# **Autumn Plants of the Peloponnese**

Naturetrek Tour Report

29 October - 5 November 2014











Mystras

Sternbergia sicula

Report & images by David Tattersfield



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### Day 1

## Wednesday 29th October

After a delayed flight from Heathrow, the group assembled at Athens airport. We left around 3.30pm and drove westwards along the motorway to Corinth, where we stopped to view the canal. In the sandy banks, along its edge, we found Sea Squill *Charybdis maritima*, Autumn Squill *Prospero autumnale* and a number of pale lilac forms of our first Crocus *Crocus cancellatus* subsp. *mazziaricus*.

We continued northwards along the Gulf of Corinth along the busy Patra road, which seems destined to never be finished. It was already dark and a little misty, as we headed steeply inland to the mountain resort of Kalavrita. A tasty meal was ready for us in a local taverna, before we retired to bed after a long day.

#### Day 2

## Thursday 30th October

The previous week had seen stormy weather and heavy rains in much of Greece and we awoke to a misty sky. After breakfast we set off towards Mt. Chelmos, stopping first in an area of Kermes Oak scrub and open pasture, where we found *Crocus cancellatus* subsp. *mazziaricus*, in its white form and *Crocus biflorus* subsp. *melantherus* with characteristic black anthers and purple feathering on the outer tepals. *Cyclamen hederifolium* subsp. *hederifolium* was common in the forest showing a variety of leaf patterns. As we gained height, we emerged from the valley mist into clear blue sky, with the mountain summits glistening white with fresh snow. From the car park below the ski resort, we set off to explore the slopes as far as the ridge overlooking the Styx valley. Cartwheels of prostrate juniper dominated the landscape along with dwarfed trees of Greek Fir, *Abies cephalonica* and the endemic Hawthorn *Crategus pycnoloba*, with its distinctive red and yellow fruit. A rich flora on the stony slopes included the local endemics, *Globularia stygia* and *Thymus rechingeri*, the more widespread *Drypis spinosa* and *Daphne oleoides*, still with a few flowers. We searched for the tiny narrow-petalled *Sternbergia colchiciflora* and had almost given up hope when just one was located. We had lunch in the car park before driving over the plateau to where

we overlooked the Styx valley, resplendent in its autumn colours. We found a number of *Colchicum boissieri* before investigating the steep rocky hillsides, where notable plants included the dramatic skeletons of Candelabra Thistle *Cirsium candelabrum*, and abundant *Sternbergia sicula*, with large flowers and narrow, striped foliage.

After returning through Kalavrita we stopped to admire a whole hillside coloured yellow with Sternbergia and a number of purple spathes of *Biarum tenuifolium*. We continued along mountain roads to Plataniotissa, eventually reaching our objective, a venerable specimen of Oriental Plane, its massive hollow bowl, containing a quaint little chapel. Inevitably our return journey was in the dark.

### Day 3

## Friday 31st October

After packing the minibuses, we headed south again over the mountain. During a brief stop in the forest, we saw many fresh leaves of Dense-flowered Orchid *Neotinea maculata* and Yellow Bee Orchid *Ophrys lutea*, growing with *Cyclamen hederifolium* and indicating the rich spring flora. We travelled south through a landscape of mountains and flat-bottomed poljes, the autumn colours particularly vibrant in the sunshine. We stopped to marvel at Pausanias' Vine, a multi-trunked monster that may be 2000 years old, and then made a stop, by some abandoned terraces, to see stunning displays of *Sternbergia sicula*, growing in the company of *Crocus biflorus melantherus* and the purple spathes of *Biarum tenuifolium*. At our lunch stop, just north of Tripoli, there were thousands of *Crocus badriaticus* covering the ground, like confetti.

As we travelled south, we encountered many more, but in the increasingly cloudy conditions, most of the flowers remained closed. A small diversion took us through a wild landscape, where we found our first *Cyclamen graecum* and we had fun comparing the morphological differences between this and *Cyclamen hederifolium*. Examination of a few Crocus flowers, confirmed our first *Crocus boryi*, readily distinguished by its white anthers. As we descended to the plain of Sparta, the dramatic mountains of the Taygetos stretched before us and we arrived at our waterfront hotel in Gythio just before 6pm. We finished the day with dinner in a taverna overlooking the harbour.

### Day 4

# Saturday 1st November

West of Gythio, in an abandoned olive grove, and after a long and patient search, we eventually located a few spikes of Autumn Lady's Tresses Spiranthes spiralis. Cyclamen graecum was plentiful here with more Crocus boryi and emerging leaves of Friar's Cowl Arisarum vulgare. Further on, under a dense canopy of oak trees, the air was scented with the sweet perfume from myriads of Cyclamen hederifolium subsp. crassifolium, a tetraploid, with thicker fleshier leaves, than the nominate subspecies. As we crossed over the northern end of the Mani peninsula, we found populations of the large and spectacular Crocus niveus and the more delicate Crocus goulimyi, both endemic to the two eastern peninsulas of this isolated corner of Greece. Other interesting finds included the bicoloured flowers of Campanula versicolor, the little Onion Allium callimischon subsp. callimischon and some beautiful pink Colchicum cupanii.

We arrived at the Vychlada Cave, below Diros, and had lunch on the beach, before our underground adventure. The boat trip through a maze of richly decorated caverns was an unforgettable experience. We emerged into hazy sunshine and an interesting cliff flora that included Tree Medick, *Medicago arborea* and the rare shrubby *Dianthus fruticosus* subsp. *occidentalis*. On the way back, we made a short roadside stop to see the delicate *Narcissus* 

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serotinus, leaving us just sufficient time for a rather hurried trip towards the coast at Vathy. The light was beginning to fade, but we did locate the Polyanthus Daffodil Narcissus tazetta and some fine clumps of the endemic Colchicum parlatoris, before we had to head back to Gythio.

