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Flora and vegetation of the European-network “Natura 2000” habitats of Naxos island (GR4220014) and of nearby islets Mikres Kyklades (GR4220013), Central Aegean (Greece)

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Abstract

Vegetation of the European-network ‘Natura 2000’ conservation areas of Naxos island and of nearby islets Mikres Kyklades, including calcareous rocky slope, maquis, phrygana, coastal cliff, dune, marshland, wet meadow, reed bed and aquatic habitats, was studied during 2000. The flora of the investigated regions consists of 365 taxa belonging to 78 families and 247 genera, some of which are endemic or rare in Greece. The majority of the represented in the life form spectrum taxa are Therophytes, Hemicryptophytes, Geophytes and Chamaephytes. From a chorological point of view, the Mediterranean element outweighs the rest, followed by the most diverse group of widespread taxa. The macrophytic vegetation was analysed following the Braun-Blanquet method. Twenty nine plant communities-among them one described for the first time (*Theligono cynocrambis-Parietarium lusitanicae*), belonging to nineteen alliances, eighteen orders and fifteen phytosociological classes, were found. The distinguished vegetation units are described, presented in phytosociological tables and compared with similar communities from other Mediterranean countries. In the study area seventeen habitat types were delimited through the assessment of the dominant vegetation types, of which fifteen are listed in Annex I of the 92/43/EU Habitats Directive and two (934A, 1260) are additional Hellenic habitat types (not included in the Directive). Among them three (1150, 2250, 3170) are considered as priority habitat types, while the Hellenic habitat type 1260 is considered as rare in the Natura 2000 sites of Greece.

Key words: flora, Greece, habitat types, insular ecosystems, vegetation.

Introduction

The aim of the current study is to provide an inventory of the flora, vegetation and habitat types encountered in the Natura 2000 conservation areas GR4220014 (Kentriki Kai Notia Naxos: Zas Kai Vigla Eos Mavrovouni Kai Thalassia Zoni (Ormos Karades - Ormos Moutsounas) and GR4220013 (Mikres Kyklades: Irakleia, Schoinoussa, Koufonisia, Keros, Antikeria Kai Thalassia Zoni) (Fig. 1). The island of Naxos and the nearby islets Mikres Kiklades belong to the insular group of Kiklades which according to the phytogeographical subdivision of the Aegean area established by Rechinger (1943) and the floristic division of Greece adopted for the Flora Hellenica (Strid 1996) is a floristically different bloc of islands, distinctly separated from the regions distinguished to the west, south and east. Rechinger (1943) pointed out clearly that Kiklades are phytogeographically distinct from the East Aegean Islands. Furthermore, Runemark (1970) recognized the complete phytogeographical isolation of most central Aegean islands for a very long time, adopting that the central Aegean archipelago is the remains of a land bridge between southern Greece and western Turkey, which was submerged at the beginning of Pleistocene. Strid (1996) proposed the name “Rechinger’s line” to be used for the interval between

Kiklades and the East Aegean Islands, which in fact constitutes the phytogeographical borderline between Europe and Asia.

Kiklades have attracted the interest of botanists for many years and are one of the best known areas of Greece from a floristic and phytogeographical point of view. Nowadays, a large amount of floristic (Greuter *et al.*, 1976; Raus, 1996, 2012; Browicz, 1997; Biel, 2005; Snogerup *et al.*, 2006; Kougioumoutzis *et al.*, 2012;) and at a lower extent of phytosociological data (Tsiourlis *et al.*, 2007, 2009; Bergmeier *et al.*, 2011) concerning these islands, is available. These data also include many rare, Greek endemic, regional endemic, single island endemic (Dimopoulos *et al.*, 2013, Iliadou *et al.*, 2014), vulnerable and threatened species (Phitos *et al.*, 2009).

