Plant microreserves

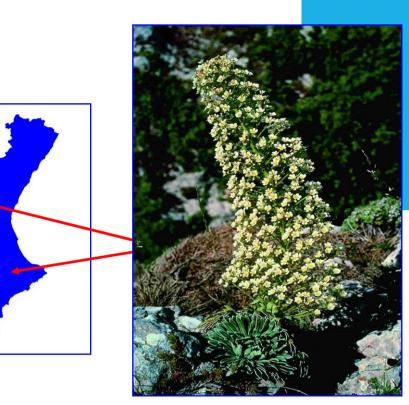
the site-based plant conservation and monitoring network



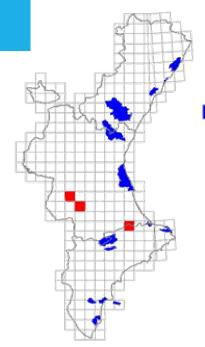


Major traits of the valencian flora

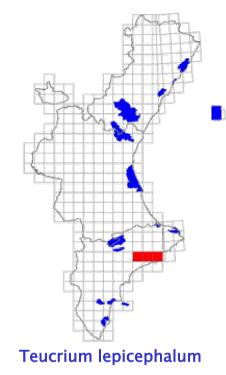




- 3.050 vascular plant species; high endemism rate 65 exclusive endemics, 71 shared with neighbouring territories
- 225 endangered species; 84 Critically endangered
- High geographic scatter of plant species
- Small population size of some taxa
- Extremely localised occurrence, dispersed populations



Echium setabense



Verbascum fontqueri

Silvana dicilinais

1

Silene diclinis



<2.500 ind 5 populations





<2.000 ind 5 populations

<5.000 ind 9 populations

¿What is a Plant MicroReserve (PMR)?

LIFE93 NAT/E/000766 (1994–99) & LIFE99 NAT/E/006417



Microrreservas are small land plots – < 20 ha – of peak value in terms of species richness endemism or rarity, given over to long term monitoring and conservation of plant species and vegetation types

This statutory protection figure was created by the Regional Government by means of a Decree in 1994

The legal frame confers PMRs a permanent status and provides strong protection to plants and substrate, while allowing traditional activities

Its the only protection figure in the EU exclusively devoted to plant protection with a stron legal basis





Goals





Scientific monitoring of target species — ca. 600 taxa, 350 endemics — and vegetation types to establish long term trends.



Active management: ecological restoration, population reinforcements, creation of new populations of threatened species etc.





Private microreserves

Private PMRs belong to private owners or townhalls.

They can only be established on land designated as not for building.

Owners and townhalls are given a one off indemnity in return for the permanent transfer of management rights

Annual calls offer funds to carry out active management under the guidance of PMR technical staff

Private PMRs allow the incorporation to the network of outstanding botanical sites

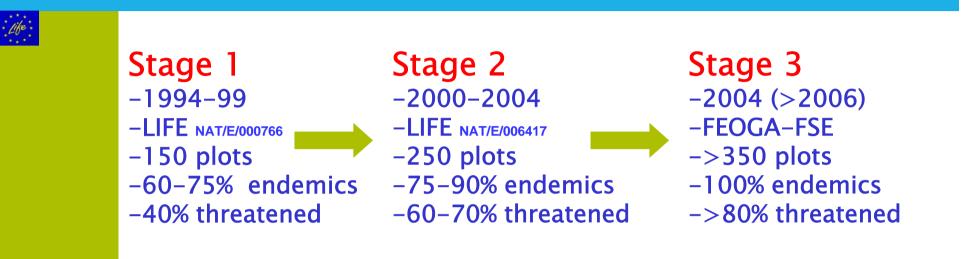
Private PMRs involve society in plant conservation

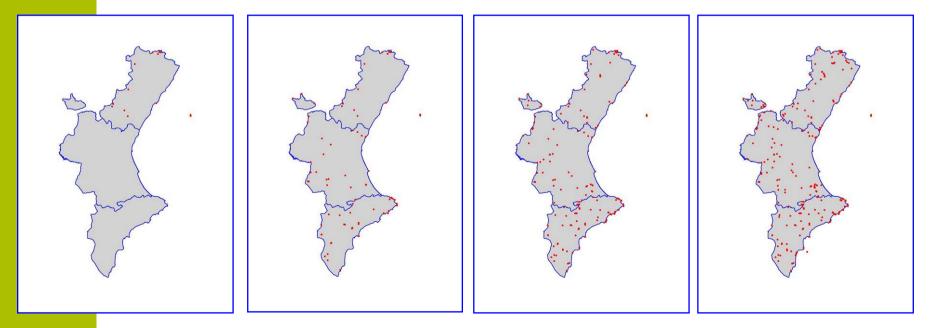


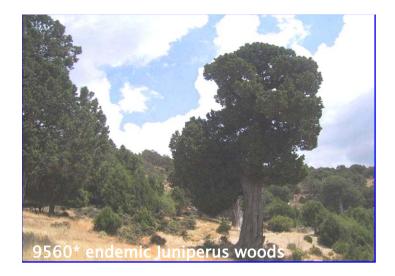




Towards a comprehensive cover of rare endemic and threatened flora

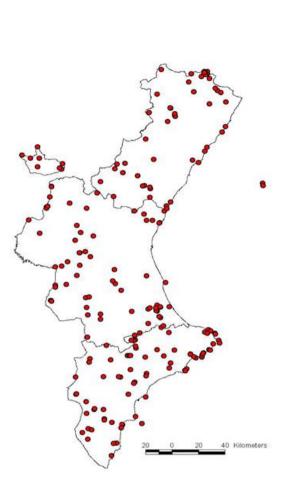






Currently the best examples of the 18 priority habitats present in the Valencia region and 75 % of endemics are included in the network.