### Day 5

# Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

We began the morning with a visit to Gythio Island, in particular to see *Cyclamen graecum*. The leaves of this population were much larger and more developed than any we had seen, due to the shady conditions in which they were growing. Their variety of patterns and textures was truly astonishing. It was a brilliant sunny morning, so we headed north and followed a winding road up into the Taygetos Mountains and the forests of Greek Fir, *Abies cephalonica* and Turkish Black Pine, *Pinus nigra* subsp. *nigra* var. *caramanica* that dominate the middle slopes. In damp gullies under Oriental Plane, the Snowdrop *Galanthus reginae-olgae* was locally plentiful, along with the very familiar Cyclamen. We spent a while observing Peloponnese Wall Lizard and Greek Algyroides, both endemic to the area and a couple of spectacular Roesel's Bush Crickets, before heading for lunch.

Afterwards, we had a good walk along the rough mountain road, which offered excellent views of the plain of Sparta, far below us. We continued in the minibus, as far as Anavriti, before starting our descent down an amazing series of hairpin bends and back to the sea of Olives on the plain. Our evening meal was in our usual haunt, beside the harbour.

### Day 6

# Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

Again, to make the best use of daylight, we first made a short visit to the Roman Theatre, next to the Army Barracks on the edge of town. Then driving eastwards along the coast, we stopped to see *Narcissus tazetta*, flowering on a rocky hillside, before walking along the beach by the rusting wreck of the Dimitrios. A range of coastal flora here included Sea Daffodil *Pancratium maritimum*, Sea Spurge *Euphorbia paralias*, and Sea Holly *Eryngium maritimum*. Other wildlife included a fast-moving Balkan Whip Snake, several dragonflies and butterflies, which included Sage Skipper and Plain Tiger. After crossing the expanse of the Evrotas delta, we made our way down the Sikea peninsula to Monemvasia, where we stopped for coffee overlooking the island.

We continued inland to maquis-covered hills along the spine of the peninsula, where Strawberry Tree Arbutus unedo and Erica manipuliflora were in flower, providing a source of nectar for the occupants of the many beehives. The hillsides around our lunch stop had stunning displays of a pale-flowered Crocus goulimyi. This taxon is generally recognised as Crocus goulimyi subsp. leucanthus and is restricted to the southern part of the Sikea peninsula, although its exact taxonomic status is a matter of opinion. Many flowers had a faint lilac tinge, some were pure white and just a few resembled those we had previously seen on the Mani. On the same hillside were many white-flowered Crocus laevigatus and a huge population of Cyclamen hederifolium subsp. crassifolium, growing together with the distinctive leaves of Cyclamen graecum.

After lunch we walked down the road past more eye-catching displays of Crocus and Cyclamen, before boarding the minibuses and heading for Monemvasia. We spent the rest of the afternoon exploring the maze of streets within the walls of the attractive Byzantine town. Unfortunately, restoration work prevented access to the upper town but there was plenty to see. The endemic and extremely local *Stachys spreitzenhoferi* was in flower on the walls, and Western Rock Nuthatch, Black Redstart and Blue Rock Thrush were observed among the ruins. As

darkness fell, we found a delightful restaurant for our evening meal, overlooking the sea, before the long drive back to Gythio.

### Day 7

# Tuesday 4th November

Another sunny day dawned and we drove north to Mystras. We spent the morning exploring the extensive archaeological site, the last stronghold of the Byzantines. Bold displays of *Sternbergia sicula* were seen below the castle and a roosting Little Owl was found, perched on top of a ruined building. A short drive took us to the neighbouring village of Parori, where we had lunch by its impressive fountains, before walking up the narrow gorge to a chapel, within a large cave in the cliff. The fresh green rosettes of Madonna Lily *Lilium candidum* were common, as were Cyclamen and the hooded spathes of Friar's Cowl *Arisarum vulgare*. Returning to the village, we found the cafe had just opened.

After a rather frustrating wait, we were eventually served an interesting tea, made from the endemic *Sideritis clandestina*, collected high up in the Taygetos. We were back in Gythio before dark and, for a change, opted for a different restaurant at the other end of the harbour. A log fire was lit and we enjoyed an excellent final meal together, before retiring to bed.

### Day 8

## Wednesday 5th November

After an early breakfast, we left around 7.45am for the airport. After a long drive, we had time for a coffee break on the motorway, before arriving at the airport for check-in.

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### **Species Lists**

Plants (• = endemic or near endemic to Peloponnese and neighbouring islands; ‡ = cultivated or naturalised)

Scientific Name Common Name Notes

LYCOPODIOPSIDA CLUBMOSSES

Selaginellaceae Lesser Clubmosss Family

Selaginella denticulata Mediterranean Selaginella Damp earth and rocks

EQUISETOPSIDA HORSETAILS

Equisetaceae Horsetail Family

Equisetum ramosissimum Branched Horsetail Hedges and scrub

Equisetum telmateia Giant Horsetail Ditches

PTEROPSIDA FERNS

Aspleniaceae Spleenwort Family

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum Black Spleenwort Occasional. Shaded cliffs

Asplenium ceterach Rusty-back Fern Common

Aspleniun onopteris Acute-leaved Spleenwort Frequent. Shaded cliffs
Asplenium trichomanes Maidenhair Spleenwort Occasional. Shaded cliffs

Dennstaedtiaceae Bracken Family

Pteridium aquilinum Bracken Common

Dryopteridaceae Buckler-fern Family

Dryopteris filix-masMale FernShady placesDryopteris pallidaPale Buckler-fernShaded rocks

Polystichum aculeatum Hard Shield-fern Shady places. Taygetos

Polypodiaceae Polypody Family

Polypodium cambricumSouthern PolypodyShaded rocksPolypodium vulgareCommon PolypodyTaygetos

Pteridaceae Maidenhair Fern Family

Adiantum capillus-veneris Maidenhair Fern Damp shaded cliffs

Cheilanthes acrostichaScented CheilanthesCommonCosentinia velleaScaly CheilanthesCoastal rocks

Woodsiaceae Lady Fern Family

Athyrium filix-feminaLady FernTaygetosCystopteris fragilisBrittle Bladder FernShaded rocks

PINOPSIDA CONIFERS

Araucariaceae Monkey Puzzle Family

Araucaria heterophylla‡ Norfolk Island Pine Cultivated

Cupressus sempervirens forma.