Bibliographic reports on plants from the study areas mainly issue from the extensive Rechinger’s work (1943, 1950, 1951), in which former records mentioned by Halácsy (1900-1904; 1908; 1912) are also included. Related information regarding the islands of interest are scattered in some more recent publications as well (Karavokyrou & Tzanoudakis, 1991; Paulus & Gack, 1992; Koumpli & Yannitsaros, 1993; Turland *et al.*, 1993; Kretzschmar & Kretzschmar, 1996; Delforge *et al.*, 1998; Rückbrodt *et al.*, 1998; Seiser, 2002; Langagen, 2004). Böhling (1995, 1997) studied thorou-

ghly the flora of Naxos and revealed 56 floristically interesting species, among which *Bonannia graeca* (L.) Halácsy, rediscovered in Greece after more than 85 years.

Study area

Locations

The site “Mikres Kyklades: Irakleia, Schoinoussa, Koufonisia, Keros, Antikeria Kai Thalassia Zoni” (GR4220013) is a group of rocky and relatively bare islets south-southeast of Naxos island (E 25°58'9" N 36°92'6") that occupies a total area of 126 Km². The islands of Iraklia, Keros, Schinoussa, Ano Koufonisi and Kato Koufonisi are the larger in size, while the highest peak of 418 m is found on the islands of Iraklia. The site hosts endemic species of flora (Diapoulis, 1961; Runemark *et al.*, 1960; Runemark, 1968; Krendl, 1986; Turland *et al.*, 1993) and fauna and it is also important for migratory birds (Karandinos, 1992). The whole island complex has a low number of inhabitants but during the past several years activities in the touristic field have been increasingly developed.

The site “Kentriki Kai Notia Naxos: Zas Kai Vigla Eos Mavrovouni Kai Thalassia Zoni (Ormos Karades - Ormos Moutsounas)” (GR4220014), covers an area of approximately 87 Km² and includes a montane zone running the island from north to south. It also covers the coastal area from Vigla to the west side up to Moutsouna at the east side of the island (E 25°46'0" N 36°94'7"). The passes between the highest mountains (900 - 1000 m) are all 600 or more meters wide and the lower end, near the southernmost tip, reaches 420 m.

The rocky mountainous area of the site is mainly covered by low phrygana and high or mesic maquis vegetation. Throughout the area, there are many narrow intermittent streams, springs and wells. In the coastal area of the site, there is a wide variety of alternating habitats such as small lagoons, mud flats, sea cliffs, sandy beaches, rocky shores, shingle beaches with perennial plants and sand dunes. The great variety of habitat types in combination with the high diversity of flora and fauna make the whole area one of the most important sites in the central Aegean Sea (Dafis *et al.*, 1996). Parts of the site have also been characterized as a special protection area (SPA) under the European Union Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (2009).

Geology

The islands of Naxos and the Mikres Kiklades belong to a polyphase complex mainly composed of metamorphic and plutonic rocks. These crystalline rocks of Central Aegean have been summarized under the term “Attic-Cycladic massif”, which is overlain by Neogene and Pleistocene sedimentary rocks (Hejl *et al.*, 2003; Urai *et al.*, 1990).

The shoreline of Naxos mainly consists of concaved beach zones separated by small headlands. Some of the coastal plains, as in Agiassos and Kalandos, are composed largely of Quaternary alluvia. According to Evelpidou *et al.* (2012) during Late Holocene the embayments of western coastal part of the island did not communicate with sea and were frequently exposed. The coastal area was wider with many active lagoons and embayment, changing from shallow marine to



Fig. 1 - Study area: the two Natura 2000 sites and their location in Greece.

