

Catalogue of the plants and other traditionally considered vegetal organisms of the Botanic Garden of the University of Coimbra

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Abstract

Within a four years floristic project, funded by the Foundation Calouste Gulbenkian, I have been studying the vascular flora of the Botanic Garden of Coimbra (centre of Portugal). This very small area (about 0.135 km²), situated north of the river Mondego, very close to its right margin, ranges from 20 to 90 m above the sea level and is totally included inside the city of Coimbra, near the old University (municipality of Coimbra, district of Coimbra, province of Beira Litoral).

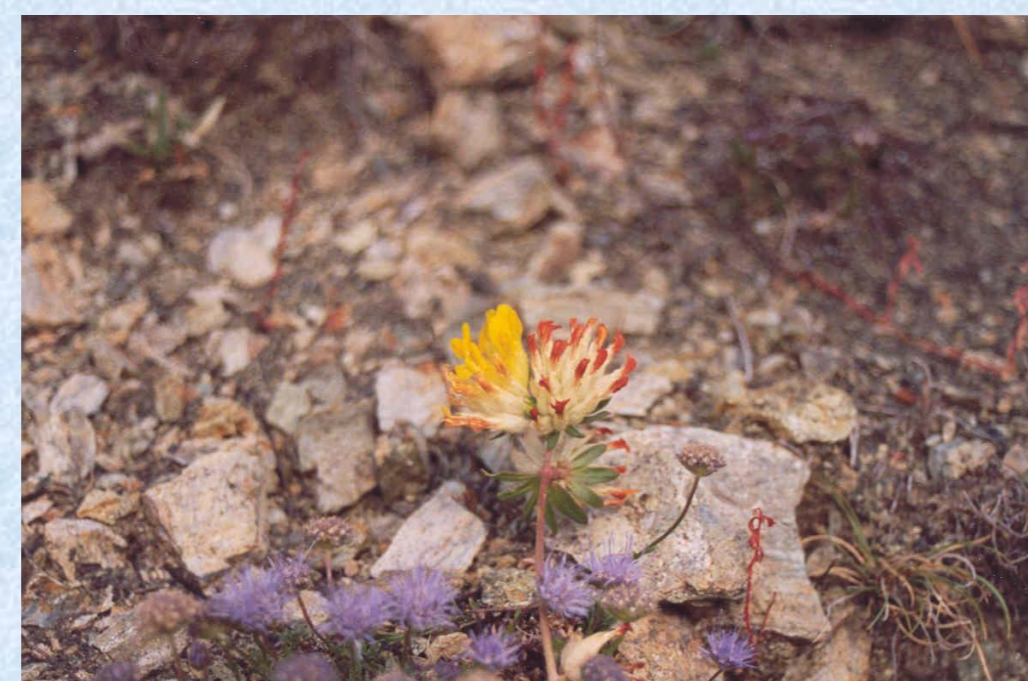
Arenitic rocks are the dominant rocks, but there are also present many calcareous walls, with a rich chasmophytic and vegetation; and there are also many calcareous pools and tanks, with aquatic vegetation.

Inside this very rich garden, it's possible to find spontaneous and naturalised vegetation from several classes of vegetation: *Charetea fragilis*: charophyte pioneer communities growing on subaquatic soils of pools (a basophilous fresh-water *Chara* sp. community); *Potametea*: aquatic fresh-water macrophyte communities, with rooted hydrophytes and water elodeids and nymphaeids (*Egeria densa*, *Elodea canadensis*, *Nuphar luteum*, *Nymphaea alba*, *Nymphaea capensis* in calcareous pools and tanks); *Adiantetea*: hydrophilic chasmophyte fern, seed plant and bryophyte communities (with *Adiantum capillus-veneris*, etc.); *Anomodonto-Polypodietae*: epiphytic and comophytic communities dominated by rhizomatous ferns, bryophytes and seed plants (*Frullania tamarisci*, *Polypodium interjectum*, *Selaginella denticulata*, *Umbilicus rupestris*); *Parietarietea*: urban anthropogenic wall chasmophyte nitrophilous communities (with plants as *Anredera cordifolia*, *Asplenium ceterach*, *Asplenium trichomanes* subsp. *quadrivalens*, *Cymbalaria muralis*, *Erigeron karwinskianus*, *Ficus carica*, *Hyoscyamus albus*, *Parietaria judaica*, *Trachelium caeruleum*, *Umbilicus rupestris*, etc.); *Stellarietea mediae*: annual ephemeral weed, nitrophilous and seminitrophilous communities of synanthropic vegetation (with many species as *Anagallis arvensis*, *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Avena barbata*, *Calendula arvensis*, *Capsella bursa-pastoris*, *Catapodium rigidum*, *Cerastium glomeratum*, *Chenopodium album*, *Digitaria sanguinalis*, *Ecballium elaterium*, *Erigeron canadensis*, *Erigeron sumatrensis*, *Euphorbia peplus*, *Fumaria muralis*, *Galinsoga parviflora*, *Geranium molle*, *Hibiscus trionum*, *Hirschfeldia incana*, *Hordeum murinum*, *Kickxia spuria* subsp. *integrifolia*, *Lamium amplexicaule*, *Lamium purpureum*, *Malva hispanica*, *Misopates orontium*, *Oxalis corniculata*, *Oxalis latifolia*, *Oxalis pes-caprae*, *Papaver rhoeas*, *Portulaca oleracea*, *Rostraria cristata*, *Rumex pulcher* subsp. *woodsii*, *Senecio vulgaris*, *Setaria verticillata*, *Silene gallica*, *Stellaria media*, *Solanum nigrum*, *Sonchus oleraceus*, *Veronica persica*). Several species from the ultrabasic rocks areas from NE Portugal (District of Bragança) have been cultivated in the Botanic Garden of Coimbra: *Quercus rotundifolia*, *Alyssum serpyllifolium* subsp. *lusitanicum*, *Anthyllis vulneraria* subsp. *sampaioana*, *Trifolium bocconeii*, *Seseli montanum* subsp. *peixotoanum*, *Linaria aeruginea*, *Micropyrum tenellum*, *Periballia involucrata*, *Taeniatherum caput-medusae*, *Trisetaria ovata*, etc.

