European Environment Agency
European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity

Coenagrion mercuriale

Annex	II
Priority	No
Species group	Arthropods
Regions	Alpine, Atlantic, Continental, Mediterranean

The dragonfly *Coenagrion mercuriale* is mainly an Atlanto-Mediterranean species. Its habitats are small brooks and springs. This species requires areas of open vegetation, mixed with slow flowing water in which to lay their eggs.

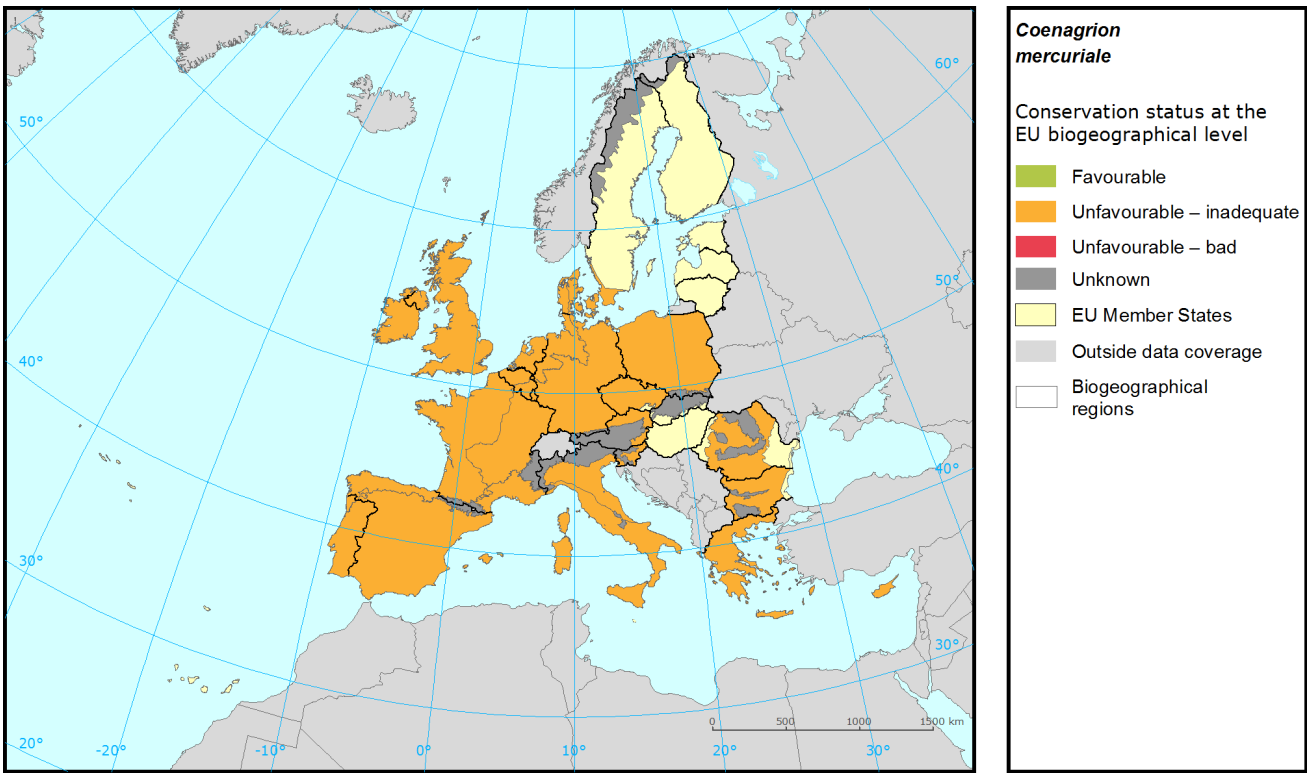
In the Alpine region the conservation status is assessed as unfavourable-inadequate. In the previous reporting round (2007) it was as unfavourable-bad, however the change seems to be due to using of different method for evaluation of the conservation status. Threats and pressures for the Alpine region were reported only from the France. Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, fertilisation and with it connected pollution to surface waters (limnic, terrestrial, marine and brackish) together with human induced changes in hydraulic conditions were reported.

The conservation status in the Atlantic region is considered as unfavourable inadequate. In the previous reporting (2007) it was as unfavourable-bad, however the change seems to be due to better and more accurate knowledge mainly for France. Five Member States of the Atlantic region reported varieties of high importance threats and pressures related to modification of cultivation practices in France, grazing in the United Kingdom, use of biocides, hormones and chemicals in France, Spain, Germany and Portugal, fertilisation in France, Germany and Portugal. Pollution of surface waters (limnic, terrestrial, marine and brackish) were reported from France and Germany and diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities in Portugal. Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions are in France. Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, large scale water deviation, canalisation and modifying structures of inland water course were reported from Spain. Removal of sediments and modification of hydrographic functioning in general were reported from Germany. Portugal reported anthropogenic reduction of habitat connectivity.

