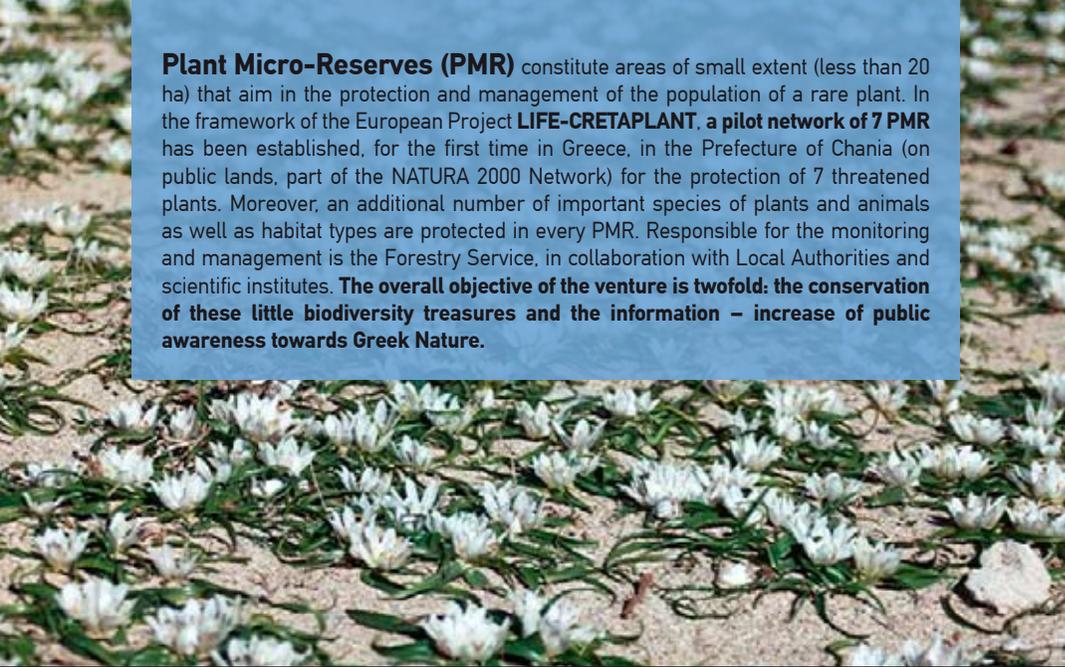


Plant Micro-Reserves (PMR) constitute areas of small extent (less than 20 ha) that aim in the protection and management of the population of a rare plant. In the framework of the European Project **LIFE-CRETAPLANT**, a **pilot network of 7 PMR** has been established, for the first time in Greece, in the Prefecture of Chania (on public lands, part of the NATURA 2000 Network) for the protection of 7 threatened plants. Moreover, an additional number of important species of plants and animals as well as habitat types are protected in every PMR. Responsible for the monitoring and management is the Forestry Service, in collaboration with Local Authorities and scientific institutes. **The overall objective of the venture is twofold: the conservation of these little biodiversity treasures and the information – increase of public awareness towards Greek Nature.**



CRETAPLANT

MICRO-RESERVE

Androcymbium rechingeri Greuter



MEDITERRANEAN AGRONOMIC INSTITUTE OF CHANIA



ΕΘΝΙΚΟΝ & ΚΑΠΟΔΙΣΤΡΙΑΚΟΝ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟΝ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ
NATIONAL & KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS



Περιφέρεια Κρήτης

Knowledge - Protection - Conservation



A Pilot Network of Plant Micro-Reserves in Western Crete
Πιλοτικό Δίκτυο Μικρο-Αποθεμάτων Φυτών στη Δυτική Κρήτη



Project LIFE04 NAT/GR/000104:

CRETAPLANT – A Pilot Network of Plant Micro-Reserves in Western Crete

Publication: **National and Kapodistrian University of Athens**

(Photos: CRETAPLANT, NKUA, Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania, Forest Directorate of Chania)

Editing: **Costas Thanos**, Assoc. Professor, Faculty of Biology NKUA - **Apostolis Kaltzis**, Biologist M.Sc. - **Christini Fournaraki**, Biologist M.Sc. - **Katerina Koutsovoulou**, Biologist

Androcymbium rechingeri Greuter

ELAFONISI
NATURA 2000 GR4340002



Distribution

Androcymbium rechingeri (Liliaceae family) occurs in small areas on the beaches of Western Crete (islet Imeri Gramvousa, Falassarna, islet Elafonisi) and nowhere else in the world.

Description

A perennial bulbous plant, of short size (up to 10 cm high) with leaves up to 15 cm long. Each plant usually produces more than 4 impressive, white flowers with purple stripes. It flowers from December to February and the aboveground parts of the plant dry in summer.



Seeds of *Androcymbium rechingeri* (in magnification)

Threats

- ▶ Tourism
- ▶ Climatic change

Conservation status

- Included in Annexes II* and IV of 92/43 EU Directive
- Protected by the Presidential Decree 67/81
- Protected by the Bern Convention (1979)
- Proclaimed 'Endangered' by the Red Data Book of Rare and Threatened Flora of Greece (1995)

The Plant Micro-Reserve (PMR) of *Androcymbium rechingeri*

Locality: Elafonissi islet

Surface: 2 ha

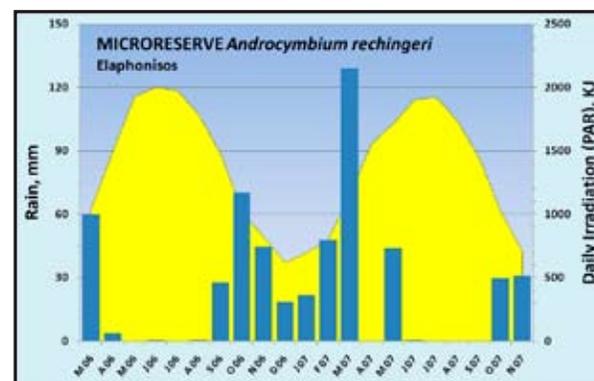
Altitude: 10-40 m

Landscape: Rocky coast and sandy-clay soils with rich, phryganic vegetation

Other important plant species: *Campanula saxatilis* subsp. *saxatilis*, *Silene succulenta* subsp. *succulenta*, *Centaurea pumilio*, *Petromarula pinnata*, *Limonium elaphonicum*



- Wardening
- Placement of information boards
- Recording of climatic parameters (meteorological microstation)
- Evaluation of population density and reproductive potential (seed production)
- Seed storage in the Seed Banks of MAICh and University of Athens
- Study of seed germination and the factors regulating regeneration of the species



Population density is estimated by counting individuals in permanent plots

