Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive Period 2007-2012

European Environment Agency *European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity*



Petalophyllum ralfsii

Annex II Priority No

Species group Non-vascular plants **Regions** Atlantic, Mediterranean

Petalophyllum ralfsii is a liverwort growing mostly on short, open, compact turf in damp, sandy, coastal habitats or calcareous soil in and along the margins of ± saline dune slacks; also occasionally inland. It usually grows in winter and spring, than seems to disappear during periods of drought, when it survives as an underground tuberous structure.

In the Atlantic region it has been assessed as "Favourable" on Ireland but "Unfavourable Inadequate" in UK. Even if the Irish population seems to be safe, there is a negative trend and many threats to the sites in UK. Therefor the overall assessment ends up to "Unfavourable Inadequate", but trend stable.

In the Mediterranean region, Portugal report "Unknown". However Portugal has four sites of *Petalophyllum ralfsii* and it is considered as Endangered (EN) B2(ii, iii, iv) in their most recent Red Data Book (Sérgio et al. 2013). Spain report "Unfavourable Inadequate" and in their most recent Red Data Book (Garilleti & Albertos 2012) it is considered as Vulnarable (VU) B2ab(iii, iv). Italy has reported "Unfavourable Bad" with a negative trend for the habitat. Strange is that Malta is the only MS that report a "Favourable" status. However, Malta has only a tiny 0.2 % of the total Range of this species. Considering the most recent Red Lists for the four MS an Overall assessment should be "Unfavourable Bad" and with negative trend.

Threats - damage to dune slacks though tourist developments, leisure activities and urbanisation; encroachment of scrub. Reduction in rabbit grazing on coastal grassland may become a greater threat in the future, as rabbit populations become infected with viral haemorrhagic disease.

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 Mediterranean region. No changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 reports in Atlantic region.

Better data is required from Portugal and Spain.

Species: Petalophyllum ralfsii

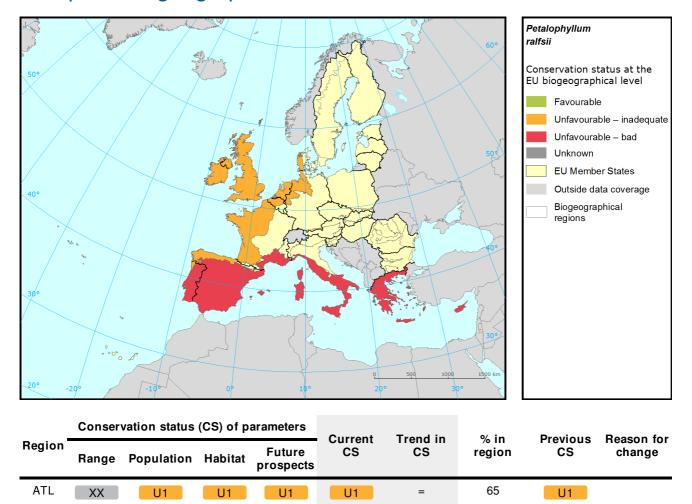
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35

Not genuine

XX

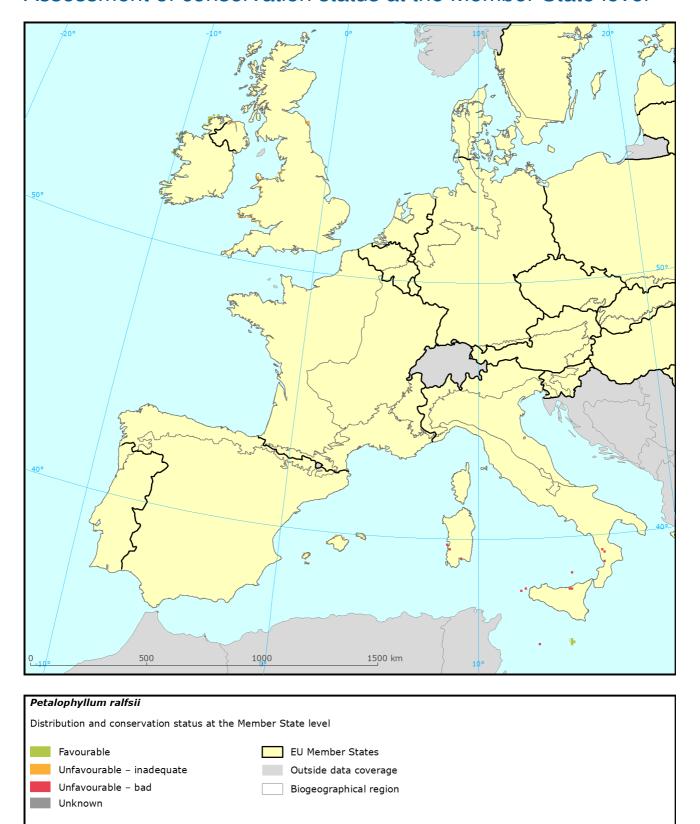
Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



See the endnote for more informationⁱ

MED

Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



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

Species: Petalophyllum ralfsii

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	_	Conservation status of parameters				Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for
MS Region		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS CS	region	CS	change
ΙE	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		47.3	FV	
UK	ATL	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	52.7	U1	
ES	MED	XX	XX	U1	U1	U1	+	34.5	XX	Changed method
IT	MED	U1	U1	U1	U2	U2	-	41.4	U1	Better data
МТ	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		13.8	FV	
PT	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		10.3	U1	Changed method

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
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	40
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	40
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	20

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	25
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	25
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	13
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	13
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	13
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	13

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

	ATL	MED
ES		25
ΙE	100	
IT		Χ
MT		38
PT		Χ
UK	87	

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
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	43
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	29
4.4	Restoring coastal areas	14
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	14

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=Non-vascular+plants&period=3&subject=Petalophyllum+ralfsii

Species: Petalophyllum ralfsii

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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.

iiPercentage 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.