Supressus Sempervirens forma.

sempervirens tottia.

Sempervirens tottia.

Subsp. alpina

Funeral Cypress

Cultivated

Common Juniper

Chelmos

Juniperus oxycedrus subsp. oxycedrus

Prickly Juniper

Mountains

Scientific Name Common Name Notes

Juniperus phoenicea Phoenician Juniper Lowland scrub

Pinaceae

Abies cephalonicaGreek FirMountainsPinus halepensis subsp. brutiaCalabrian PineCommon

Pinus halepensis subsp. halepensis Aleppo Pine Frequently planted

**Pine Family** 

Pinus nigra subsp. nigra var. caramanica Turkish Black Pine Taygetos
Pinus pinea‡ Umbrella pine Cultivated

GNETOPSIDA GNETOPHYTES

Ephedraceae Joint Pine Family

Ephedra foeminea A Joint Pine Common

MAGNOLIOPSIDA FLOWERING PLANTS

MAGNOLIIDAE DICOTYLEDONS

Acanthaceae Acanthus Family

Acanthus spinosus Spiny Bear's Breech Occasional

Aceraceae Maple Family

Acer monspessulanumMontpellier MapleFrequentAcer sempervirensCretan MapleCommon

Aizoaceae Dew Plant Family

Carprobrotus edulis‡ Hottentot Fig Naturalised on coasts

Anacardiaceae Sumach Family

Cotinus coggygriaSmoke TreeFrequentPistacia lentiscusMastic TreeCommonPistacia terebinthusTurpentine TreeCommon

Apiaceae Carrot Family

Bupleurum fruticosum Shrubby Hare's Ear Frequent near coasts

Crithmum maritimumRock SamphireMaritime rocksDaucus carotaWild carrotCommon

Eryngium amethystinumBlue EryngoDry GrasslandsEryngium campestreField EryngoCommon

 Eryngium creticum
 Small-headed Blue Eryngo
 Dry Grasslands

 Eryngium maritimum
 Sea Holly
 Sand dunes

 Ferula communis
 Giant Fennel
 Common

Foeniculum vulgare subsp. piperatumFennelCommonScandix pecten-venerisShepherd's NeedleCommonSmyrnium olusatrumAlexandersFrequent

Apocyanaceae Periwinkle Family

Smyrnium perfoliatum

Nerium oleander Oleander Frequent along watercourses

Perfoliate Alexanders

Frequent

Plumeria rubra‡ Frangipani Cultivated

Vinca herbacea A Periwinkle Local in rocky places

Sonchus asper

Sonchus oleraceus

Xanthium strumarium‡

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Araliaceae Hedera helix  Aristolochiaceae Aristolachia sempervirens  Asteraceae Achillea ligustica Bellis perennis Bellis sylvestris Calendula arvensis Carduus pycnocephalus Carlina graeca (C. corymbosa) Carlina gummifera Carthamnus lanatus Centaurea calcitrapa Centaurea raphanina subsp. mixta Centaurea solstitialis Chondrilla juncea Cichorium intybus Cirsium candelabrum Cirsium eriophorum Conyza canadensis‡ Crepis rubra Dittrichia graveolens Dittrichia viscosa Doronicum orientale Echinops sphaerocephalus Echinops sphaerocephalus Echinops spinosissimus Filago pygmaea Galactites tomentosa Helichrysum italicum Hieraciun hoppeanum Inula candida Inula crithmoides Lactuca serriola	Ivy Family	
Hedera helix	lvy	Frequent
Aristolochiaceae	Birthwort Family	
Aristolachia sempervirens	Evergreen Birthwort	Common
Asteraceae	Daisy Family	
Achillea ligustica	Southern Yarrow	Common
Bellis perennis	Daisy	Common
Bellis sylvestris	Southern Daisy	Common
Calendula arvensis	Field Marigold	Frequent
Carduus pycnocephalus	Slender Thistle	Waste places
Carlina graeca (C. corymbosa)	Flat-topped Carline Thistle	Abundant in garrigue
Carlina gummifera	Pine Thistle	Occasional
Carthamnus lanatus	Wooly Safflower	Taygetos
Centaurea calcitrapa	Red Star-thistle	Occasional
Centaurea raphanina subsp. mixta		Rocky places
	St. Barnaby's Thistle	Occasional
Chondrilla juncea	Rush Skeletonweed	Common
Cichorium intybus	Chicory	Waste places
-	Candelabra Thistle	Widespread
Cirsium eriophorum	Wooly Thistle	Waste places
-	Canadian Fleabane	Common weed
-	Pink Hawksbeard	Occasional
-	Aromatic Inula	Waste places
_	Stink Aster	Abundant on roadsides
Doronicum orientale	Eastern Leopard'sbane	Mountains
	Pale Globe-Thistle	Frequent
	Spiniest Globe-Thistle	Rocky places
	Pygmy Cudweed	Dry stony places
	Galactites	Common. Waste places
	Curry Plant	Frequent
	A Hawkweed	Chelmos
	, i i a minoca	Cliffs. Taygetos
		Cliffs
	Golden Samphire	Coast
	Pricky Lettuce	Waste places
Mycelis muralis	Wall Lettuce	Walls and rocks
Otanthus maritimus	Cottonweed	Sand dunes
Pallenis spinosa	Spiny Golden-star	Frequent
Phagnalon graecum	Shrubby Cudweed	Walls and rocks
Picnomon acarna	Yellow Spine-thistle	Common
Ptilostemon chamaepeuce	Shrubby Ptilostemon	Cliffs
Pulicaria odora	Mediterranean Fleabane	Chelmos
Scolymus hispanicus	Spanish Oyster Plant	Roadsides
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	Waste places
Senecio vulgans Senecio rupestris	Rock Groundsel	Chelmos
Silybum marianum	Milk Thistle	
Girybuiti mananum	Driedly Cow Thinks	Waste places

