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

European Environment Agency *European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity*



Iris aphylla ssp. hungarica

Annex II, IV Priority No

Species group Vascular plants

Regions Alpine, Continental, Pannonian, Steppic

Iris aphylla ssp. hungarica is a Ponto-Pannonic plant species occurring in Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Poland, Belarus, Ukraine and Central and Southern European Russia. Marinescu & Alexiu are mentioning the species also for France, Germany, and Italy. It grows in xerophilous grasslands and open pine- and oak-pine forests on calcareous and basic volcanic substrates. The species can be found in the following habitats: (40A0) Subcontinental peri-Pannonic scrub, (6210) Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia), (6240) Sub-Pannonic steppic grasslands, (6250) Pannonic loess steppic grasslands, (91H0) Pannonian woods with Quercus pubescens, (91I0) Euro-Siberian steppic woods with Quercus spp., (91M0) Pannonian-Balkanic turkey oak—sessile oak forests, (91Q0) Western Carpathian cacicolous Pinus sylvestris forests. The subspecies is listed as Vulnerable (VU) in Hungary and Poland and Critically Endangered (CR) in Slovakia and is therefore likely to be threatened in the EU 27 region.

The species is "Unfavourable Inadequate" in the Alpine, Pannonian and Steppic biogeographical region mainly due to "Unfavourable" habitats and "Insufficient" populations. It is assessed as "Favourable" only in the Continental region (Romania). Trend is stable in Alpine and Continental region, Decreasing in Pannonian region and unknown in Steppic region.

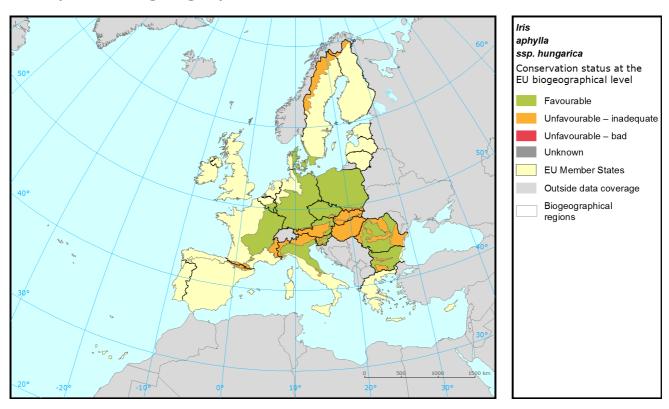
Invasion of *Robinia pseudoacacia* is a major threat to the taxon together with general forestry management.

No changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 reports in Alpine and Pannonian region. The species was not reported from Continantal and Steppic region 2001-06.

Better data required from Romania.

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Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	change
ALP	U1	U1	U1	XX	U1	=	18	U1	
CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV			XX	Not genuine
PAN	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	82	U1	
STE	XX	U1	XX	XX	U1	х		XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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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.

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	_	Conservation status of parameters				Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason
MS Region		Range	Population	Habitat Future prospects		CS	CS	region	CS	for change
RO	ALP	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-			
SK	ALP	FV	U1	U1	XX	U1	=	100.0	U1	
RO	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0		
HU	PAN	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	87.5	U1	Genuine
RO	PAN	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1				
SK	PAN	FV	U1	U1	XX	U1	=	12.5	U1	
RO	STE	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		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
	4 02	Modification of cultivation practices	25
,	4 04	Grazing by livestock	25
ı	B02	Forest and plantation management & use	25
,	J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	25

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	25
A04	Grazing by livestock	25
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	25
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	25

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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	CON	PAN	STE
HU			90	
RO	100	100	100	100
SK	100		97	

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
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	33
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	28
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	22
3.0	Other forestry-related measures	6
7.0	Other species management measures	6
9.1	Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land	6

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=Vascular+plants&period=3&subject=Iris+aphylla+ssp.+hungarica

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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.