coastal environment. In addition, there was frequently an alternation to brackish mesohaline one. The former sea-level position in the western part of the island must have been between 1.5 m and 2 m during the last 2000 years, which may partly reflect eustatic processes and a gradual or coseismic land subsidence. The western region of the island is dominated by a peneplain situated at a mean height of 230 m, between the town of Naxos and the valley of Melanes. In a very similar way, the south-eastern extension of the peneplain also dominates the landscape of ‘Tragea’ (Hejl *et al.*, 2003). Büdel (1965, 1977) and Louis (1967) have mentioned that the morphological style of Naxos demonstrates a broad similarity to the current peneplains in the semi humid tropics. The weathering basal relief of Naxos peneplain has been mainly exhumed since its genesis. Sediments provided by the denudation of tropical weathering material are preserved at the bottom of flat floored valleys. Remnants of a younger coastal pediment are preserved to the S of Galanado. On the basis of climato-eomorphological arguments, Riedl (1984) has proposed an Upper Miocene or Lower Pliocene age for Naxos’ peneplain. The assumption of a marginal tropical climate of that period is supported by palaeoecological investigations (Thunnell & Williams, 1983; Velitzelos & Zouros, 1998).

Climate

According to the xerothermic index (x) introduced by Bagnouls & Gaussen (1953) and as Tselepidakis & Theocharatos (1989) concluded, Kiklades islands are in the zone of the accentuated thermomediterranean climate, where the mean number of dry days per year varies from 125 to 150. The use of xerothermic index besides temperature and precipitation gives better results for the calculation of the dry period. The xerothermic index reflects the intensity of this period in a given region and represents the total number of biologically dry days of the dry months which are defined by the ombrothermic diagram of the region. Based on Emberger’s (1955, 1959) and Sauvage’s (1963) climatic classifications, the meteorological station of Naxos belongs to the semi-arid bioclimatic zone.

Materials and Methods

The floristic, phytosociological and habitat records given in the present study are based on data collected during the spring and summer of 2000 within the framework of the Natura 2000 Vegetation and Habitat Identification and Mapping project. For the study of the flora, 506 plant specimens were collected and identified in the Institute of Systematic Botany, University of Athens. To determine the plant material, Tutin *et al.* (1968-80, 1993) was mainly used, but Davis (1965-85) and Strid & Tan (1997, 2002) were also consulted.

The taxonomy and nomenclature of taxa follows Dimopoulos *et al.* (2013). It must be clarified here that the provided list is not the result of a complete floristic investigation of the area but the outcome of the phytosociological relevés and some field observations. Life-form classification is according to Raunkiaer (1934) and Ellenberg & Mueller-Dombois (1967). For the chorological types, the ‘Greece-centered’ system established by Dimopoulos *et al.* (2013) was used.

For the description and mapping of the prevailing vegetation units, 132 relevés (vegetation sample plots) were made in the field according to the Braun-Blanquet method (Westhoff & Van der Maarel 1980; Kent & Coker, 1992) (see also Fig 1 and Appendix 2). The cover-abundance degree was estimated by using the extended (9-point) Braun-Blanquet scale (Barkman *et al.*, 1964). The collected vegetation samples (relevés) were subsequently elaborated according to the synthetic approach proposed by Knapp (1958) and Ellenberg (1956). This approach leads to the distinction of the community types and to their final classification into higher syntaxonomic units. Diagnostic-taxa (character-species, differential species, constant companions) were found and a syntaxonomic interpretation was attained. Vegetation units were defined based on an assessment of species fidelity and are given in phytosociological tables (Tab. 2-14) Syntaxonomic nomenclature is mainly based on Géhu *et al.* (1990), Brullo *et al.* (1997; 2004), Mucina (1997), Brullo & Minisale (1998), Rivas-Martínez *et al.* (2001; 2002; 2011), Díez-Garretas *et al.* (2003), Sýkora *et al.* (2003), Biondi (2007), Mucina *et al.* (2009), Asensi & Díez-Garretas (2011), Bergmeier *et al.* (2011), Dimopoulos *et al.* (2013), Biondi & Galdenzi (2014). It should be mentioned that the aim of the current study is not to describe new phytosociological types but rather to offer a tool for detecting, describing and eventually monitoring the Annex I habitats type with the use of plant communities. For this reason the reported vegetation types are mostly described as plant communities, without reaching a detailed definition at the association level limiting the phytosociological interpretation at the alliance level.