The conservation status in the Continental region is considered as unfavourable inadequate. In the previous reporting (2007) it was as unfavourable-bad, however the change seems to be due to better and more accurate knowledge mainly for France. In the Continental region the following main threats and pressures are reported: modification of cultivation practices in Romania and France, use of biocides, hormones and chemicals and pollution to surface waters inFrance, fertilisation in France, Germany and Luxembourg, fire and fire suppression and burning down in Romania, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions in Germany, France and Romania. From Italy were reported landfill, land reclamation and drying out (also in Romania), infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits (also in Luxembourg), modification of hydrographic functioning (also in Germany), water abstractions from surface waters and management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes. Germany also reported modification of hydrographic functioning and drying out and Luxembourg natural eutrophication.

The conservation status in the Mediterranean region is considered as unfavourable inadequate. In the previous reporting (2007) it was as unfavourable-bad, however the change seems to be due to better and more accurate knowledge. For the Mediterranean region the following threats and pressures were reported from France: modification of cultivation practices, use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, fertilisation and human induced changes in hydraulic conditions. For Portugal also use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, fertilisation, diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, anthropogenic reduction of habitat connectivity and threats to reservoirs. In Spain main threats and pressures are use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, industrial or commercial areas, infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits and also large scale water deviation. Italy reported as major threats and pressures landfill, land reclamation and drying out, modification of hydrographic functioning, water abstractions from surface waters, management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes and biocenotic evolution, succession.

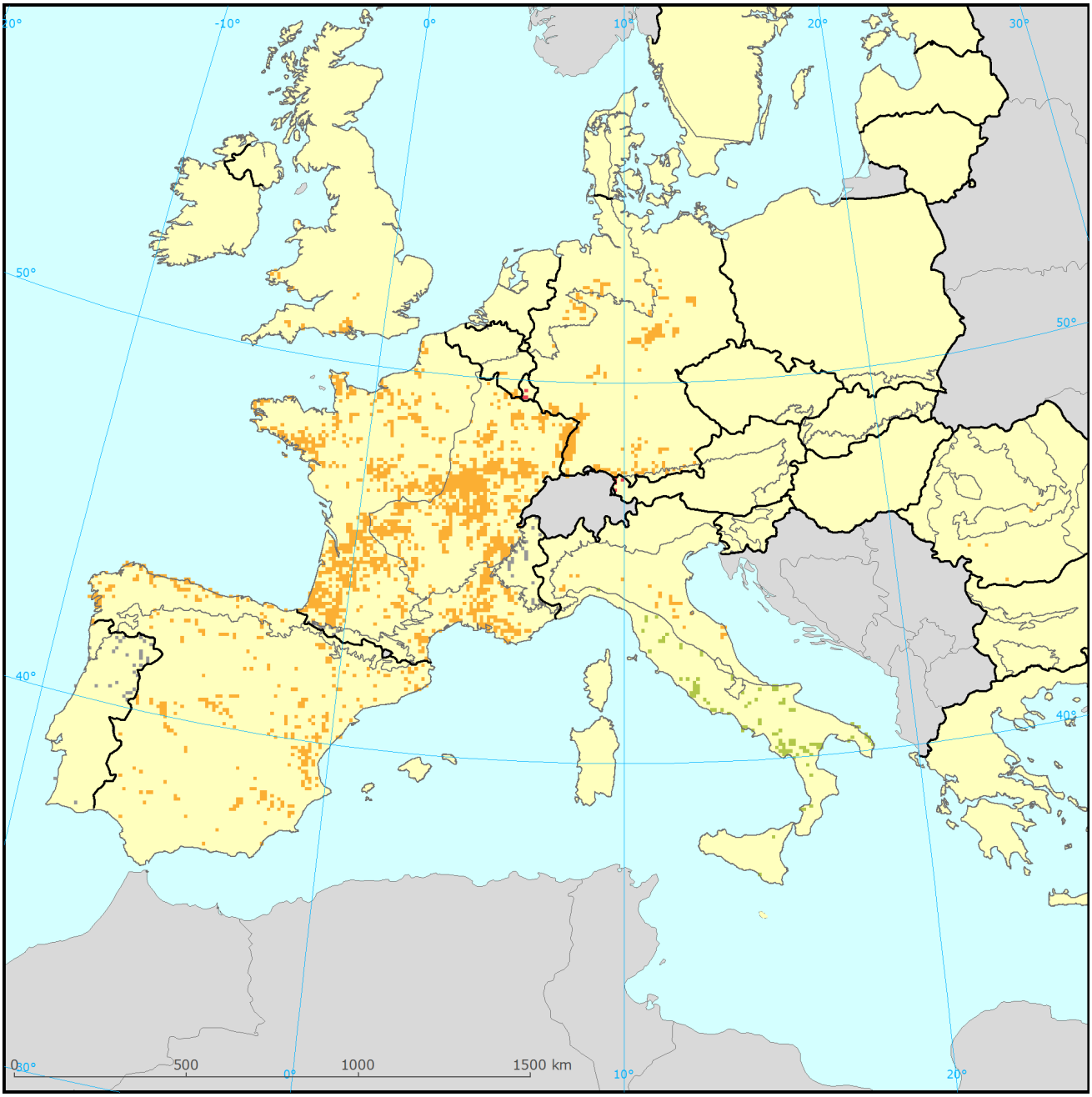
Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
ALP	FV	XX	FV	XX	XX	x	2	U2	Not genuine
ATL	FV	XX	U1	XX	U1	=	35	U2	Not genuine
CON	U1	XX	U1	XX	U1	-	37	U2	Not genuine
MED	FV	XX	U1	XX	U1	x	26	U2	Not genuine

See the endnote for more information[i]

Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Coenagrion mercuriale

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- Favourable
- Unfavourable – inadequate
- Unfavourable – bad
- Unknown
- EU Member States
- Outside data coverage
- Biogeographical region

The map shows both Conservation Status and distribution using a 10 km x 10 km grid. Conservation status is assessed at biogeographical level. Therefore the representation in each grid cell is only illustrative.

