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

European Environment Agency *European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity*



Lactuca watsoniana

Annex II, IV Priority Yes

Species group Vascular plants **Regions** Macaronesian

The plant *Lactuca watsoniana* is endemic to the Azores, Portugal (Macaronesian region). It grows in (6180) Macaronesian mesophile grasslands and (9560) Endemic forests with *Juniperus spp*. The species has a opportunistic ecology, and occur at the edge and in openings in wet forests and at disturbed places in wet grasslands and fens. The ecology of the species as opportunist, stress the conservation of the populations as they are very sensitive to change in the communities and can fluctuate (change its size) very quickly with changed environment. There are some population with more than 20 years and still look very stable, but others have disappearing. All the population have small numbers of reproductive individuals, less than 500 and some have less than 10 reproductive plants. The IUCN European Red List classifies the species as Endangered (EN).

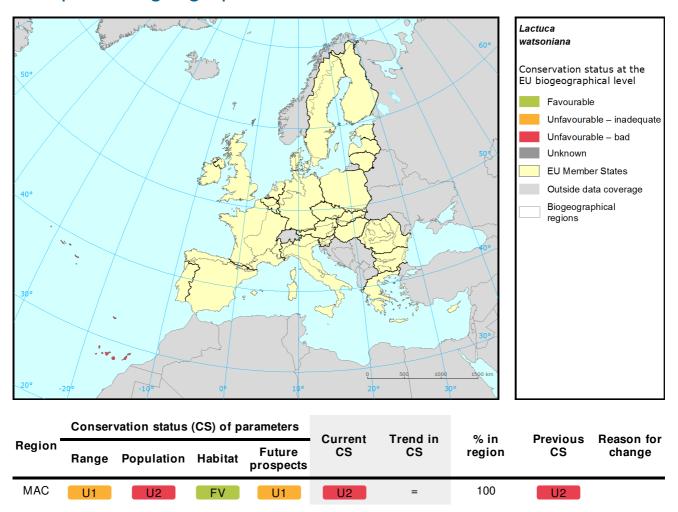
The previous and the current conservation status were assessed as "Unfavourable Bad" due to the small population although it is stable.

The species is very sensitive to introduced rabbits and show a negative correlation with the density of this species and threatened mostly by anthropogenic reduction of habitat, invasive non-native species, removal of hedges and copses or scrub and damage by herbivores.

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

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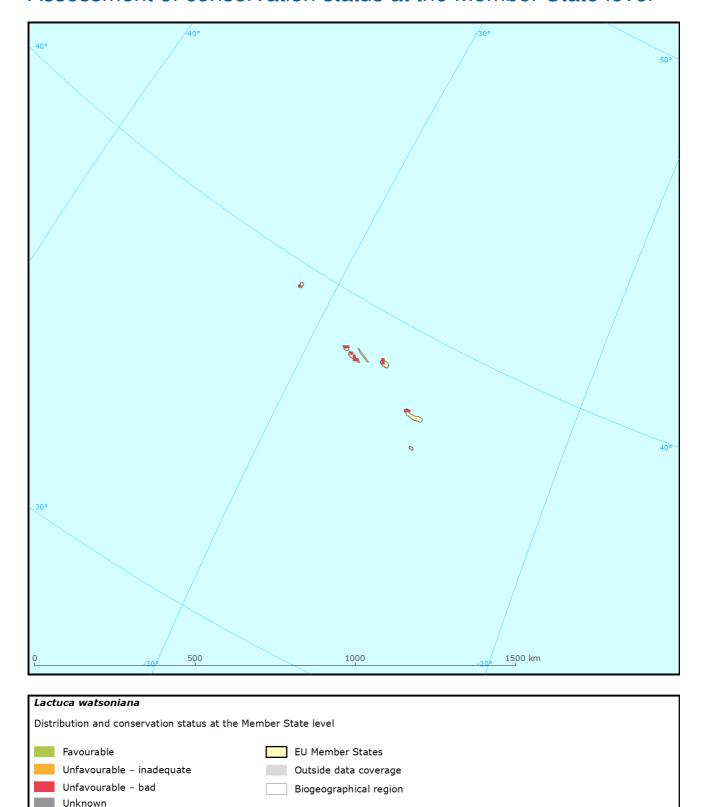
Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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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.

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_	Conservation status of parameters				Current	Trond in	9/ in	Drovious	Reason
MS Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	for change
PT MAC	U1	U2	FV	U1	U2	=	100.0	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
I01	Invasive alien species	20
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	20
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	20
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	20
K04	Interspecific floral relations	20

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	33
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	33
K04	Interspecific floral relations	33

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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

	MAC
PT	100

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
2.0	Other agriculture-related measures	20
3.0	Other forestry-related measures	20
4.0	Other wetland-related measures	20
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	20
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	20

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=Lactuca+watsoniana

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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.

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.