



## Zerynthia polyxena

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<b>Annex</b>	IV
<b>Priority</b>	No
<b>Species group</b>	Arthropods
<b>Regions</b>	Alpine, Black Sea, Continental, Mediterranean, Pannonian, Steppic

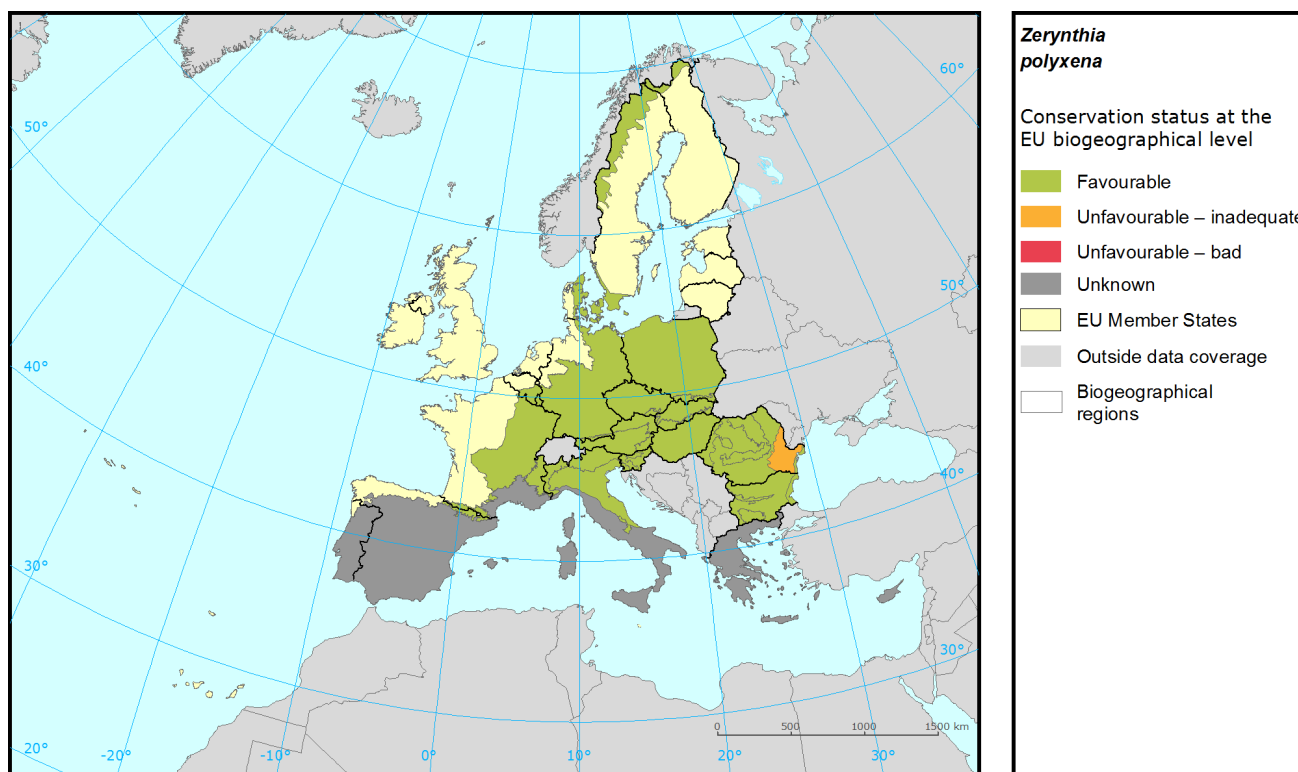
The caterpillars of the Southern Festoon (*Zerynthia polyxena*) live on various birthworts. Because their foodplants grow in different habitats and the caterpillars also have different foodplants in different areas, this spring butterfly can be found in quite different habitats. In the western part of its range, it can be seen in open places along rivers with the foodplant *Aristolochia rotunda*. In the mountains, the butterflies can be seen in dry, sunny, rocky places, where *A. pallida* and *A. pistolochia* grow. In the Pannonian region, the species is found on sites with ruderal vegetation, e.g. along the Danube, but also in vineyards on sunny slopes, where *A. clematitis* grows as a weed. In Greece, the butterfly occurs in damp areas, as well as on dry slopes, according to the species of birthwort used as foodplant. Its range extends from Europe to Southern Urals and Northwest Kazakhstan.

Its conservation status is favourable in Alpine, Black Sea (improving from unknown due to Bulgaria - new country in bioregion with large and strong population), Continental (improving from unfavourable-bad due to Bulgaria - new country in bioregion with large and strong population) and Pannonian (same as previous) bioregions, unfavourable-inadequate in Steppic bioregion (new bioregion due to Romania), unknown in Mediterranean bioregion (same as previous).

IUCN Red List Status Europe: Least Concern, EU-27: Least Concern. The species is listed on the Habitats Directive Annex 4. This species is not believed to face major threats at the European level in this part of its distribution. However, after 1960 a drastic population decrease started due to the intensification of agricultural practices and the use of pesticides.

