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

# **European Environment Agency** *European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity*



#### Thorella verticillatinundata

Annex II, IV Priority No

Species group Vascular plants

**Regions** Atlantic, Mediterranean

The plant *Thorella verticillato-inundata* is an evergreen herb is endemic to the Iberian Peninsula and the west of France (Atlantic and Mediterranean region). In Spain, it is only present in Huelva and in Portugal it can be found in Baixo Alentejo, Beira Litoral, Douro Litoral and Estremadura. It occurs in seasonally or occasionally permanently inundated water-bodies at 0.5-1 m of usually acid water on organic loam or sometimes sandy substrate, on the margins of marshes, lakes, wet clearings in scrub. It can be found in the habitats (2190) Humid dune slacks, (3110) Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (*Littorelletalia uniflorae*), (3170) Mediterranean temporary ponds, (6410) Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*) and (7150) Depressions on peat substrates of the *Rhynchosporion*. The IUCN Red List classifies the species as Vulnerable (VU).

In the Atlantic region, both the current and previous conservation status is "Unfavourable Inagequate". The future prospect is "Unfavourable Inagequate" and the trend is decreasing. In the Mediterranean region, the conservation status is "Unfavourable Bad", the previous conservation status was "Unknown". The future prospect is "Unfavourable Inadequate" and the trend is unknown.

The species is threatened mostly by drainage, agriculture, and forest plantings. Water and soil pollution due to the use of fertilisers and pesticides, urbanisation, road and tourism infrastructure, infilling of water bodies, changes in the hydrological regime such as stabilisation of the water levels are also regarded as threats.

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

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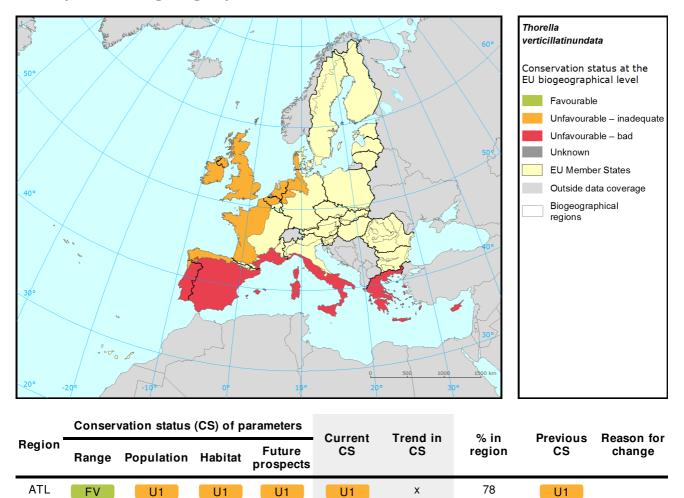
22

Χ

Not genuine

XX

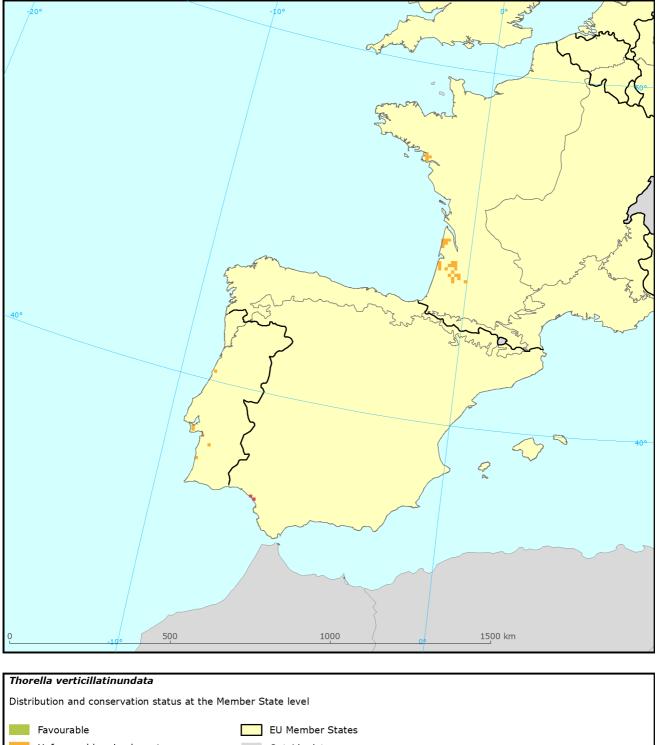
## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

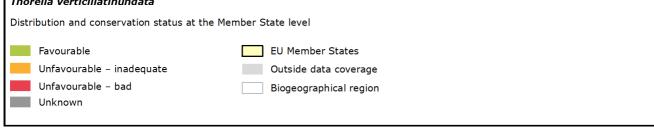


See the endnote for more information<sup>i</sup>

MED

#### Assessment of 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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_	Conservation status of parameters				Current	Trand in	% in	Previous	Reason for
MS Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	Trend in CS	region	CS	change
FR ATL	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	Х	100.0	U1	
ES MED	FV	U1	U2	U1	U2	x	25.0	XX	Changed method
PT MED	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	75.0	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
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	33
A01	Agricultural cultivation	11
A09	Irrigation in agriculture	11
B01	Afforestation	11
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	11
K04	Interspecific floral relations	11
K05	Reduced fecundity/Genetic depression	11

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## 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
FR	X	
PT		Χ

See the endnotes for more information ii

### 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
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	50
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	50

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=Thorella+verticillatinundata

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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.

<sup>ii</sup>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.