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

European Environment Agency *European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity*



Euphorbia stygiana

Annex II, IV Priority No

Species group Vascular plants **Regions** Macaronesian

The plant *Euphorbia stygiana* grows in beech forests (faial). It develops in steep areas that are subject to disturbances. There are two types of habitat: forest clearings or forestedges on saxicolous substrates, and slopes including banks of streams, hills, or rock walls. It can be found in or at the edge of the following habitats (4050) Endemic Macaronesian heaths, (5330) Thermo-Mediterranean and pre-desert scrub, (8220) Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation, (9360) Macaronesian laurel forests (*Laurus, Ocotea*) and (9560) Endemic forests with *Juniperus* spp. This species is endemic to the region São Lourenço on the island Santa Maria of the Azores, Portugal (Macaronesian region). The IUCN European Red List classifies the species as Critically Endangered (CR). The total population size of this species is estimated as 1,600 – 6,300 individuals and the area of occupancy has been reported 11.38 km².

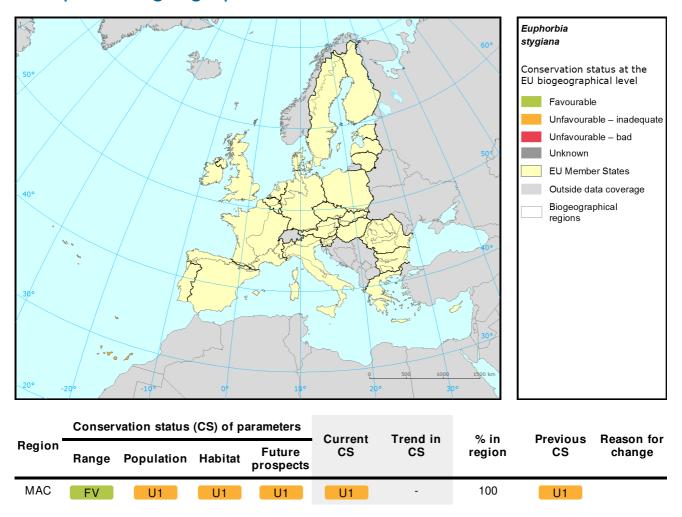
Both the current and previous conservation status is "Unfavourable Inadequate". The future prospect is "Unfavourable Inadequate" and the trend is decreasing.

The species is threatened mostly by reduction or loss of specific habitat features, collapse of terrain, landslide and anthropogenic reduction of habitat connectivity. Grazing, artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), erosion, biocenotic evolution, succession, introduction of disease, invasion of non-native species, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, other outdoor sports and leisure activities are also regarded as threats.

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

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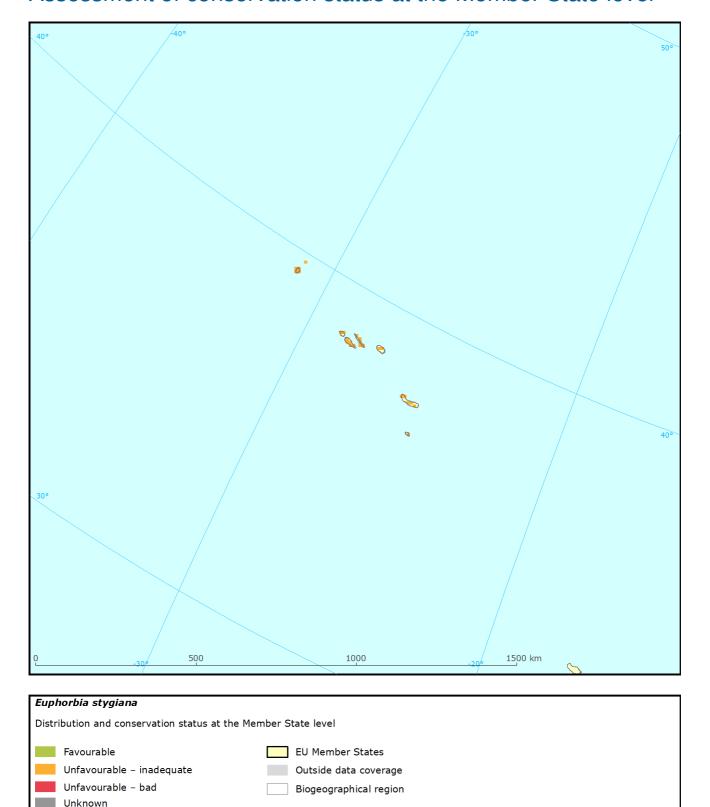
Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



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 | Tuendin | 9/ in | Previous | Reason |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------|---------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------|---------------|
| MS Region | Range | Population | Habitat | Future prospects | Current CS | Trend in CS | % in region | CS | for change |
| PT MAC | FV | U1 | U1 | U1 | U1 | - | 100.0 | U1 | |

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 |
|------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| J03 | Other changes to ecosystems | 50 |
| L05 | Collapse of terrain, landslide | 50 |

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

| Code | Activity | Frequency |
|------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| J03 | Other changes to ecosystems | 50 |
| L05 | Collapse of terrain, landslide | 50 |

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

| | MAC |
|----|-----|
| PT | 77 |

See the endnotes for more information ii

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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 |
|------|--|-----------|
| 3.0 | Other forestry-related measures | 25 |
| 4.0 | Other wetland-related measures | 25 |
| 6.1 | Establish protected areas/sites | 25 |
| 6.3 | Legal protection of habitats and species | 25 |

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=Euphorbia+stygiana

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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.