Species: *Zerynthia polyxena*  
Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

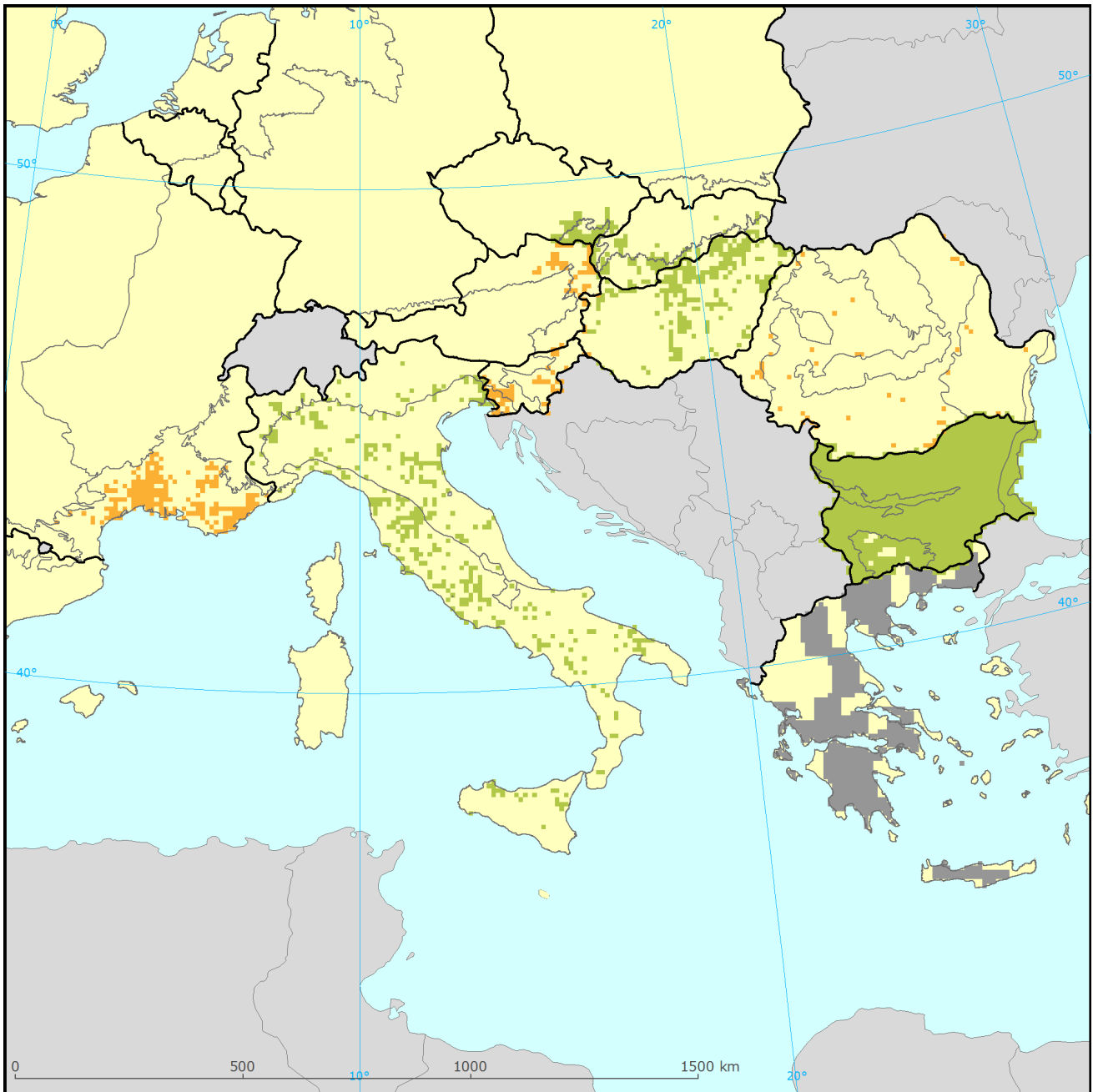


Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	8	XX	Not genuine
BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	3	XX	Not genuine
CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	40	U2	Not genuine
MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	x	39	XX	
PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	10	FV	
STE	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	0.17	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more information<sup>i</sup>

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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



***Zerynthia polyxena***

Distribution and conservation status at the 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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MS	Region	Conservation status of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
BG	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		70.0		
IT	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		14.3	U1	Better data
SI	ALP	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	5.1	U1	Genuine
SK	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		10.5	FV	
BG	BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0		
AT	CON	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	+	3.9	U1	Changed method
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		77.5		
CZ	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.2	U1	Better data
IT	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		10.4	U2	Better data
RO	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1		2.8		
SI	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	3.3	U1	Genuine
FR	MED	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	15.7	U1	
GR	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		66.6	XX	
IT	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		17.8	U2	Better data
CZ	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		9.3	U1	Better data
HU	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		70.7	FV	
RO	PAN	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1		2.4		
SK	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		17.6	FV	
RO	STE	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1		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.

**Species: *Zerynthia polyxena***  
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**Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	45
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	36
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	18

**Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	44
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	33
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	22

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=Zerynthia+polyxena>

# Species: *Zerynthia polyxena*

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**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.