings and saplings hindering the species' development to fruiting and they also cause soil erosion by trampling. Fires are also a major threat to the Zelkova trees.	Endemic to Crete	There may be thousands of dwarf individuals found on the island of Crete but only very few stands of mature trees have survived and these are severely fragmented.

Endemic taxa are highlighted in the table featured in the appendix 1. Among them two are of conservation concern as «vulnerable» according to the Red Data Book of Greece and one is of conservation concern as «endangered» according to the European Red List.

The total amount of taxa recorded is 394. Among them 48 are endemic to Crete and 21 more are near-endemic or endemic to Greece (see appendix 1). Two endemic syntaxa were also recorded.

Furthermore, the Phoenix Palm tree grove is a priority habitat of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. This site located in Vai (Eastern Crete) was featured in the former report (BOUCHET, 2016).

• Acknowledgements

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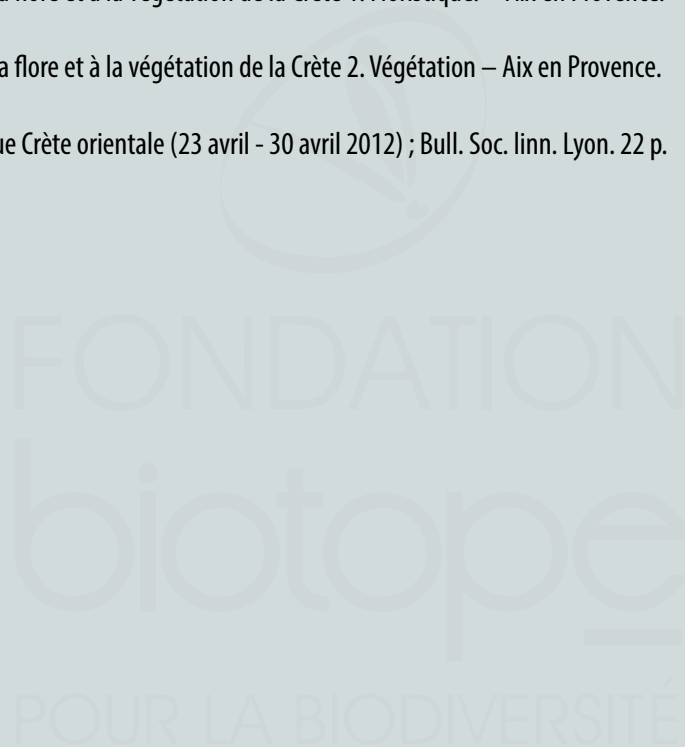
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Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz et al.)	Endemism
<i>Acantholimon androsaceum</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Acanthus spinosus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Acer sempervirens</i>	LC	-	
<i>Achillea cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Acinos alpinus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Acinos nanus</i>	LC	-	Aegean Islands
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	LC	-	
<i>Adonis cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Aeluropus lagopoides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Aethionema saxatile</i> subsp. <i>graecum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>	LC	-	Alien species
<i>Alkanna sieberi</i>	LC	-	
<i>Allium callimischon</i> subsp. <i>haemostictum</i>	LC	DD	Crete
<i>Allium chamaespathum</i>	LC	DD	South Aegean
<i>Allium commutatum</i>	LC	DD	
<i>Amaranthus albus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Alyssoides cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Amaranthus blitoides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Amaranthus viridis</i>	LC	-	Lefka Ori
<i>Anacamptis laxiflora</i>	LC	-	
<i>Anchusa cespitosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Anchusa undulata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Anchusella variegata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Andrachne telephioides</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Anemone coronaria</i>	LC	-	
<i>Anogramma leptophylla</i>	LC	-	
<i>Anthemis abrotanifolia</i>	LC	-	
<i>Anthemis rigida</i>	LC	-	
<i>Anthyllis hermanniae</i>	LC	-	Crete & Cyprus
<i>Arabis auriculata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Arabis verna</i>	LC	-	
<i>Arenaria muralis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Arenaria saponarioides</i> subsp. <i>boissieri</i>	LC	-	
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Aristolochia sempervirens</i>	LC	-	
<i>Arum concinatum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Arum creticum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Arum idaeum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Asparagus aphyllus</i> subsp. <i>orientale</i>	LC	LC	Crete
<i>Asparagus horridus</i>	LC	LC	

Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz <i>et al.</i>)	Endemism
<i>Asphodelina lutea</i>	LC	-	
<i>Asplenium aegeum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i> subsp. <i>antri-jovis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Astragalus angustifolius</i>	LC	-	
<i>Astragalus creticus</i> subsp. <i>creticus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Astragalus depressus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Attractylis cancellata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Atriplex patula</i>	LC	-	
<i>Atriplex prostrata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Aubrieta deltoidea</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ballota pseudodictamnus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Bellis longifolia</i>	LC	-	Crete & Amorgos
<i>Bellium minutum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Berberis cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Beta vulgaris</i> subsp. <i>adanensis</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Biarum davisii</i>	LC	NT	Crete
<i>Biarum tenuifolium</i> subsp. <i>idomenaeum</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	LC	-	
<i>Bituminaria bituminaria</i>	LC	-	
<i>Bolanthus creutzburgii</i> subsp. <i>creutzburgii</i>	VU	-	Crete
<i>Brassica cretica</i> subsp. <i>cretica</i>	LC	LC	Crete
<i>Bufonia stricta</i>	LC	-	Greece
<i>Bunias erucago</i>	LC	-	
<i>Bupleurum gracile</i>	LC	-	
<i>Bupleurum lancifolium</i>	LC	-	
<i>Calicotome villosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Campanula erinus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Campanula saxatilis</i> subsp. <i>saxatilis</i>	VU		Crete
<i>Campanula spatulata</i> subsp. <i>filicaulis</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cardamine graeca</i>	LC	-	
<i>Carex pendula</i>	LC	-	
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i> subsp. <i>graeca</i>	LC	-	
<i>Carlina gummifera</i>	LC	-	
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Caucalis platycarpus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Centaurea aegialophila</i>	LC	-	
<i>Centaurea argentea</i>	LC	-	Crete and Kithira

Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz <i>et al.</i>)	Endemism
<i>Centaurea idaea</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Centaurea raphanina</i> subsp. <i>raphanina</i>	LC	-	S & C Aegean area
<i>Centaurea redempta</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Centaurea spinosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Centaurium pulchellum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cerastium scaposum</i> subsp. <i>scaposum</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cheilanthes acrostica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Chenopodium murale</i>	LC	-	
<i>Chrozophora tinctoria</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cichorium spinosum</i>	LC	DD	
<i>Cionura erecta</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	LC	-	
<i>Clematis cirrhosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Colchicum cretense</i>	LC	-	Cretan mountains
<i>Colchicum macrophyllum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Colchicum pusillum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>	LC	-	Alien species
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Convolvulus dorycnium</i> subsp. <i>dorycnium</i>	LC	-	
<i>Convolvulus oleifolius</i>	LC	-	
<i>Coronopus squamatus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Corydalis uniflora</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Crepis dioscoridis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Crepis neglecta</i>	LC	-	
<i>Crepis pusilla</i>	LC	DD	
<i>Crepis sibthorpiana</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Crepis tybakensis</i>	LC	-	Aegean Islands
<i>Crepis vesicaria</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cressa cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Crocus laevigatus</i>	LC	-	Greece
<i>Crocus oreocreticus</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cutandia maritima</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cyclamen graecum</i>	LC	-	

Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz <i>et al.</i>)	Endemism
<i>Cymbalaria microcalyx</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cynara cornigera</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cynoglossum sphacioticum</i>	VU		Crete
<i>Cynosurus effusus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cyperus capitatus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Daphne gnidioides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Daphne sericea</i>	LC	-	
<i>Dasypyrum villosum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Datura inoxia</i>	LC	-	Alien species
<i>Daucus guttatus</i>	LC	DD	
<i>Delphinium staphysagria</i>	LC	-	
<i>Dianthus fruticosus</i> subsp. <i>creticus</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Dianthus fruticosus</i> subsp. <i>sitiacus</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Dianthus sphacioticus</i>	LC	-	Lefka Ori
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Draba cretica</i>	LC	-	Cretan mountains
<i>Dracunculus vulgaris</i>	LC	-	
<i>Drimia maritima</i>	LC	-	
<i>Dryopteris pallida</i>	LC	-	
<i>Dryopteris villarii</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ebenus cretica</i> subsp. <i>cretica</i> (endemic to Crete)	LC	-	
<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	LC	-	
<i>Echinophora tenuifolia</i>	LC	-	
<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	LC	-	
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Elytrigia juncea</i>	LC	-	
<i>Enarthrocarpus arcuatus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ephedra foemina</i>	LC	-	
<i>Erica arborea</i>	LC	-	
<i>Erica manipuliflora</i>	LC	-	
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Euphorbia acanthothamnus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Euphorbia chamaesyce</i>	LC	-	
<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	LC	-	
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Euphorbia dimorphocaulon</i>	LC	-	
<i>Euphorbia herniariifolia</i>	LC	-	

Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz <i>et al.</i>)	Endemism
<i>Euphorbia hirsuta</i>	LC	-	
<i>Euphorbia nutans</i>	LC	-	
<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	LC	-	
<i>Euphorbia peplis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Evax. sp.</i>	NA	NA	
<i>Ferulago nodosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ferulago thyrsiflora</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Fumana arabica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Gagea amblyopetala</i>	LC	-	
<i>Gagea graeca</i>	LC	-	
<i>Galactites tomentosus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Galium fruticosum</i>	LC	-	Crete (probably)
<i>Garidella nigellastrum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Genista acanthoclada</i>	LC	-	
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i>	LC	-	
<i>Gomphocarpus fruticosus</i>	LC	-	Alien species
<i>Halimione portulacoides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Helianthemum hymettium</i>	LC	-	Greece
<i>Helichrysum italicum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Helichrysum orientale</i>	LC	-	
<i>Heliotropium hirsutissimum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Helosciadium nodiflorum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Hyoseris scabra</i>	LC	-	
<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>	LC	-	
<i>Hypericum empetrifolium</i>	LC	-	
<i>Hypericum empetrifolium</i> subsp. <i>tortuosum</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Hypericum hircinum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Hypochaeris achyrophorus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Inula candida</i>	LC	-	Greece
<i>Inula crithmoides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ipomoea imperati</i>	LC	-	
<i>Iris unguicularis</i> subsp. <i>cretensis</i>	LC	-	S Aegean area
<i>Isoetes durieui</i>	LC	-	
<i>Isoetes hystrix</i>	LC	-	

Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz et al.)	Endemism
<i>Juncus heldreichianus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	LC	-	
<i>Knautia integrifolia</i> subsp. <i>mimica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Kundmannia sicula</i>	LC	-	
<i>Lactuca acanthifolia</i>	LC	DD	
<i>Lactuca tuberosa</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Lamium garganicum</i> subsp. <i>striatum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Lamyropsis cynaroides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Lathyrus annuus</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	LC	-	
<i>Lavatera bryoniifolia</i>	LC	-	
<i>Lecokia cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Legousia pentagonia</i>	LC	-	
<i>Limonium cordatum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Limonium roridum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Linaria pelisseriana</i>	LC	-	
<i>Linum arboreum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Linum pubescens</i> subsp. <i>sibthorpiatum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Linum strictum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Lithodora hispidula</i> subsp. <i>hispidula</i>	LC	-	S Aegean area
<i>Lomelosia sphaciotica</i> subsp. <i>sphaciotica</i>	LC	-	Lefka Ori
<i>Lotus conimbricensis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Lotus orithopodioides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Lupinus pilosus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Lycium schweinfurthii</i>	LC	-	
<i>Malcolmia flexuosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Malva parviflora</i>	LC	-	
<i>Matthiola incana</i>	LC	-	
<i>Medicago disciformis</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Medicago marina</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Medicago truncatula</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Melica uniflora</i>	LC	-	
<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Mesembryanthemum crystallinum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Moraea mediterranea</i>	LC	-	
<i>Moraea sisyrinchium</i>	LC	-	
<i>Muscari spreitzenhoferi</i> (endémique)	LC	-	

Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz <i>et al.</i>)	Endemism
<i>Myrtus communis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Narcissus obsoletus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Narcissus tazetta</i>	LC	-	
<i>Neotostema apula</i>	LC	-	
<i>Nepeta melissifolia</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Nepeta scordotis</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	LC	-	
<i>Nigella damascena</i>	LC	-	
<i>Notobasis syriaca</i>	LC	-	
<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i> subsp. <i>incrassans</i>	LC	-	Greece & Albania
<i>Onobrychis caput-galli</i>	LC	-	
<i>Onopordum bracteatum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Onosma erecta</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ophrys cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Orchis italica</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Orchis pauciflora</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Orchis quadripunctata</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Orchis simia</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Orchis tridentata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Origanum dictamnus</i>	LC	NT	Crete
<i>Origanum onites</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ormosolenia alpina</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ornithogalum collinum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ornithopus compressus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Orobancha pubescens</i>	LC	-	
<i>Otanthus maritimus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Paeonia clusii</i>	LC	-	Dodecanese and Crete
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Panicum repens</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Parietaria cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Paronychia macrosepala</i>	LC	-	
<i>Petromarula pinnata</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Petrorhagia candica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Petrorhagia dubia</i>	LC	-	
<i>Petrorhagia illyrica</i> subsp. <i>taygetea</i>	LC	-	Greece
<i>Phagnalon rupestre</i> subsp. <i>graecum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Phillyrea media</i>	LC	-	

Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz <i>et al.</i>)	Endemism
<i>Phleum subulatum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Phlomis cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Phlomis lanata</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Phoenix theophrasti</i>	VU	-	Crete
<i>Phragmites frutescens</i>	LC	-	
<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	LC	-	
<i>Picnemon acarna</i>	LC	-	
<i>Picris pauciflora</i>	LC	-	
<i>Picris rhagadioloides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Pimpinella tragium</i>	LC	-	
<i>Pinus brutia</i>	LC	-	
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Polygonum idaeum</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Prasium majus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	LC	-	
<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Pseudorhiza pumila</i>	LC	-	
<i>Pteris vittata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ptilostemon chamaepeuce</i>	LC	-	
<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	LC	-	
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	LC	-	
<i>Quercus ithaburensis</i> subsp. <i>macrolepis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ranunculus bullatus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ranunculus creticus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ranunculus lateriflorus</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Ranunculus muricatus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ranunculus peltatus</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Rapistrum rugosum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Rhamnus lycioides</i> subsp. <i>oleoides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Romulea bulbocodium</i>	LC	-	
<i>Rosularia serrata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Ruta chalepensis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Sagina apetala</i>	LC	-	
<i>Salicornia europaea</i>	LC	-	

Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz <i>et al.</i>)	Endemism
<i>Salsola kali</i>	LC	-	
<i>Salvia fruticosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Salvia pomifera</i>	LC	-	
<i>Salvia viridis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Satureja thymbra</i>	LC	-	
<i>Saxifraga rotundifolia</i> subsp. <i>chrysospleniiifolia</i>	LC	-	
<i>Scaligeria napiformis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Scilla autumnalis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Scilla nana</i>	LC	LC	Crete
<i>Scirpoides holoschoenus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Scorzonera</i> sp.	NA	NA	
<i>Scrophularia heterophylla</i>	LC	-	
<i>Scrophularia lucida</i>	LC	-	
<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>	LC	-	
<i>Scutellaria hirta</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Scutellaria sieberi</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Securigera cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Securigera globosa</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Securigera parviflora</i>	LC	-	
<i>Securigera securidaca</i>	LC	-	
<i>Sedum litoreum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Serapias cordigera</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Serapias lingua</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Serapias vomeracea</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Silene antri-jovis</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Silene behen</i>	LC	-	
<i>Silene colorata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Silene cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Silene dichotoma</i>	LC	-	
<i>Silene sedoides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	LC	-	
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	LC	-	
<i>Smyrniurn perfoliatum</i> subsp. <i>rotundifolium</i>	LC	-	
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	LC	-	

Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz et al.)	Endemism
<i>Solenopsis minuta</i> subsp. <i>annua</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Spiranthes spiralis</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Stachys spinosa</i>	LC	-	Greece
<i>Stachys spinulosa</i>	LC	-	
<i>Staehelina fruticosa</i>	LC	-	S Aegean area
<i>Staehelina petiolata</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Sternbergia lutea</i> subsp. <i>greuteriana</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Sternbergia lutea</i> subsp. <i>lutea</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Sternbergia sicula</i>	LC	-	
<i>Stipa capensis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Symphytum creticum</i>	LC	-	Greece
<i>Tamus communis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Taraxacum megalorhizon</i>	LC	-	
<i>Tetragonolobus purpureus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Teucrium alpestre</i>	LC	-	Crete (probably)
<i>Teucrium divaricatum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Teucrium cf. polium</i>	LC	-	
<i>Thesium bergeri</i>	LC	-	
<i>Thymbra capitata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>	LC	-	
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Tragopogon porifolius</i>	LC	-	
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	LC	-	
<i>Trifolium grandiflorum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Trifolium nigrescens</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Trifolium resupinatum</i>	LC	LC	
<i>Trifolium tomentosum</i>	LC	-	
<i>Tuberaria guttata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Tulipa bakeri</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Tulipa doerfleri</i>	VU	-	Crete
<i>Tulipa saxatilis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Urospermum picroides</i>	LC	-	
<i>Valantia hispida</i>	LC	-	
<i>Valantia muralis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Valeriana asarifolia</i>	LC	-	S Aegean area
<i>Valerianella echinata</i>	LC	-	
<i>Verbascum arcturus</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Verbascum macrurum</i>	LC	-	

Appendix 1: checklist of plant species recorded during the sessions

Species	Red Data Book of Greece	European Red Data Book (Bilz <i>et al.</i>)	Endemism
<i>Verbascum spinosum</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	LC	-	
<i>Veronica thymifolia</i>	LC	-	Greece
<i>Vicia villosa</i> subsp. <i>varia</i>	LC	-	
<i>Viola alba</i> subsp. <i>cretica</i>	LC	-	
<i>Viola fragrans</i>	LC	-	Crete
<i>Viola kitaibeliana</i> (new for Crete)	LC	-	
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	LC	-	
<i>Zelkova abelicea</i>	LC	EN	
<i>Zostera marina</i>	LC	LC	

Appendix 2: geographic coordinates of the locations

Location	X geographic coordinate	Y geographic coordinate	Dominant vegetation types
	WGS84 coordinate system		
Akrotiri peninsula	24.139916	35.584883	Rocky vegetation
Afrata, Rodopos	23.773730	35.564404	Lowland phrygana
Mt Onichas plateau	23.730977	35.613864	Lowland phrygana
Mavri	24.040573	35.378645	Mountainous communities
Therisiano Gorges	23.990146	35.431908	Chasmophytic vegetation
Lissos	23.787327	35.240389	Rocky vegetation and phrygana
W Chania	23.998550	35.507604	Coastal dunes
Korikos peninsula	23.599569	35.599332	Rocky vegetation and phrygana
Omalos	23.891425	35.325028	Temporary ponds
Xyloskalo	23.923532	35.316996	Cypress woodland
Falassarna	23.570138	35.511977	Coastal phrygana
Kalami	24.143243	35.469880	Lowland phrygana
Lefka Ori	24.077252	35.285493	Subalpine and alpine communities
Plakias	24.395625	35.177558	Coastal phrygana
Karavos	24.400723	35.172584	Chasmophytic vegetation
Gious Kambos	24.568509	35.209547	Mountainous communities
Zeus cave	24.829511	35.208331	Subalpine and alpine communities
Elounda	25.734296	35.256235	Saltmarshes
Zakros Gorges	26.250291	35.099904	Chasmophytic vegetation