



## Festuca elegans

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<b>Annex</b>	II, IV
<b>Priority</b>	No
<b>Species group</b>	Vascular plants
<b>Regions</b>	Atlantic, Mediterranean

*Festuca elegans* is a species of grass endemic to western extremity of the Mediterranean basin. It is known from Spain, Portugal and Morocco. It occurs in mountainous areas in dry grasslands, shrubs and on forest edges or in forest clearings. The species is classified as "Least Concern" in the IUCN European Red List.

The conservation status in the Mediterranean region, where the major part of the European population occurs, is "Unknown", but in general the species is quite widespread, at present it is not particularly threatened and its future prospects are "Favourable". Despite the gaps in knowledge, mainly regarding status and trends of habitat and population, the conservation status was assessed as "Favourable" in both countries. The conservation status in the Atlantic region is "Favourable".

No major threats to this species are known. Grazing, leisure activities and fires have moderate impact on the status of the species.

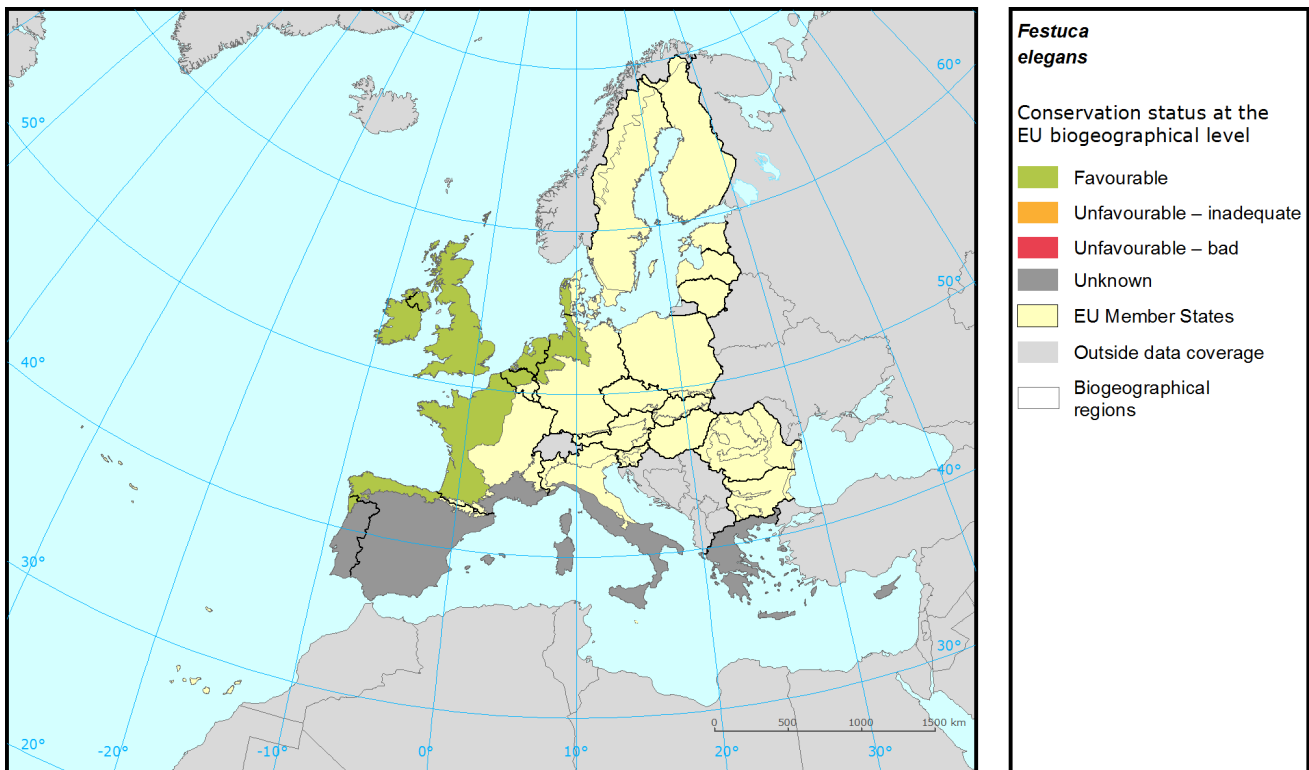
Changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 report are mostly caused by different methodical approach and better data rather than real change in conservation status Atlantic region. No changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 reports in Mediterranean region.

Better data required from Portugal and Spain.

