



## Orobanche densiflora

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

*Orobanche densiflora* is reported as endemic to the Maltese Islands (Mediterranean region). It is an annual parasitic species on *Lotus* sp. and may have started to use different, more widespread, host species in recent years. This species was originally recorded from sand dune habitats in the Marfa Peninsula, since 1895. However, by the 1980s, the species was seemingly confined to the sand dunes at Ir-Ramla tat-Torri in the Marfa area and was considered as rare. In the last 20 years, the species was however discovered in various other areas on mainland Malta, in areas where *Lotus cytisoides* (its host) occurs. Most of the newly discovered populations occur on maritime garigue/phrygana, but their populations are not large. Nonetheless, one must note that this is an annual parasitic species, and numbers would hence not be very high. Noting the recent records, *Orobanche densiflora* may probably actually occur along a larger extent of the northern coast of mainland Malta. Such recent records may be due to a genuine increase in the range and population of the species, and this may also be due to a host-switch over time. Earlier records indicate the host plant to be the formerly frequent *Lotus halophilus* (now very rare); while the recent records are associated with the commoner *Lotus cytisoides*, which is not confined to sand dunes and is locally also found in rocky coastal habitats. In view of the apparent increase in the range and population of this species, and noting that its host plant is frequent in the Maltese Islands. It has not been assessed for the IUCN Red List.

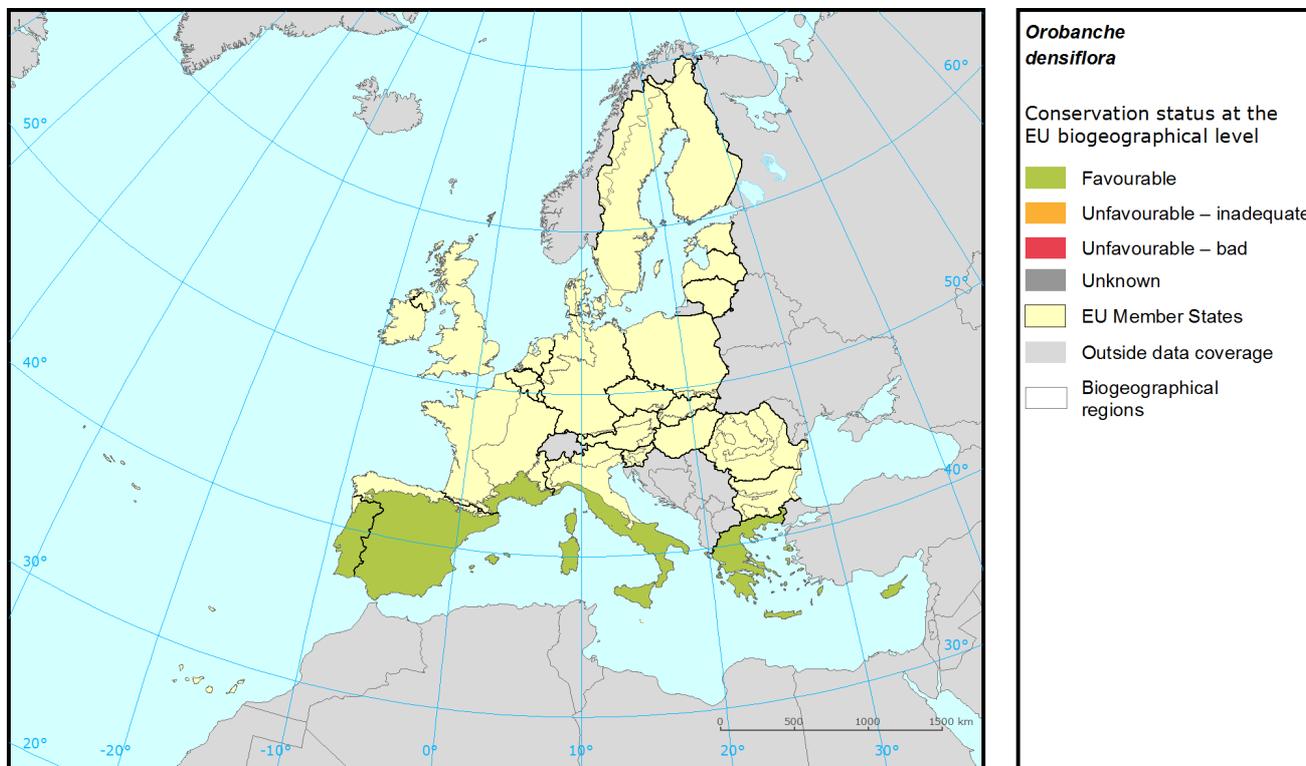
The species has been assessed as "Favorable" in all components. Previous assessment was "Unfavorable Inadequate", however, the nature of change was attributed to the use of different thresholds.