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Prickly Sow Thistle

Cocklebur

Smooth Sow Thistle

Waste places

Waste places

Frequent weed

**Scientific Name Common Name Notes** 

Berberidaceae **Barberry Family** 

Berberis cretica Cretan Barberry Chelmos

Bignoniaceae **Catalpa Family** 

Catalpa bignonioides‡ Indian Bean Tree Cultivated

**Betulaceae Birch Family** 

Ostrva carpinifolia Hop Hornbeam **Taygetos** 

**Borage Family** Boraginaceae

Cerinthe major Honeywort Occasional Cynoglossum creticum Blue Hound's Tongue Frequent

Echium angustifolium Narrow-leaved Bugloss Coast. Common Echium italicum subsp. biebersteinii Pale Bugloss Roadsides. Common

Echium plantagineum Purple Vipers Bugloss Common

Heliotropium europaeum Heliotrope Common. Waste places Heliotropium hirsutissimum A Heliotrope Frequent. Waste places

Onosma frutescens Shrubby Golden Drops Walls and rocks. Common Onosma heterophylla A Golden Drops Rocky pasture

**Brassicacae Cabbage Family** 

Chelmos Aethionema saxatile **Burnt Candytuft** Aubrieta deltoidea Mountains Aubrieta Yellow Alyssum Aurinia saxatilis Mystras

Berteroa obliqua A Hoary Alison Fields. Kalavrita Cakile maritima Sea Rocket Maritime sand Capsella bursa-pastoris Shepherd's Purse Weedy places Draba lasiocarpa A Whitlowgrass Chelmos Fibigia clypeata Fibigia **Taygetos** 

Lunaria annua subsp. pachyrhiza Honesty Mystras Sea Stock Matthiola sinuata Monemvasia

Cactaceae **Cactus Family** 

Opuntia ficus-barbarica‡ Prickly Pear Widespread

Campanulaceae **Bellflower Family** 

Campanula andrewsii• Cliffs

Campanula andrewsii subsp. hirsutula. Cliffs. Mystras Campanula versicolor Cliffs

Capparaceae **Caper Family** 

Capparis spinosa Caper Common on cliffs

Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family

Lonicera etrusca Occasional Etruscan Honeysuckle

Caryophyllaceae **Pink Family** 

Cerastium candidissimum Mountains

Dianthus fruticosus subsp. occidentalis. A Shrubby Pink Coastal cliffs. Rare

Drypis spinosa **Drypis** Mountains

Petrorhagia glumacea Frequent

Silene gigantea subsp. hellenica. Giant Catchfly Parori Common Silene vulgaris **Bladder Campion** 

Euphorbia rigida

Mercurialis annua

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Chenopodiaceae	Goosefoot Family	
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen	Common weed
Salsola kali	Prickly Saltwort	Sandy beaches
Cistaceae	Rock-rose Family	
Cistus creticus subsp. creticus	Cretan Cistus	Common
Cistus salvifolius	Sage-leaved Cistus	Locally common
Fumana arabica	Mediterranean Rockrose	Frequent
Fumana thymifolia	Thyme Rockrose	Frequent
Helianthemum hymettium•	A Rockrose	Mountains
Helianthemum nummularium	Common Rockrose	Taygetos
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family	
Convolvulus althaeoides	Mallow-leaved Bindweed	Frequent
Convolvulus cantabrica	Pink Bindweed	Stony slopes
Convolvulus elegantissimus	Elegant Bindweed	Dry stony places
Convolvulus oleifolius	Olive-leaved Bindweed	Rocky places
Convolvulus siculus	Small Blue Bindweed	Dry places
Cuscuta epithymum	Common Dodder	Frequent parasite
Ipomoea indica‡	A Morning Glory	Cultivated
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family	
Sedum album	White Stonecrop	Common
Sedum amplexicaule subsp. tenuifolium		Frequent on rocks
Sedum cepaea		Frequent on shaded rocks
Sedum ochroleucon		Widespread
Sedum sediforme	Mediterranean Stonecrop	Common
Umbilicus rupestris	A Pennywort	Common
Cucurbitaceae	Cucumber Family	
Bryonia cretica	White Bryony	Frequent
Ecballium elaterium	Squirting Cucumber	Waste places
Dipsacaceae	Teasel Family	
Knautia integrifolia	A Scabious	Waste places
Pterocephalus perennis		Mountains
Scabiosa brachiata	Tremastelma	Taygetos
Ericaceae	Heather Family	
Arbutus unedo	Strawberry Tree	Locally common
Erica arborea	Tree Heather	Locally common
Erica manipuliflora	Autumn Heather	Locally common
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family	
Euphorbia acanthothamnos	Greek Spiny Spurge	Locally common
Euphorbia chamaesyce	Small Spurge	Common
Euphorbia characias	Large Mediterranean Spurge	Locally common
Euphorbia dendroides	Tree Spurge	Common near coasts
Euphorbia paralias	Sea Spurge	Sand dunes
Euphorbia peplis	Purple Spurge	Maritime sands
Euphorbia pulcherrima‡	Poinsettia	Cultivated
Eupharhia rigida	Marrow Issued Clauseus Course	Common