The delimitation and classification of habitats were achieved through the evaluation of the dominant vegetation types and their diagnostic species, as described in Lavrentiades (1964, 1971), Horvat *et al.* (1974), Babalonas (1979), Grabherr & Mucina (1993), Mucina *et al.* (1993), Dimopoulos *et al.* (1995), and Sýkora *et al.* (2003). The coding of the distinct habitats follows Dafis *et al.* (1999, 2001), the Interpretation Manual of EU Habitat types (2007, 2013) and Dimopoulos *et al.*, (2006).

In order to perform data analysis, Braun-Blanquet cover abundance values were transformed so as to be treated as if they were metric, based on the idea first

published by Van Der Maarel (1979a). As proposed by Wildi (2010) the Braun-Blanquet code was first transformed into a proper rank scale with a range from 0 to 6. The rank scale was further transformed according to $x' = x^y$, where x' is the transformed score. Due to the presence of several accidental (see also Appendix 3) and non-typical species ('other species'), y was set to 4 so as to suppress low scores (Wildi 2010).

Hierarchical clustering of the total of 132 transformed phytosociological relevés was performed by using the "vegan" package in the R statistical environment (R Development Core Team 2012), following the analysis described in Oksanen (2013) and Oksanen *et al.* (2013). Three agglomerative clustering methods have been tested: single, complete and average linkage clustering. Cophenetic correlation was used to measure the similarity between original dissimilarities and dissimilarities estimated from the tree produced by each clustering method. Average linkage (UPGMA) method maximizes the cophenetic correlation.

Results and Discussion

Flora

The vascular flora of the investigated sites includes 365 taxa (350 species and 15 subspecies) of 247 genera and 78 families (see Appendix 1). Among the families identified, *Poaceae* is the most diverse (48 taxa), followed by *Fabaceae* (46 taxa), *Asteraceae* (45 taxa), *Apiaceae* (20 taxa), *Caryophyllaceae* (18 taxa) and *Brassicaceae* (13 taxa). Only six of the species found in the study areas are *Pteridophyta*, while the rest are all *Spermatophyta*. Twelve taxa are of special chorological interest (Strid & Tan 1997; 2002, Dimopoulos *et al.*, 2013) and are preceded by an asterisk in the plant list and commented below:

- *Hymenonema graecum*: Endemic to S. Aegean region (Sell, 1976), known only from the Kiklades. Its presence in Kasos and Kriti is rather questionable. It occurs in coastal habitats, roadsides and stony places.

- *Filago cretensis*: This species is an Aegean Islands endemic, occurring in xeric Mediterranean phrygana and grasslands.

- *Limonium graecum*: This species was widely distributed in the study area but in Greece it is known solely from Kiklades and the East Aegean Islands. It was encountered in Ano Koufonisi, Kato Koufonisi and Keros islands on coastal cliffs sprayed by seawater and in dune thickets with *Juniperus macrocarpa* in Naxos.

- *Dianthus cinnamoneus* subsp. *cinnamoneus*: Greek endemic subspecies that occurs on limestone cliffs and rocky or gravelly places in phrygana, on calcareous and siliceous substrates. Previous Greek records of this taxon are from Kiklades, Kasos and Kriti. This taxon was observed in Naxos on gravelly areas vegetated by phrygana consisting of *Sarcopoterium spinosum*, *Helichrysum stoechas* subsp. *barrelieri* and *Genista acanthoclada*.

sum, *Helichrysum stoechas* subsp. *barrelieri* and *Genista acanthoclada*.

- *Staezelina fruticosa*: A Greek endemic species, recorded only from Kiklades, Kriti, Kasos and the East Aegean Islands. It is a typical representative of chasmophytic vegetation that occurs on rock faces, calcareous cliffs, fissures, walls, ravines and boulders.

- *Silene sartorii*: Greek endemic species, mainly distributed in the Kiklades, just reaching coasts of easternmost Attiki and Argolis Peninsula. It prefers gravelly seashores and it rarely occurs in open flats and fallow fields further inland. In the study area the species was associated with communities of the *Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophiletea australis* class established on sand-dunes along the western coastline of Naxos.