An inventory of the vascular flora of this old garden (originally from the seventeenth century and destined to the cultivation of medicinal plants) is being prepared. More than seven thousand traditionally considered vegetal species, subspecies, varieties and hybrids, including algae, cyanobacteria, fungi, hepaticae, hornworts, mosses and vascular plants (native, naturalised and cultivated) will be included.



Alyssum serpyllifolium Desf.
subsp. *lusitanicum* Dudley & P.
Silva (*Brassicaceae*)



Anthyllis vulneraria L. ssp.
sampaioana (Rothm.) Vasc. (*Fabaceae*)
+ *Jasione crispa* (Pourr.) Samp.
(*Campanulaceae*)



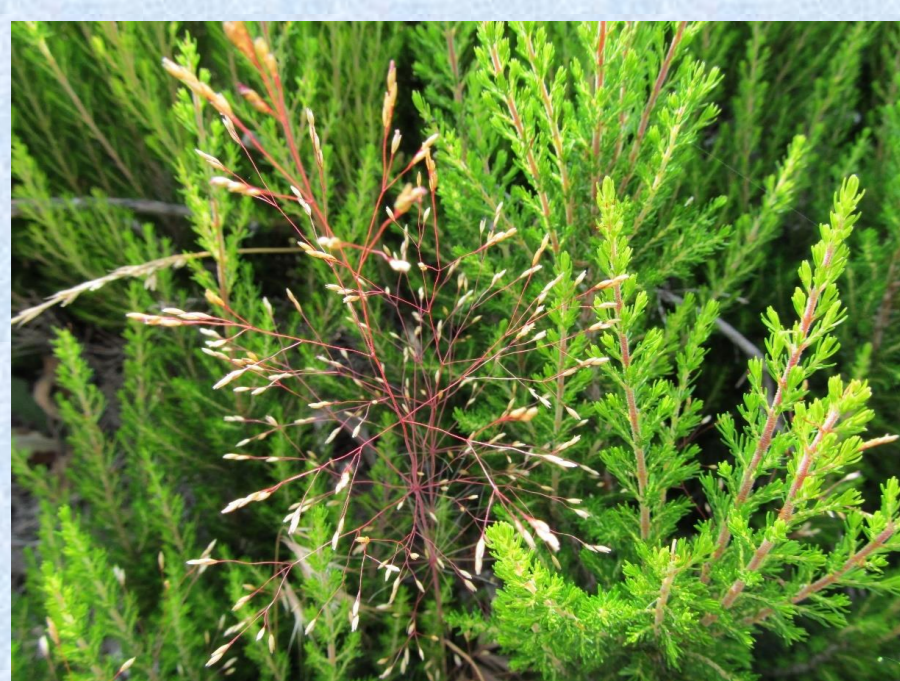
Anthyllis vulneraria L. ssp.
sampaioana (Rothm.)
Vasc. (*Fabaceae*) cultivated in the
BG of Coimbra



Campanula lusitanica L.
(*Campanulaceae*) + *Logfia*
minima (Sm.) Dumort.
(*Asteraceae*) + *Micropyrum*
tenellum (L.) Link (*Poaceae*)



Linaria aeruginea (Gouan) Cav.
(*Plantaginaceae*)



Periballia involucrata (Cav.) Janka
(*Poaceae*)



Phleum Bertolonii DC. (*Poaceae*)



Quercus rotundifolia Lam.
(*Fagaceae*)



Quercus rotundifolia Lam.
(*Fagaceae*)



Quercus rotundifolia Lam.
(*Fagaceae*)



Seseli Peixotoanum Samp.
(*Apiaceae*)



Taeniatherum Caput-medusae
(L.) Nevski (*Poaceae*)



Trifolium Bocconeii Savi (*Fabaceae*)



Trisetaria ovata (Cav.) Paunero
(*Poaceae*)

Acknowledgement

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