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Annual Mercury

Narrow-leaved Glaucous Spurge

Common

Common

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Ricinus communis‡	Castor Oil Plant	Occasional
Fabaceae	Pea Family	
Anagyris foetida	Bean Trefoil	Locally common
Anthyllis hermanniae	Herman's Kidney Vetch	Local in phrygana
Anthyllis vulneraria subsp. rubriflora	Kidney Vetch	Common
Astragalus angustifolius	A Milk Vetch	Mountains
Astragalus lusitanicus subsp. orientalis		Roadside. Areopolis
Astragalus sirinicus•		Chelmos
Astragalus thracicus•		Chelmos. Taygetos
Bituminaria bituminosa	Pitch Trefoil	Common
Calycotome villosa	Hairy Thorny Broom	Common
Ceratonia siliqua	Carob	Frequent
Cercis siliquastrum	Judas Tree	Frequent
Colutea arborescens	Bladder Senna	Taygetos
Genista acanthoclada		Common
Medicago arborea	Tree Medick	Coastal cliffs
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick	Common
Medicago marina	Sea Medick	Sand dunes
Medicago sativa	Lucerne	Occasional. Roadsides
Ononis spinosa subsp. diacantha	Spiny Rest-harrow	Frequent
Robinia pseudoacacia‡	False Acacia	Cultivated and naturalised Common. Roadsides
Spartium junceum Trifolium angustifolium	Spanish Broom Narrow-leaved Clover	
rmolium angustilolium	Narrow-leaved Clover	Frequent
Fagaceae	Beech Family	
Castanea sativa‡	Sweet Chestnut	Taygetos
Quercus coccifera subsp. calliprinos	Kermes Oak	Common
Quercus ilex	Holm Oak	Common
Quercus ithaburensis subsp. macrolepis	Valonia Oak	Locally common
Quercus pubescens	White Oak	Common
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family	
Backstonia perfoliata	Yellow-wort	Taygetos
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family	
Erodium cicutarium	Common Stork's-bill	Waste places
Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert	Damp shady places
Globulariaceae	Globularia Family	
Globularia stygia•	C.C. Lanning	Chelmos
Grossulariaceae	Currant Family	
Ribes uva-crispa	Gooseberry	Chelmos
Nibes uva-crispa	Gooseberry	Chemios
Hypericaceae	St John's-wort Family	
Hypericum empetrifolium	Empetrum-leaved St John's-wort	Frequent
Hypericum perforatum	Perforate St John's-wort	Occasional
Hypericum triquetrifolium		Rocky places
Juglandaceae	Walnut Family	
Juglans regia‡	Walnut	Cultivated
- <b>-</b>		

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes			
Lamiaceae	Common Name         Notes           Dead-nettle Family         Rocky places           Black Horehound         Common           Lesser Calamint         Common           Wild Basil         Shady places           A Shrubby Thyme         Common           Henbit Dead-nettle         Common           French Lavender         Locally common           White Horehound         Waste places           Water Mint         Damp places           Horse Mint         Ditches           Rocky places         Micromeria           A Catmint         Chelmos           Basil         Cultivated           White Marjoram         Monemvasia           Marjoram         Frequent           Cretan Jerusalem Sage         Frequent           Jerusalem Sage         Frequent           Jerusalem Sage         Common           Prasium         Widespread           Three-leaved Sage         Common           Wild Clary         Common           Satureia         Rocky places           A Scullcap         Parori           A Scullcap         Parori           A Woundwort         Monemvasia           Wall Germander         Chelmos </td				
Ballota acetabulosa	Garden Horehound	Rocky places			
Ballota nigra	Black Horehound	Common			
Clinopodium calamintha	Lesser Calamint	Common			
Clinopodium vulgare	Wild Basil	Shady places			
Coridothymus capitatus	A Shrubby Thyme	Common			
Lamium amplexicaule	Henbit Dead-nettle	Common			
Lavandula stoechas	French Lavender	Locally common			
Marrubium vulgare	White Horehound	Waste places			
Mentha aquatica	Water Mint	Damp places			
Mentha longifolia	Horse Mint	Ditches			
Micromeria graeca		Rocky places			
Micromeria juliana	Micromeria	Rocky places			
Nepeta argolica•	A Catmint	Chelmos			
Ocimum basilicum‡	Basil	Cultivated			
Origanum onites	White Marjoram	Monemvasia			
Origanum vulgare	-				
Phlomis cretica•	· ·	Frequent			
Phlomis fruticosa	Jerusalem Sage	Common			
Phlomis samia					
Prasium majus		•			
Salvia fruticosa					
Salvia verbenaca	•				
Satureja thymbra					
Scutellaria rubicunda	•				
Scutellaria rupestris	•				
Sideritis clandestina•					
Stachys candida					
Stachys spreitzenhoferi•					
Teucrium chamaedrys		•			
Teucrium polium	•				
Thymus rechingeri•	A Inyme	Chelmos			
Linaceae	Flax Family				
Linum austriacum	A Flax	Chelmos			
Loranthaceae	Mistletoe Family				
Viscum album subsp. abietis	Mistletoe	Common on Abies			
Lythraceae	<del>-</del>	D'. I			
Lythrum salicaria	Purple Loosestrife	Ditches			
Malvaceae	Mallow Family				
Alcea pallida					
Hibiscus rosa-sinensis‡					
Lavatera bryonifolia					
Malva sylvestris	Common Mallow	Common			
Meliaceae					
Melia azedarach‡	Indian Bead Tree	Cultivated			
Mimosaceae	Acacia Family				
Acacia pycnatha‡		Cultivated			