# Species: *Festuca elegans*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



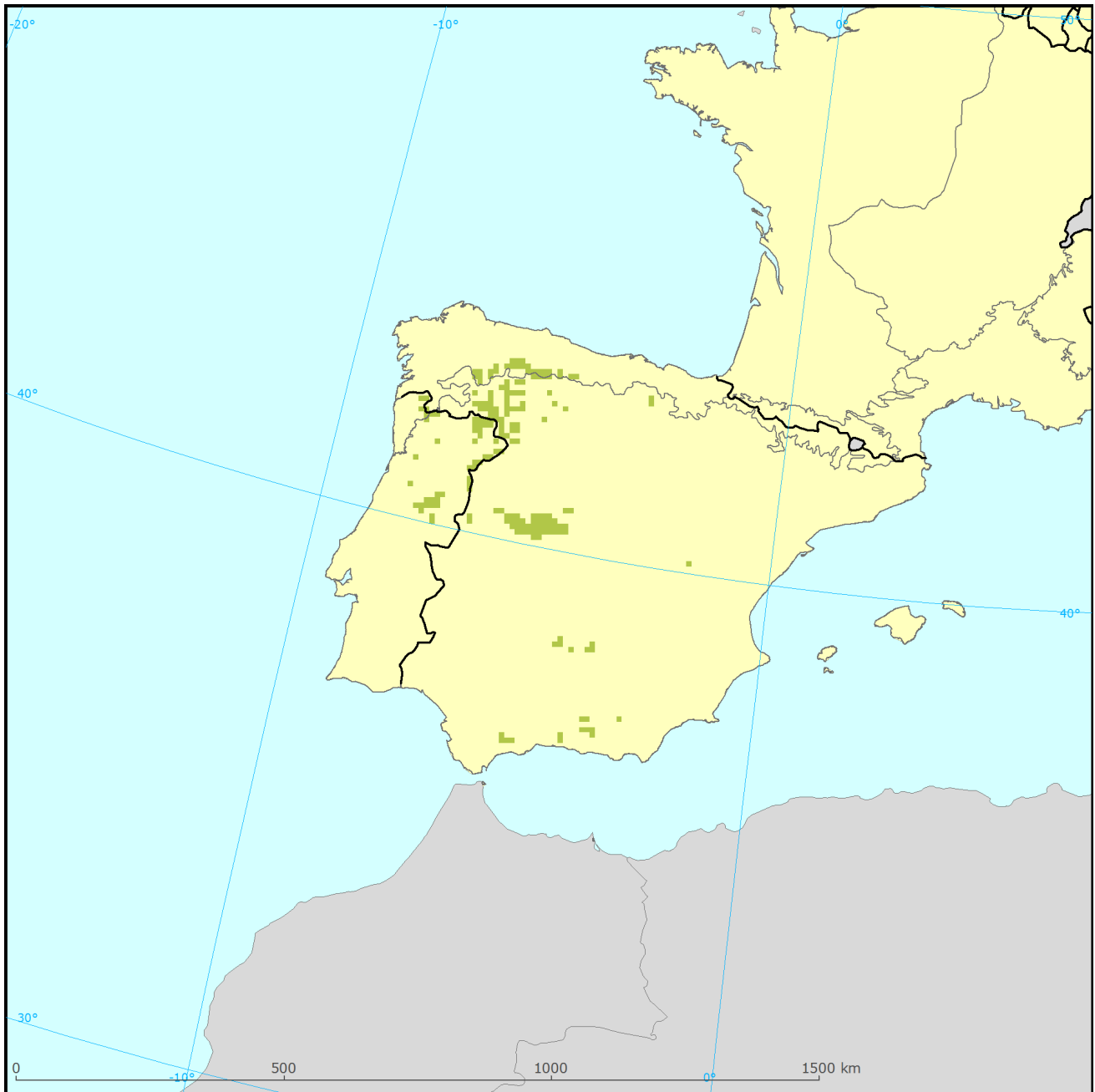
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
ATL	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV		17	XX	Not genuine
MED	FV	XX	XX	FV	XX		83	XX	

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

# Species: *Festuca elegans*

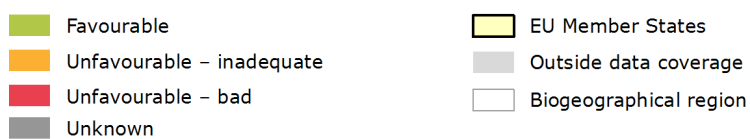
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## Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



### *Festuca elegans*

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level



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	FV	XX	FV	FV	84.4	XX	Changed method	
PT	ATL	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV	15.6	XX		
ES	MED	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV	73.1	XX	Changed method	
PT	MED	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV	26.9	FV		

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
No 'highly important' pressures were reported.		

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

Code	Activity	Frequency
No 'highly important' threats were reported.		

## 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	100	100
PT	x	x

See the endnotes for more information<sup>ii</sup>

# Species: *Festuca elegans*

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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	18
3.1	Restoring/improving forest habitats	18
6.0	Other spatial measures	18
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	18
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	18
3.2	Adapt forest management	9

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+elegans>

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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.