- *Leontodon graecus*: Endemic to Greece scattered throughout Ionian and Greek Aegean archipelagos except of Kriti and Kasos. It is fairly distributed in mainland but absent from Northern Pindos, North Central and North East. It dwells at dry and mesic meadows and pastures, rock outcrops and stony ground, forest edges and grassy non-ruderal verges. In the investigated area, this species was encountered in calcareous cliffs of mountain Zefs in Naxos.

- *Aethionema saxatile* subsp. *creticum*: Greek endemic subspecies scattered in Kriti, Kiklades, East Aegean Islands, SE Peloponnisos and Kithira. It occurs in rocky limestone slopes, calcareous cliffs and in xeric Mediterranean phrygana and grasslands.

- *Arenaria aegaea*: It is an Aegean Islands endemic species that prefers maritime limestone rocks, mainly on islets, more rarely on larger islands of the Kiklades and the East Aegean. It also occurs in Peloponnisos, Kasos and small islands north of Kriti but it is absent from Kriti itself. According to Strid & Tan (1997) *A. aegaea* is closely related to *Arenaria leptoclados* (Rchb.) Guss. and may represent a maritime ecotype of it.

- *Tordylium hirtocarpum*: Known from Kiklades, Kriti, Kasos and the East Aegean Islands. It occurs in Mediterranean dwarf shrub formations and in annual-rich communities of pastures and lowland screes.

- *Umbilicus parviflorus*: Rare in Greece, scattered in Kiklades, Kriti, Kasos and the East Aegean Islands on limestone cliffs, rocks, walls, ravines and boulders.

- *Callitriche brutia*: Rare in Greece. Notes on its presence are given by Sarika-Hatzinikolaou *et al.* (1996). Its distribution range in Greek Aegean Islands includes Naxos (Böhling 1995), where the species was found in a dried up temporary pond (Mt Zefs, alt. 470 m).

The biological spectrum (Fig. 2) reveals the predominance of Therophytes (187 taxa), which are followed by Hemicyptophytes (63 taxa), Geophytes (46 taxa), and Chamaephytes (43 taxa). Phanerophytes (21 taxa) are also well represented whereas Aquatics (3 taxa) occur in a very low percentage. The high percentage of Therophytes in the study area is in accordance with its

bio-climatological position (semi-arid with an intense thermo-Mediterranean character) and with literature data demonstrating Therophytes as predominant life form in the Mediterranean coastal and insular ecosystems (García *et al.*, 1993; Panitsa *et al.*, 2003; 2004; Sarika, 2012). It is widely accepted that the predominance of Therophytes in the above mentioned ecosystems seems to be related not only to the climate but also to the mismanagement and degradation of the natural habitats and it is usually considered as an indicator of disturbances (Arianoutsou & Margaritis, 1981, Barbero *et al.*, 1990, Panitsa *et al.*, 1994, Panitsa & Tzanoudakis, 1998, Panitsa *et al.*, 2003; etc). It is also well known that the presence of phryganic or maquis communities dominated by *Sarcopoterium spinosum* and *Quercus coccifera* respectively, which thrive in our areas, is indicative of former agricultural activities and of cutting or burning events (Economidou, 1976; Vlachos, 2006).

The chorological spectrum (Fig. 3) shows the Mediterranean element outweighing the rest. It represents the largest group, including 285 taxa (80%), 214 of which are Mediterranean (Mediterranean, E Mediterranean, Greek Endemic, Balkan, Balkan-Anatolian) and 71 Mediterranean-extra-Mediterranean (Mediterranean-Atlantic, Mediterranean-European and Mediterranean-SW Asian). The group of widespread taxa includes a great number of elements (European, Euro-Siberian, European-SW Asian, Cosmopolitan, Circumtemperate, Paleotemperate, Subtropical-Tropical [S-Afr.]) and it is represented by 68 taxa (20%).