**Scientific Name Common Name Notes** Moraceae **Mulberry Family** Ficus carica Common Fig Cultivated Morus alba‡ White Mulberry Morinaceae **Morina Family** Morina persica A Morina Chelmos Myrtaceae Myrtle Family Callistemon citrinus‡ Bottlebrush Cultivated Eucayptus camaldulensis‡ River Red Gum Cultivated Myrtus communis Common Myrtle Occasional. Maquis Nyctaginaceae **Bougainvillea Family** Bougainvillea glabra‡ Bougainvillea Cultivated Oleaceae **Ash Family** Olea europaeasubsp. sylvestris Olive Frequent Fraxinus ornus Manna Ash Widespread Phillyrea latifolia Mock Privet Frequent in maquis Oxalidaceae **Wood Sorrel Family** Oxalis pes-caprae‡ Bermuda Buttercup Common weed **Papaveraceae Poppy Family** Coastal habitats Glaucium flavum Yellow Horned-poppy **Paulowniaceae Paulownia Family** Cultivated Paulownia tomentosa‡ Paulownia **Phytolaccaceae Pokeweed Family** American Pokeweed Waste areas Phytolacca americana‡ **Pittosporum Family Pittosporaceae** Pittosporum tobira‡ Cultivated **Plantaginaceae Plantain Family** Plantago coronopus Stag's-horn Plantain Waste areas near coast **Platanaceae Plane Family** Platanus orientalis Oriental Plane Common Plumbagiaceae **Thrift Family** Armeria canescens A Thrift Chelmos Limonium virgatum Coastal A Sea-lavender Plumbago europaea European Plumbago Occasional, Mountains Polygalaceae **Milkwort Family** Polygala myrtifolia‡ Cultivated

Eastern Milkwort

**Dock Family** 

Knotgrass

Polygala nicaeensis

Polygala venulosa

Polygonaceae
Polygonum aviculare

Mountains

Waste places

Frequent

**Scientific Name Common Name Notes** 

Polygonum maritimum Sea Knotgrass Coasts Bull's Head Dock Common Rumex bucephalophorus

**Portulacaceae Purslane Family** 

Portulaca oleracea Purslane Common. Waste areas

Primulaceae **Primrose Family** 

Anagallis arvensis Scarlet Pimpernel Frequent **Greek Sowbread** Common Cyclamen graecum subsp. graecum

Cyclamen hederifolium subsp. crassifolium• Common in lowland areas Cyclamen hederifolium subsp. hederifolium Sowbread Common in mountains

Cyclamen rhodium subsp. peloponnesiacum• Common, Spring flowering

Primrose Primula vulgaris Taygetos. Common in damp areas

**Punicaceae Pomegranate Family** 

Punica granatum‡ Pomegranate Cultivated

Ranunculaceae **Buttercup Family** 

Anemone coronaria Crown Anemone Frequent Peacock Anemone Common Anemone pavonina Clematis cirrhosa Virgin's Bower Common Clematis flammula **Fragrant Clematis** Coastal areas Old Man's Beard Clematis vitalba Common Consolida ajacis A Larkspur Frequent Nigella damascena Love-in-a-mist Frequent

Rhamnaceae **Buckthorn Family** 

A Buckthorn Rhamnus lycioides subsp. graeca Common

Rosaceae **Rose Family** Agrimonia eupatorium Hemp Agrimony Occasional Crategus heldreichii A Hawthorn Frequent

Crategus monogyna Hawthorn Frequent in north

Chelmos

Crategus pycnoloba• Cydonia oblonga‡ Quince Cultivated Eriobotrya japonica‡ Japanese Loquat Cultivated Poterium sanguisorba Salad Burnet Common Prunus avium Wild Cherry Forests Prunus cocomilia Greek Plum Chelmos Prunus dulcis‡ Almond Cultivated Prunus spinosa Blackthorn Frequent Pyracantha coccinea‡ Firethorn Cultivated

Pyrus spinosa Wild Pear Common Rosa canina Dog Rose Common Rubus ulmifolius A Bramble Common

Sarcopoterium spinosum Thorny Burnet Common

Rubiaceae **Bedstraw Family** 

Galium rotundifolium Round-leaved Bedstraw Shady forests Wild Madder Rubia peregrina Shady places

Rutaceae **Rue Family** 

Citrus limon‡ Cultivated Lemon

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Daphne oleoides

Thymelaea hirsuta

**Scientific Name Common Name Notes** Citrus sinensis‡ Cultivated Orange Ruta chalepensis Fringed Rue Parori Salicaceae Willow Family Populus alba White Poplar Common. Damp habitats Populus nigra Black Poplar Cultivated Santalaceae **Bastard-toadflax Family** Osyris alba Osyris Locally common Saxifragaceae Saxifrage Family Saxifraga chrysosplenifolia Shaded rocks Scrophulariaceae **Figwort Family** Mystras and Parori Cymbalaria microcalyx• Cymbalaria muralis‡ Ivy-leaved Toadflax Occasional on walls Digitalis ferruginea Rusty Foxglove **Taygetos** Digitalis laevigata Greek Foxglove **Taygetos** Odontites linkii Parori Red Bartsia Odontites verna Occasional Scrophularia canina subsp. bicolor French Figwort Frequent Shining Figwort Frequent Scrophularia lucida Scrophularia peregrina Nettle-leaved Figwort Occasional Verbascum macrurum Common Verbascum pulverulentum Hoary Mullein Occasional Verbascum sinuatum Wavy-leaved Mullein Common Veronica beccabunga **Brooklime** Wet places Veronica cymbalaria White Speedwell Waste places Veronica persica‡ Common Field Speedwell Common Simaroubaceae Tree of Heaven Family Ailanthus altissima‡ Tree of Heaven Naturalised and invasive Solanaceae **Nightshade Family** Waste ground Datura stramonium‡ Thornapple Hyoscyamus albus White Henbane Mystras and Parori Hyocyamus niger Henbane Waste places Mandragora autumnalis Mandrake Frequent Nicotiana glauca‡ Shrubby Tobacco Waste areas and roadsides Solanum nigrum Black Nightshade Frequent Withania somnifera‡ Withania Occasional. Waste places Styracaceae **Storax Family** Styrax officinalis Occasional in woods Storax **Tamaricaceae Tamarisk Family** Tamarix parviflora Small-flowered Tamarisk Coast **Thymelaeaceae Mezereon Family** 

