European Environment Agency European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity



Helix pomatia

Annex	V
Priority	No
Species group	Molluscs
Regions	Alpine, Atlantic, Black Sea, Boreal, Continental, Mediterranean,
	Pannonian, Steppic

The edible snail (*Helix pomata*) is distributed mainly across central and south-eastern Europe. In north Europe has it been introduced and in some countries classified as Invasive. Main habitats is grasslands, parks, gardens, vineyards and forests, preferably on calcareous soils. The species are harvested as food.

The Species was assessed as "Favourable" in Alpine, Black Sea, Boreal, Continental, Pannonian and Steppic region, and "Unknown" from Atlantic and Mediterranean region. Of all (38) national reports only four was "Unfavourable Inadequate", Italy (ALP & CON), France (ATL) and United Kingdom (ATL), eigth national reports was "Unknown", France (ALP, CON & MED), Belgium (ATL), Denmark (ATL & CON), Greece (MED) and Netherlands (ATL). All the others was "Favourable".

Main threats are harvesting, pesticides and wrong management.

In Pannonian region (Hungary) is the change from "Unfavourable Inadequate" to "Favourable" due to real chande in conservatrion status for the species.

Changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 report are mostly caused by different methodical approach and better data rather than real change in conservation status in Alpine and Atlantic region. No changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 reports from Boreal, Continental and Mediterranean region. The species was not reported from Black Sea and Steppic region 2001-06.

Better data is required from Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy and The Netherlands.

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Helix pomatia Conservation status at the EU biogeographical level Differences During our status at the EU biogeographical level During our status During our

Assessment of conservation status at the
European biogeographical level

	Conserv	vation status	(CS) of p	arameters	Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for
Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	Future CS CS		region	CS	change
ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		13	U1	Not genuine
ATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		5	FV	Not genuine
BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.48	XX	Not genuine
BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		14	FV	
CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		56	FV	
MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		0.35	XX	
PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		11	U1	Genuine
STE	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV			XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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🥏 500 1500 km 100

Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level

Helix pomatia

Distribution and conservation status at t	ne Member State level	
Favourable	EU Member States	
Unfavourable – inadequate	Outside data coverage	
Unfavourable – bad	Biogeographical region	
Unknown		

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.

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		Conservation status of parameters			Ourseast	Trend in	% in	Provinces	Deces for	
MS	Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	Current	CS	% In region	Previous CS	Reason for change
AT	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		24.4	FV	
BG	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		14.0		
DE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.4	FV	
FR	ALP	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		2.7	XX	
IT	ALP	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	-	14.9	U1	Changed method
PL	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.6	FV	
SI	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.9	FV	
SK	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		29.2	FV	
BE	ATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		28.3	XX	
DE	ATL	XX	FV	FV	FV	FV		9.8	FV	
DK	ATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
FR	ATL	FV	XX	U1	XX	U1	x	49.7	XX	Better data
NL	ATL	FV	XX	FV	XX	XX		1.4	XX	
UK	ATL	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	=	10.9	XX	Changed method
BG	BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0		
RO	BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV				
EE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.4	U1+	Genuine
LT	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		52.9	FV	
LV	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		40.7	FV	
AT	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		3.1	FV	
BE	CON	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV		1.7	XX	
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		16.4		
CZ	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.3	FV	
DE	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		20.4	FV	
DK	CON	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
FR	CON	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		1.5	XX	
IT	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	2.0	U1	Changed method
LU	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.6	FV	
PL	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		45.1	FV	
RO	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV				
SI	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		3.0	FV	
FR	MED	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		100.0	XX	
GR	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
CZ	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.4	FV	

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Conservation status of parameters					Current Trend ir		% in	Previous	Reason for
MS Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	change
HU PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		82.9	U1	Genuine
RO PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV				
SK PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		14.6	FV	
RO STE	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0		

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
A04	Grazing by livestock	11
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	11
B04	Use of 'pesticides' (forestry)	11
F06	Other hunting, fishing and collection activities	11
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	9
A01	Agricultural cultivation	6
A05	Farming and breeding of livestock	6
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	6
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	6
J01	Fire and fire suppression	6

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Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

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A04	Grazing by livestock	11
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B04	Use of 'pesticides' (forestry)	11
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	11
F06	Other hunting, fishing and collection activities	11
A01	Agricultural cultivation	5
A05	Farming and breeding of livestock	5
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	5
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	5
J01	Fire and fire suppression	5

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=Molluscs&period=3&subject=Helix+pomatia

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¹Assessment 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.