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

European Environment Agency *European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity*



Thesium ebracteatum

Annex II, IV Priority No

Species group Vascular plants

Regions Atlantic, Boreal, Continental

The plant *Thesium ebracteatum* is an East European species with western boundary of its distribution in Germany. Distributed in Czech Republic, Austria, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Russia. Grows in wet, fenny or peaty meadows and pastures, shrubs, sparse forests, in eastern part of the range grows in habitats of steppic character. The IUCN European Red List classifies it as Least Concern (LC).

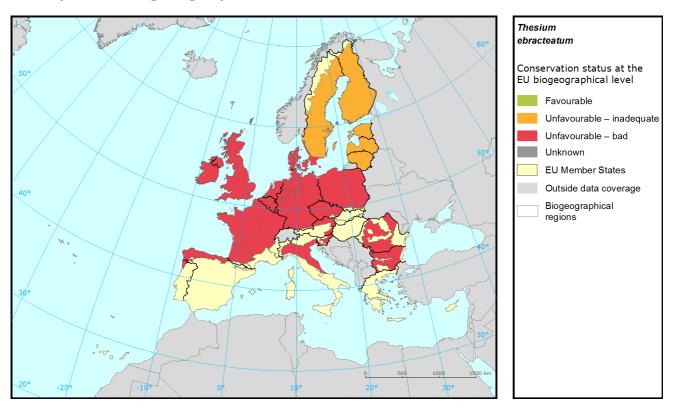
The conservation status in Atlantic and Continental biogeographic regions is "Unfavourable Bad" and "Unfavourable Inadequate" in Boreal region. This change in assessment is partly due to better knowledge, partly by the real population decrease reported by Austria, Germany and Latvia.

The species is threatened mostly by degradation of stands, both direct and undirect; abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing, afforestation, urban development, changes in site management, fertilisation and abstraction of groundwater.

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 all regions.

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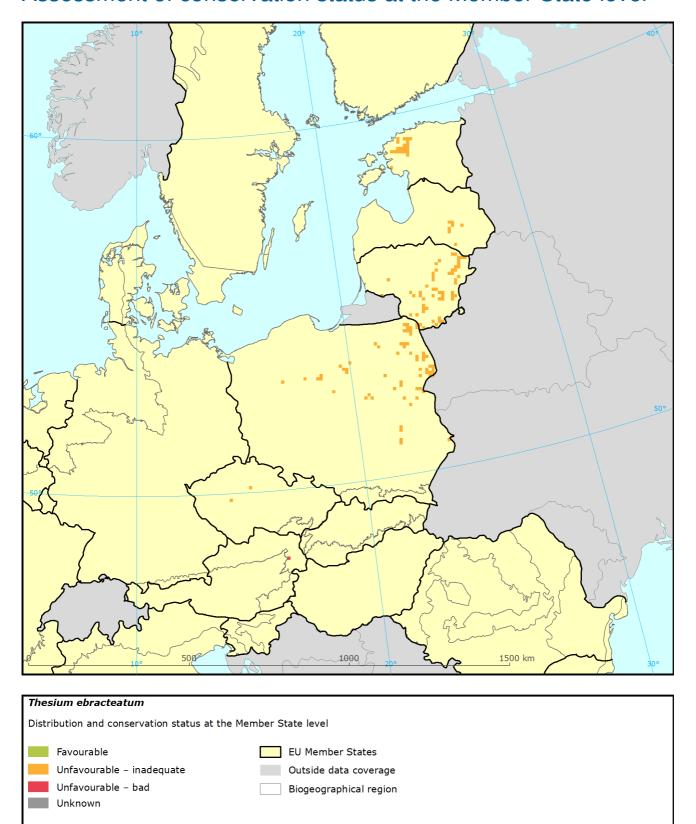
Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



_	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for
Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	change
ATL	U2	U2	U1	U1	U2	=	1	U1	Not genuine
BOR	U1	U1	U1	XX	U1	x	52	XX	Not genuine
CON	U1	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	47	U1	Not genuine

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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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MS Region		Cons	ervation statu	ameters	Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for	
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS CS	region	CS	change
DE	ATL	U2	U2	U1	U1	U2	=	100.0	U1	Changed method
EE	BOR	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	24.7	U1	
LT	BOR	U1	U1	U1	XX	U1	x	66.7	XX	Better data
LV	BOR	U1	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	8.6	U1	Better data
AT	CON	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	1.4	U2	Genuine
CZ	CON	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	=	2.7	U2	Better data
DE	CON	U2	U2	U2	U1	U2	=	6.8	U2	
PL	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	Х	89.2	U1	Better data

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
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	30
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	20
A04	Grazing by livestock	20
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	10
I01	Invasive alien species	10
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	10

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Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	30
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	20
A04	Grazing by livestock	20
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	10
102	Problematic native species	10
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	10

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	BOR	CON
AT			1
CZ			100
DE	100		100
EE		86	
LT		82	
LV		90	
PL			75

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱ

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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
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	28
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	28
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	22
3.0	Other forestry-related measures	6
6.0	Other spatial measures	6
6.4	Manage landscape features	6
7.0	Other species management measures	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=Thesium+ebracteatum

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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.