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

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



#### Iris humilis ssp. arenaria

Annex II, IV Priority No

Species group Vascular plants

Regions Continental, Pannonian

Iris humilis ssp. arenaria is a small yellow flowering Monocot which can be found in rocky, steppic and dry grasslands, The plant grows in the following habitats: (6120) Xeric sand calcareous grasslands, (6240\*) Sub-pannonic steppic grasslands, (6190) Rupicolous pannonic grasslands (Stipo-Festucetalia pallentis), (6260) Pannonic sand steppes, (9110) Euro-Siberian steppic woods with Quercus spp., (91N0) Pannonic inland sand dune thicket (Junipero-Populetum albae). The species is native to Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine, and Russia. In the EU 27 the center of its population is in the Hungarian Pannonian region. It is assessed as Data Deficient (DD) in IUCN European Redlist (as Iris humilis, with I. humilis subsp. arenaria as synonym) and it is listed on national Red Lists like Czechia, Austria, Endangered (EN) and Hungary, Near Threatened, (NT).

The species is mainly distributed in the Pannonian biogeographical region but since the regions delineation was done considering administrative boarders the species is also listed in the Continental biogeographical region of Austria. The species is "Unfavourable Inadequate" in both biogeographical regions, since the actual population is smaller than the favourable reference population and Future Prospects are poor.

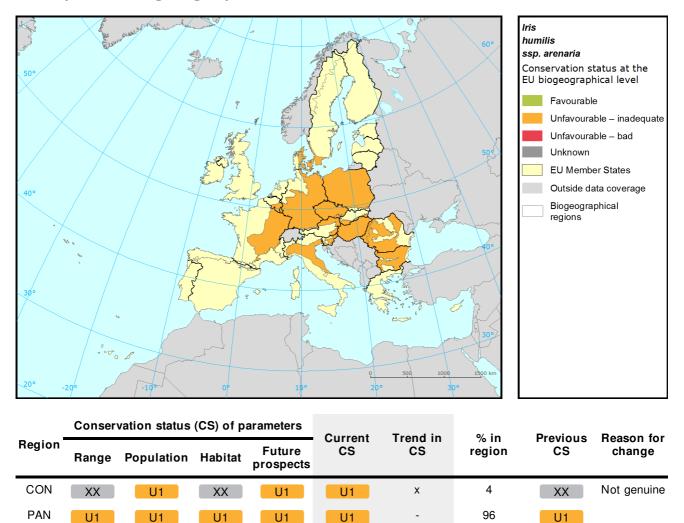
The main threat to the species is the abandonment of pastoral systems.

No changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 reports in Pannonian region. The species was not reported from Continental region 2001-06.

Better data required from Romania.

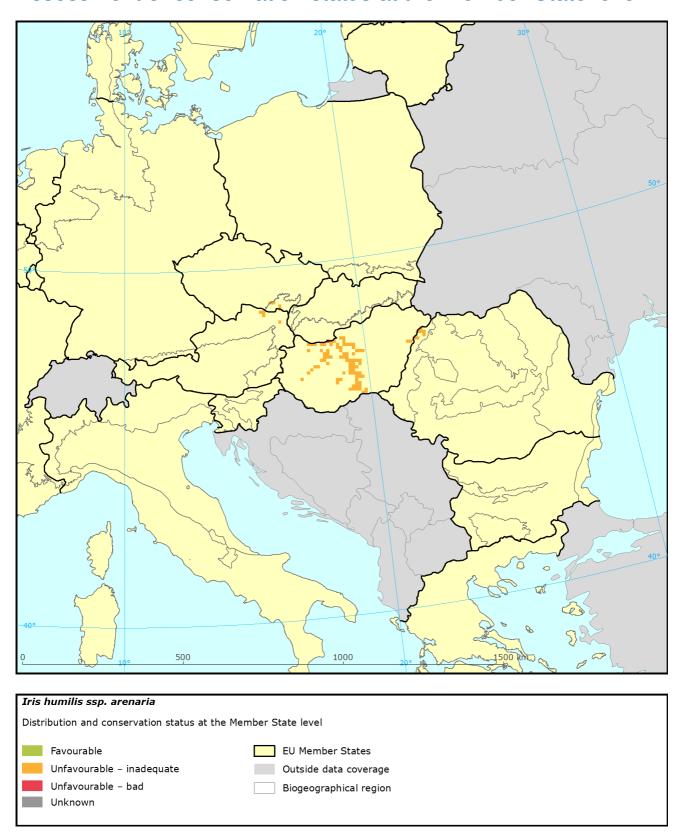
Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



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

#### Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



The map shows both Conservation Status and distribution using a  $10 \text{ km} \times 10 \text{ km}$  grid. Conservation status is assessed at biogeographical level. Therefore the representation in each grid cell is only illustrative.

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

MS Region		Conservation status of parameters				Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	for change
AT	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	100.0		
RO	CON	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
CZ	PAN	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	4.2	U1	
HU	PAN	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	87.5	U1	Genuine
RO	PAN	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1		7.3		
SK	PAN	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	=	1.0	U2	

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
A04	Grazing by livestock	20
101	Invasive alien species	20
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	20
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	10
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	10
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	10
K04	Interspecific floral relations	10

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

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

Code	Activity	Frequency
A04	Grazing by livestock	18
I01	Invasive alien species	18
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	18
K05	Reduced fecundity/Genetic depression	18
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	9
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	9
K04	Interspecific floral relations	9

## 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

	CON	PAN
AT	86	
CZ		100
HU		79
RO	0	100
SK		75

See the endnotes for more information ii

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
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	33
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	17
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	17
2.0	Other agriculture-related measures	8
3.1	Restoring/improving forest habitats	8
3.2	Adapt forest management	8
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	8

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=Iris+humilis+ssp.+arenaria

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

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.

iiPercentage 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.