



Festuca brigantina

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Annex | II, IV |
| Priority | No |
| Species group | Vascular plants |
| Regions | Atlantic, Mediterranean |

Festuca brigantina is a species of grass endemic to Iberian Peninsula. It grows on outcrops of ultrabasic rocks mainly in cracks of upper parts of cliffs or on shallow skeletal soils. Currently two subspecies are recognised with distinct geographical distribution. Nominal subspecies *Festuca brigantina* subsp. *brigantina* is endemic to Trás-os-Montes in north-eastern Portugal. The status of this subspecies is evaluated under the Mediterranean region. The subspecies occurring in the Atlantic region, *Festuca brigantina* subsp. *actiophyta*, is endemic to north-western Spain, where it is restricted to two areas, A Capelada mountains and As Somozas. The species is evaluated as Vulnerable (VU) in the IUCN European Red List, mainly due to restricted and fragmented natural range and continuous degradation of its habitats

The conservation status in both regions is "Unfavourable Inadequate". In the Atlantic region "Unfavourable" assessment reflects the status of population, mainly population structure. Range and population trends are stable, the population is sufficiently large and the habitat is in a good status. In Mediterranean region all parameters reported "Unfavourable Inadequate".

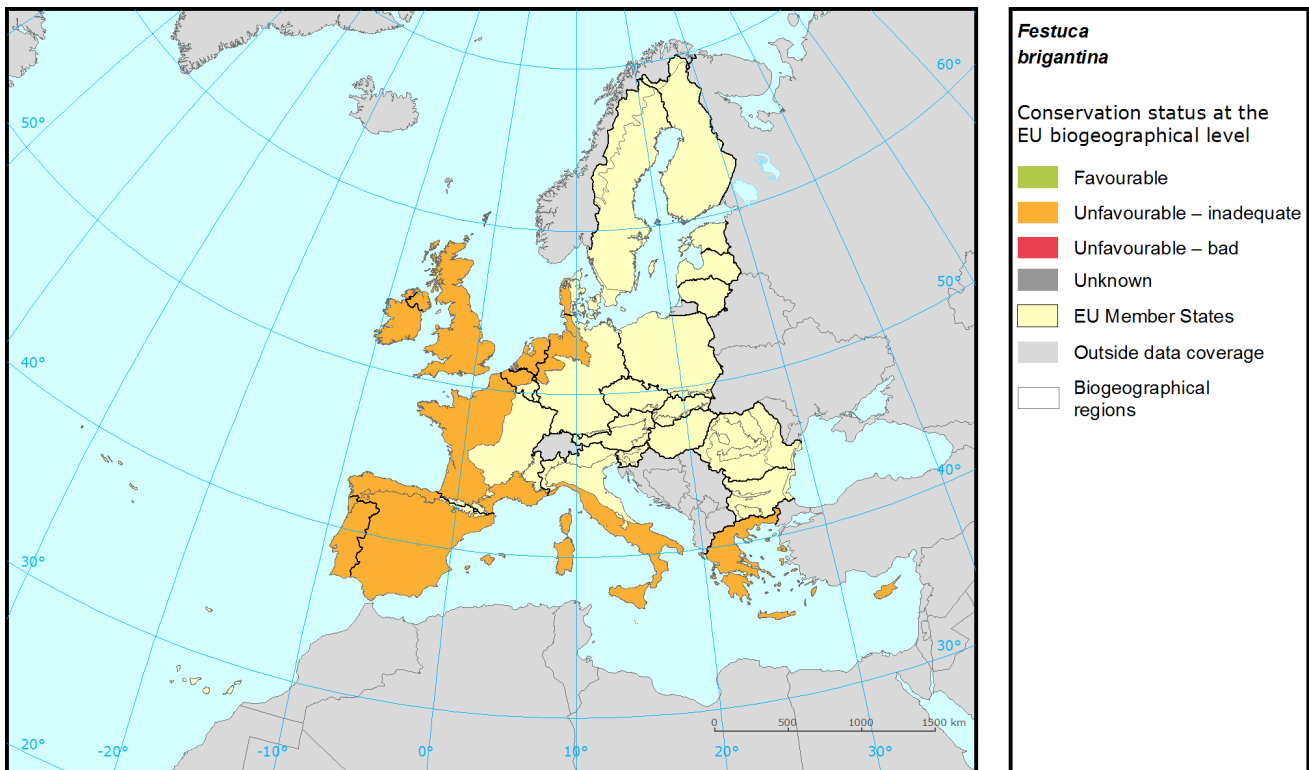
The species is threatened in this Atlantic region by grazing, recreational activities and wind farms. In the Mediterranean region the species is threatened by urbanisation and infrastructure, as its localities are situated close to areas of habitation.