Olive-leaved Daphne

Hairy Thymelaea

Chelmos

Rocky places near the coast

Scientific Name Common Name Notes

Ulmaceae Elm Family

Celtis australisNettle TreeFrequentUlmus minorSmall-leaved ElmFrequent

Urticaceae Nettle Family

Parietaria judaicaPellitory-of-the-wallCommonUrtica dioicaNettleWidespreadUrtica urensSmall NettleCommon

Valerianaceae Valerian Family

Centranthus longiflorus Parori

Centranthus ruber Red Valerian Monemvasia, Mystras

Valeriana italica

Verbenaceae Vervain Family

Verbena officinalis Vervain Common

Vitex agnus-castus Chaste Tree Frequent. Riverbeds

Violaceae Violet Family

Viola graeca Chelmos

Vitaceae Vine Family

Vitis vinifera subsp. sylvestris Wild Vine Occasional

Zygophyllaceae Caltrop Family

Tribulus terrestris Maltese Cross Waste places

LILIIDAE MONOCOTYLEDONS

Amaryllidaceae Daffodil Family

Allium ampeloprasum Wild Leek Monemvasia, Gythio
Allium callimischon subsp. callimischon Locally common

Allium suhirsutum Locally common

Galanthus reginae-olgae subsp. reginae-olgae • Queen Olga's Snowdrop Taygetos

Narcissus serotinus Late Daffodil Locally common

Narcissus tazetta Polyanthus Daffodil Local

Pancratium maritimum Sea Daffodil Sand dunes

Sternbergia colchiciflora Chelmos

Sternbergia luteaCommon SternbergiaLocally commonSternbergia siculaSlender SternbergiaCommon

Araceae Lords-and-Ladies Family

Arisarum vulgareFriar's CowlCommonArum italicumA Lords and LadiesCommon

Biarum tenuifolium Narrow-leaved Biarum Locally common

Asparagaceae Asparagus Family

Agave americana‡ Century Plant Cultivated and naturalised

Asparagus acutifolius Mediterranean Wild Asparagus Occasional Asparagus aphyllus subsp. orientalis Leafless Asparagus Frequent

Charybdis maritima

Sea Squill

Locally common

Muscari comosum

Tassel Hyacinth

Locally common

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Muscari commutatum	A Grape Hyacinth	Mystras
Muscari neglectum	A Grape Hyacinth	Chelmos
Ornithogalum montanum	A Star of Bethlehem	Mountains and forests
Ornithogalum sp.	A Star of Bethlehem	Mystras
Prospero autumnale	Autumn Squill	Common
Ruscus aculeatus	Butcher's Broom	Shady places
Colchicaceae	Meadow Saffron Family	
Colchicum bivonae		Local in mountains
Colchicum boissieri		Local in mountains
Colchicum cupanii		Locally common
Colchicum parlatoris•		Local
Colchicum psaridis•		Local
Cyperaceae	Sedge Family	
Cyperus capitatus	A Galingale	Sand dunes
Scirpus holoschoenus	Round-headed Clubrush	Sand dunes
Dioscoreaceae	Yam Family	
Tamus communis	Black Bryony	Frequent
Iridaceae	Iris Family	
Crocus biflorus subsp. melantherus•		Locally common
Crocus boryi		Widespread in south
Crocus cancellatus subsp. mazziaricus		Locally common
Crocus goulimyi subsp. goulimyi•		Locally common
Crocus goulimyi subsp. leucanthus•		Locally common in east
Crocus hadriaticus		Locally common
Crocus laevigatus		Local
Crocus niveus•		Locally common
Iris tuberosa	Widow Iris	Taygetos
Iris unguicularis subsp. carica var. angustifolia	Algerian Iris	Locally common
Juncaceae	Rush Family	
Juncus acutus	Sharp Rush	Sandy places
Juncus effusus	Soft Rush	Damp habitats
Liliaceae	Lily Family	
Lilium candidum	Madonna Lily	Parori Gorge
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family	
Himantoglossum robertianum	Giant Orchid	Frequent
Neotinea maculata	Dense-flowered Orchid	Chelmos
Ophrys lutea	Yellow Bee Orchid	Chelmos
Ophrys spp.	Bee Orchids	Frequent
Spiranthes spiralis	Autumn Lady's Tresses	Rocky places
Poaceae	Grass Family	
Aegilops neglecta	Three-awned Goatgrass	Occasional
Ammophila arenaria	Marram Grass	Sand dunes
Arundo donax‡	Giant Reed	Common
Avena sterilis	Winter Wild Oat	Waste areas
Brachypodium sylvaticum	False Brome	Common

**Scientific** 

Name	Common Name	Notes

Briza maxima **Great Quaking Grass** Frequent Catapodium rigidum Rocky places Fern-grass Cynodon dactylon Bermuda Grass Waste places Cynosurus echinatus Rough Dog's-tail Grassland Dactylis glomerata Cock's-foot Frequent Hordeum murinum Wall Barley Waste places Lagurus ovatus Hare's-tail Common Lamarkia aurea Golden Dog's-tail Common Melica ciliata Ciliate Melick Occasional Melica uniflora One-flowered Melick Forests