MS	Region	Conservation status of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
AT	ALP	U1	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	10.5	U2	Changed method
DE	ALP	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	10.5	U1	
FR	ALP	FV	XX	FV	XX	XX		78.9	U2	Changed method
DE	ATL	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	4.6	U1	No data
ES	ATL	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	x	11.5	XX	Changed method
FR	ATL	FV	XX	U1	XX	U1	=	79.4	U2	Better data
PT	ATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		0.3		
UK	ATL	FV	U1	U1	XX	U1	-	4.2	U1+	Genuine
BE	CON	FV	U1	U1	XX	U1	x	1.0	U2	
DE	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	21.1	U1	Genuine
FR	CON	FV	XX	U1	XX	U1	=	73.4	U2	Better data
IT	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	3.5	U2	Better data
LU	CON	U2	U1	XX	XX	U2	x	0.4	U2	
RO	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1		0.6		
ES	MED	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	x	47.3	U2	Changed method
FR	MED	FV	XX	U1	XX	U1	=	27.7	FV	Better data
IT	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		19.0	U2	Better data
PT	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		6.0	XX	

Knowing that not all changes in conservation status between the reporting periods were genuine, Member States were asked to give the reasons for changes in conservation status. Bulgaria and Romania only joined the EU in 2007 and Greece did not report for 2007-12 so no reason is given for change for these countries. Greek data shown above is from 2001-06.

Main pressures and threats reported by Member States

Member States were asked to report the 20 most important threats and pressures using an agreed hierarchical list which can be found on the Article 17 Reference Portal. Pressures are activities which are currently having an impact on the species and threats are activities expected to have an impact in the near future. Pressures and threats were ranked in three classes ‘high, medium and low importance’; the tables below only show threats and pressures classed as ‘high’, for some species there were less than ten threats or pressures reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	23
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	19
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	17
H01	Pollution to surface waters	15
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	9
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	6
A04	Grazing by livestock	2
E02	Industrial or commercial areas	2
J01	Fire and fire suppression	2
K01	Abiotic natural processes	2

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	27
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	18
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	18
H01	Pollution to surface waters	14
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	6
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	4
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	4
A04	Grazing by livestock	2
E02	Industrial or commercial areas	2
J01	Fire and fire suppression	2

Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report the population size within the Natura 2000 network. The percentage of species population covered by the network was estimated by comparing the population size within the network and the total population size in the biogeographical/marine region.

Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region

	ALP	ATL	CON	MED
AT	x			
BE			100	
DE	50	21	50	
ES		14		27
FR	x	x	x	x
IT			x	x
LU			0	
PT		x		x
RO			100	
UK		76		

See the endnotes for more information[ii]

Most frequently reported conservation measures

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this species using an agreed list which can be found on the Article 17 Reference Portal. Member States were further requested to highlight up to five most important ('highly important') measures; the table below only shows measures classed as 'high', for many species there were less than ten measures reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' conservation measures

Code	Measure	Frequency
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	20
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	17
4.0	Other wetland-related measures	14
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	9
2.2	Adapting crop production	9
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	9
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	9
3.1	Restoring/improving forest habitats	6
4.3	Managing water abstraction	6
6.4	Manage landscape features	3

This information is derived from the Member State national reports submitted to the European Commission under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive in 2013 and covering the period 2007-2012. More detailed information, including the MS reports, is available at:
http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/species/summary/?group=Arthropods&period=3&subject=Coenagrion+mercuriale

[i]**Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level:** Current Conservation Status (Current CS) shows the status for the reporting period 2007-2012, Previous Conservation Status (Previous CS) for the reporting period 2000-2006. Reason for change in conservation status between the reporting periods indicates whether the changes in the status were genuine or not genuine. Previous Conservation Status was not assessed for Steppic, Black Sea and Marine Black Sea regions. For these regions the Previous status is therefore considered as 'unknown'. The percentage of the species population occurring within the biogeographical/marine region (% in region) is calculated based on the area of GIS distribution.

[ii]**Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region:** In some cases the population size within the Natura 2000 network has been estimated using a different methodology to the estimate of overall population size and this can lead to percentage covers greater than 100%. In such case the value has been given as 100% and highlighted with an asterisk (*). The value 'x' indicates that the Member State has not reported the species population and/or the coverage by Natura 2000. No information is available for Greece. The values are only provided for regions, in which the occurrence of the species has been reported by the Member States.