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

Species: *Festuca brigantina*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

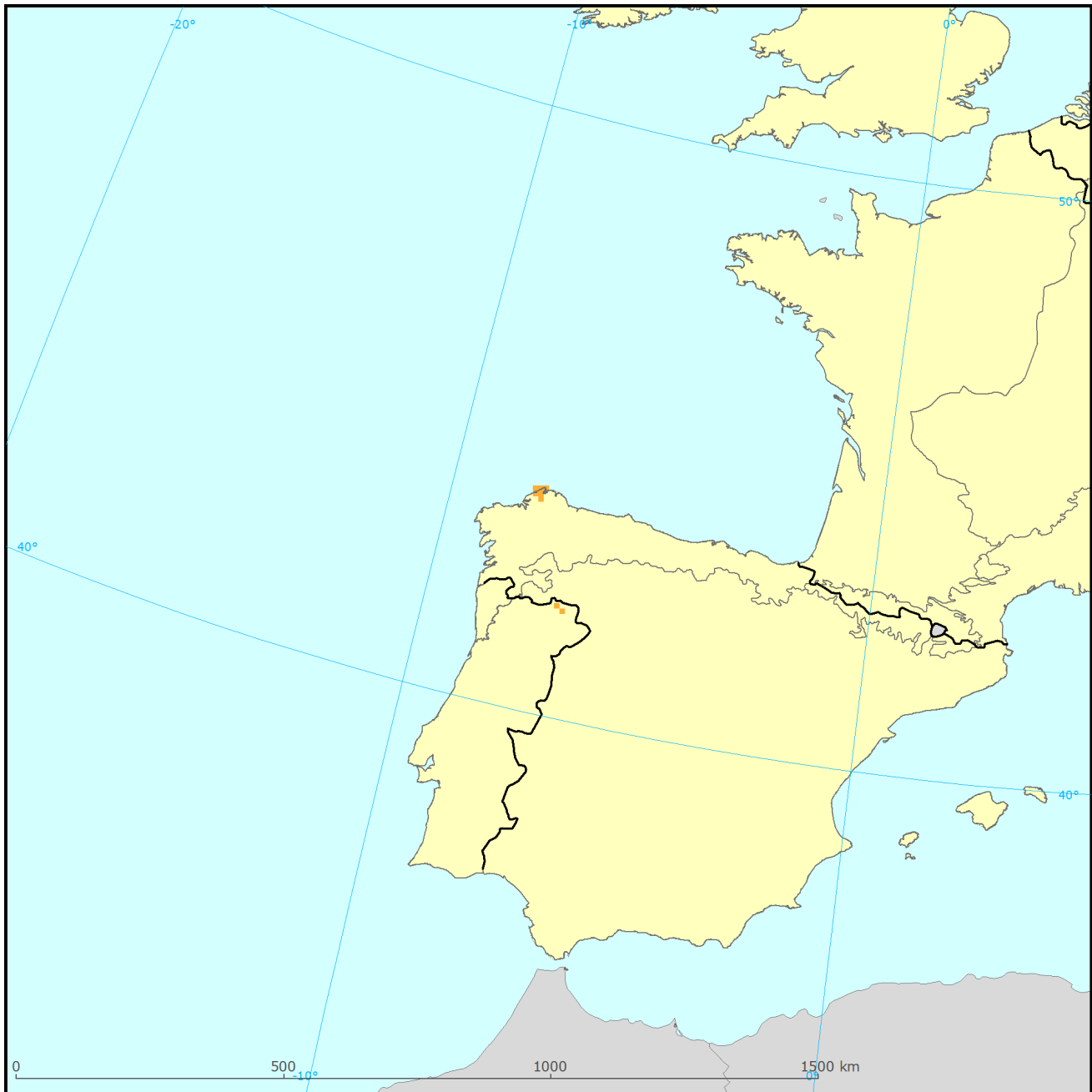


| Region | Conservation status (CS) of parameters | | | | Current CS | Trend in CS | % in region | Previous CS | Reason for change |
|--------|--|------------|---------|------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | Range | Population | Habitat | Future prospects | | | | | |
| ATL | FV | U1 | FV | FV | U1 | = | 75 | XX | Not genuine |
| MED | U1 | U1 | U1 | U1 | U1 | x | 25 | U1 | |

See the endnote for more informationⁱ








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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Festuca brigantina

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 | | | | | |
| ES | ATL | FV | U1 | FV | FV | U1 | = | 100.0 | XX | Changed method |
| PT | MED | U1 | U1 | U1 | U1 | U1 | x | 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 |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| E01 | Urbanisation and human habitation | 50 |
| E02 | Industrial or commercial areas | 50 |

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

| Code | Activity | Frequency |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| E01 | Urbanisation and human habitation | 50 |
| E02 | Industrial or commercial areas | 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

| | ATL | MED |
|----|-----|-----|
| ES | 94 | |
| PT | | 100 |

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 | 25 |
| 6.3 | Legal protection of habitats and species | 25 |
| 7.1 | Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking | 25 |
| 9.1 | Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land | 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=Festuca+brigantina>

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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.

ii Percentage 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.