Main threats are dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, invasive non-native species and structures, buildings in the landscape.

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

Species: *Orobanche densiflora*  
Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

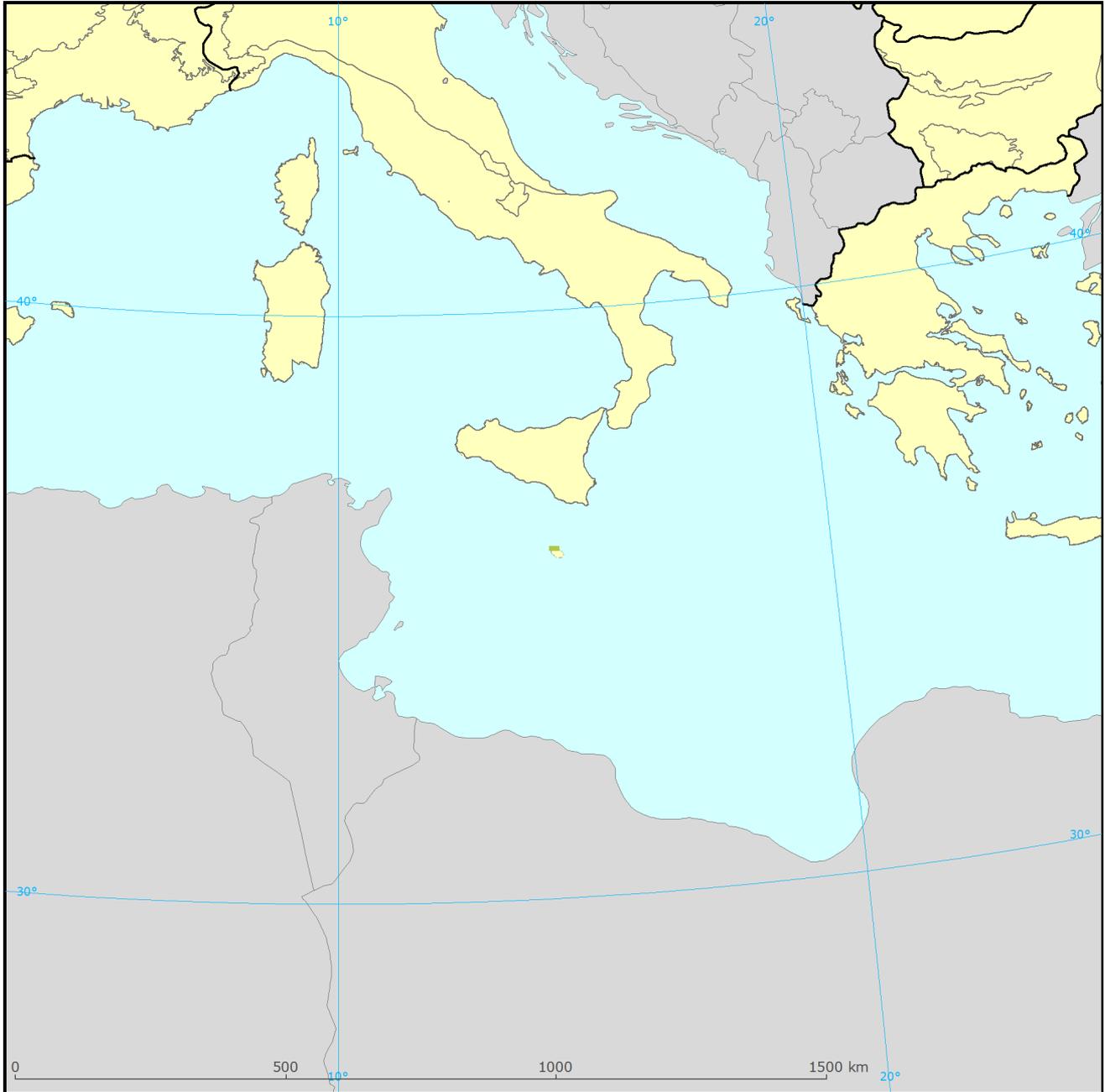


Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	x	100	U1	Not genuine

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

Species: *Orobanche densiflora*  
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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



***Orobanche densiflora***

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.

# Species: *Orobanche densiflora*

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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					
MT	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0	U1	Changed method	

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
E04	Scattered structures and buildings	25
I01	Invasive alien species	25
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	25
L07	Storm, cyclone	25

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

Code	Activity	Frequency
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	33
I01	Invasive alien species	33
L07	Storm, cyclone	33

## 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

MED	
MT	94

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

# Species: *Orobanche densiflora*

## Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

### 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
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	33
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	33
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	33

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=Orobanche+densiflora>

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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.