The network exemplifies how small land plots can encompass a large share of the plant richness of a territory of high diversity, where small scale regional approaches to conservation are inescapable.







3170* temporary ponds



9580* Taxus baccata forests



9530* endemic black pine forests

1510* saline steppes



PMRs must not be seen as an alternative to large protected areas but as a complement

PMRs allow closer monitoring of target species and actions tailored to the needs of particular species and vegetation types

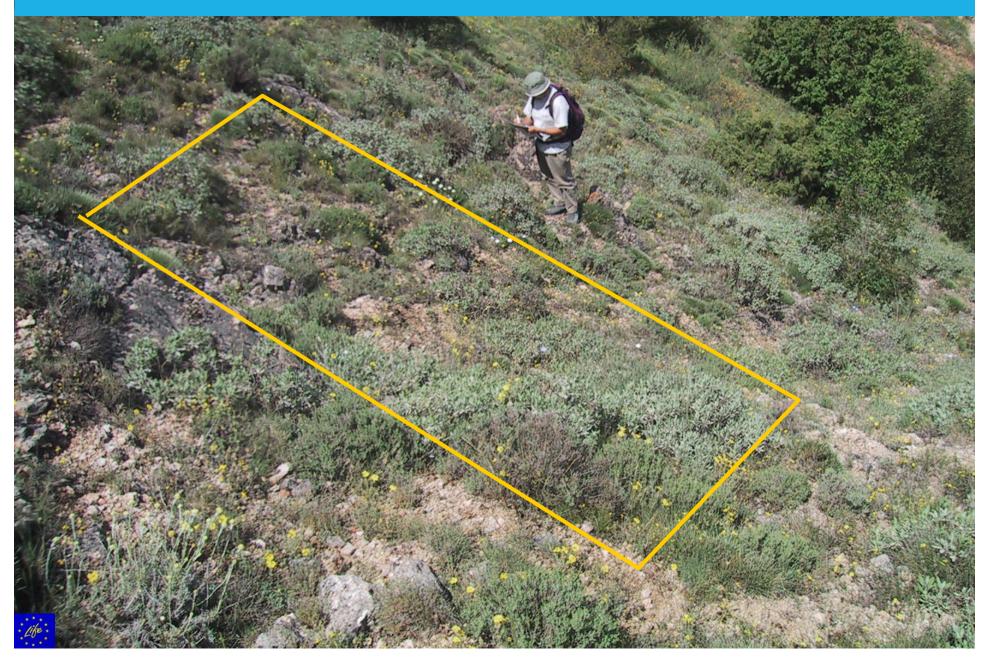
PMRS play a preemptive role

PMRS have allowed the inventory of all the sites that contain the most threatened plants and habitats or areas of exceptional plant and habitat richness





Monitoring of flora and vegetation



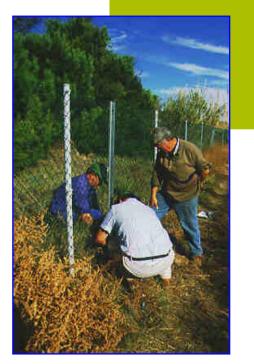
Some common management practices...













Plant production strategy





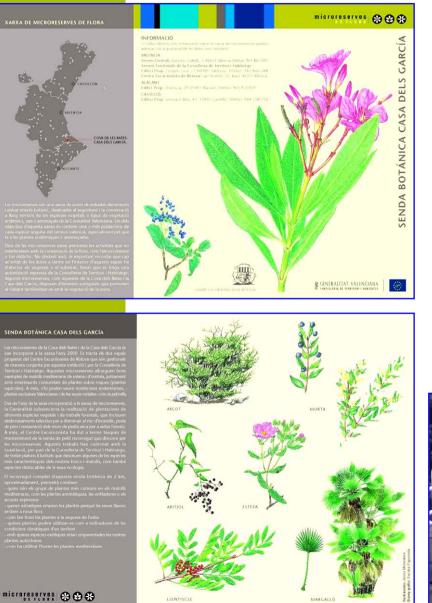


Current plant production projects:

- acuatic flora (80 taxa)
- scented plants (25 taxa)
- rare endemic and endangered taxa (including *in vitro*) (70 taxa)
 native flora with ornamental potential (50 taxa)
- ferns (pteridophytes,15 taxa)



Environmental education and awareness raising













STAFF ca. 26 persons involved

Life .

•Director: Emilio Laguna floraval@gva.es

Coordination: Gabriel Ballester

•Management:

• Patricia Pérez Rovira - Simón Fos

•Amparo Olivares - Vicente Deltoro

•Lluis Serra - Joan Pérez Botella

•Plant production:

Carlos Peña & Araucana Sebastian
Alberto Navarro & Inma Ferrando
M^a Carmen Escribá
Francisco Albert

Field work: 3 teams of 4 workmen



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The site-based plant conservation and monitoring network