Phragmites australis Common Reed Common. Wet areas

Piptantherum miliaceumRice GrassDry PlacesSetaria pumilaYellow Bristle-grassFrequentSetaria verticillataRough Bristle-grassOccasionalStipa pennataNeedle GrassCommon

Posidoniaceae Neptune Grass Family

Posidonia oceanica Neptune Grass Marine

Smilacaceae Smilax Family

Smilax aspera Smilax Common

Typhaceae Reedmace Family

Typha domingensis Southern Reedmace Ditches

Xanthorrhoeaceae Asphodel Family

Asphodeline lutea Yellow Asphodel Locally common

Asphodelus ramosus Branched Asphodel Common

Zosteraceae Eel-grass Family

Zostera marina Eel-grass Marine

Birds (✓= recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

							October/November					
	Common name	Scientific name	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4		
1	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta						2				
2	Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo								2		
3	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus					2	1				
4	Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo		1	4	2	3	4	4			
5	Booted Eagle	Hieraaetus pennatus				2						
6	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus					1	2				
7	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus							1			
8	Black-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus ridibundus							2			
9	Yellow-legged Gull	Larus michahellis				10	8	2	2			
10	Caspian Gull	Larus cachinnans					2					
11	Lesser Black-backed Gull	Larus fuscus fuscus					1	3	2			
12	Feral Pigeon	Columba livia	<b>✓</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>✓</b>		
13	Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
14	Little Owl	Athene noctua							2			
15	Common Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis					2	1	1	1		
16	European Green Woodpecker	Picus viridis							Н			
17	Common Magpie	Pica pica	16		20	6	4	3	4	10		

			October/November							
	Common name	Scientific name	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
18	Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius		1	20	4	2	6	6	
19	Western Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula				30			30	
20	Hooded Crow	Corvus cornix	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Northern Raven	Corvus corax		4	1		1	2	3	
22	Great Tit	Parus major		2	1	2		Н		
23	Coal Tit	Periparus ater		1			4			
24	Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus		2	2			2	1	
25	Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus			10		Н			
26	Eurasian Nuthatch	Sitta europaea			Н					
27	Western Rock Nuthatch	Sitta neumayer						3	3	
28	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica						2		
29	Eurasian Crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris						4		
30	Cetti's Warbler	Cettia cetti			1	Н	Н	1		
31	Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus							1	
32	Common Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita					1	1	1	
33	Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla		Н	Н	Н	Н	Н	5	
34	Sardinian Warbler	Sylvia melanocephala			1		Н	2	Н	
35	Common Firecrest	Regulus ignicapilla		1	Н	Н	Н	Н		
36	Winter Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes		1	Н					
37	Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris				30	30			
38	Common Blackbird	Turdus merula		2		1	2	1		
39	Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus		1						
40	European Robin	Erithacus rubecula		2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
41	Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros		4		4	8	20	15	
42	European Stonechat	Saxicola torquata			2	3		2		
43	Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius					3	1	2	
44	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
45	Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea		2	1		1	2	6	
46	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba		3	2	4	2		1	
47	Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs		<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	
48	European Serin	Serinus serinus				6			Н	
49	European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris							8	
50	European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis		30	6	10	Н	4		
51	Common Linnet	Carduelis cannabina		20	1					
52	Corn Bunting	Emberiza calandra		6						
53	Cirl Bunting	Emberiza cirlus		3	2					

Mammals (D = dead; E = evidence of)

Red Fox, *Vulpes vulpes*Eastern Hedgehog, *Erinaceus concolor,* D
Beech Marten, *Martes foina*, D

Brown Hare, Lepus capensis
Badger, Meles meles, D
Mole, Talpa europaea, E

#### Reptiles

Balkan Green Lizard, *Lacerta trilineata*Peloponnese Wall Lizard, *Podarcis peloponnesiacus*Greek Algyroides, *Algyroides moreoticus* 

Balkan Wall Lizard, *Podarcis taurica*Greek Rock Lizard, *Hellenolacerta graeca*Balkan Whip Snake, *Hierophis gemonensis* 

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#### **Amphibians**

Green Toad, Bufo viridis, D

#### **Butterflies**

Large White, Pieris brassicae Clouded Yellow, Colias crocea Plain Tiger, Danaus chrysippus Painted Lady, Vanessa cardui Peacock, Inachis io

Southern Comma, Polygonia egea Wall Brown, Lasiommata megera

Sage Skipper, Syrichtus proto

Moths

Hummingbird Hawk-moth, Macroglossum stellatarum Pine Processionary Moth, Thaumetopoea pityocampa

Dragonflies

Common Darter, Sympetrum striolatum Scarlet Darter, Crocothemis erythraea

Other Insects

Violet Carpenter Bee, Xylocopa violacea Praying Mantis, Mantis religiosa Blue-winged Grasshopper, Oedipoda caerulescens Roesel's Bush Cricket, Metrioptera roeselii Fire Bug, Spilostethus pandurus

Small White, Artogeia rapae Brown Argus, Aricia agestis Red Admiral, Vanessa atalanta Small Tortoiseshell, Aglais urticae Comma, Polygonia c-album

Queen of Spain Fritillary, Issoria lathonia Large Wall Brown, Lasiommata maera

Mediterranean Skipper, Gegenes nostradamus

Spurge Hawk-moth (larva), Hyles euphorbiae

Blue Emperor, Anax imperator

Oriental Hornet, Vesps orientalis Nosed Grasshopper, Acrida ungarica Red-winged Grasshopper, Oedipoda germanica Field Cricket, Gryllus campestris Devil's Coach Horse, Ocypus olens

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