Vegetation and Habitat types

The elaboration of data collected during the field vegetation analysis revealed 29 plant communities, that belong to the following classes: *Asplenietea trichomanis*, *Isoeto-Nano-Juncetea*, *Quercetea ilicis*, *Cistomicromerietea julianae*, *Nerio-Tamaricetea*, *Crithmo-Staticetea*, *Stellarietea mediae*, *Cakiletea maritimae*, *Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophiletea australis*, *Thero-Brachypodietea*, *Sarcocornietea fruticosae*, *Juncetea maritimi*, *Phragmito-Magno-Caricetea*, *Potametea* and *Ruppiaetea* (see syntaxonomical scheme). From the delimitation and classification of habitats, seventeen different types were recognized, fifteen of which are included in Annex I of the Directive 92/43/EU, while 1260 named “sublittoral zone of the islets of the Aegean” and 934A named “Greek *Quercus coccifera* woods” corresponds to Greek habitat types.

On the basis of distribution categories, responsibility criteria and threats as they are proposed by Dimopoulos *et al.*, (2006) ten of the detected habitat types (1260, 2120, 2230, 2250, 3170, 5210, 5420, 8210, 92DO, 934A) are of high, six (1150, 1210, 1240, 1410, 1420, 2110) of medium and one (1130) of low monitoring importance. Among them there are rare (2230,

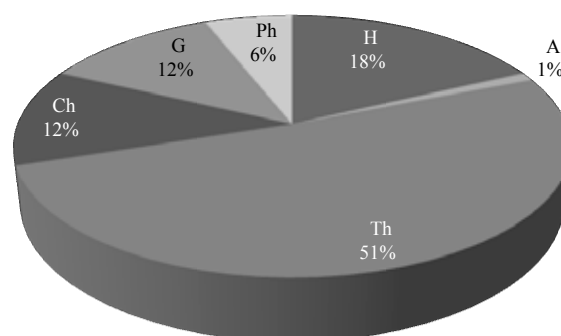


Fig. 2 - Biological spectrum of the investigated flora.

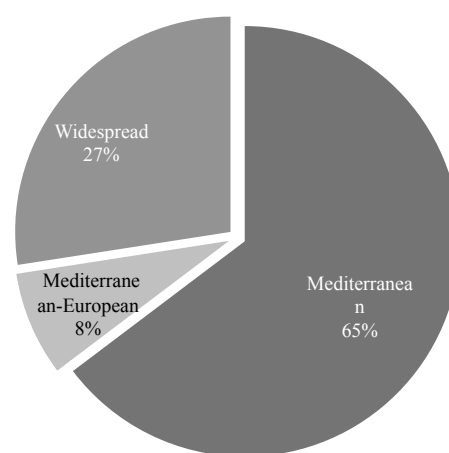


Fig. 3 - Chorological spectrum of the investigated flora.

1260), infrequent (2250) and scattered (1130, 1150, 1420, 2110, 3170) habitat types in Greek Natura 2000 sites, while the rest are widespread or abundant. In the text and in Table 1 the priority habitat types (1150, 2250, 3170) and the Hellenic ones (1260, 934A) are indicated by one or two asterisks respectively.

The Natura 2000 Special Area of Conservation (SAC) of Naxos was the most diverse in vegetation units and habitat types, hosting twenty one plant communities and eleven of the recognized habitat types. The lower number of plant communities (16) and of habitat types (9) recognized in Natura 2000 SAC GR4220013 was rather expected due to the territorial discontinuity of the area, which consists of small islands. The most frequent vegetation type encountered all over the investigated sites, was the one corresponding to habitat code 1240 (vegetated sea cliffs of the Mediterranean coasts), followed by the phryganic formations (habitat code 5420), which were the dominant vegetation type in many of the study areas as well as the most diverse in plant communities (Tab. 1). Large areas of the investigated islands were covered by a mosaic of

phrygana and maquis communities, alternately distributed, expanding from sea level to inland sites of higher elevation.

From a total of 132 relevés registered during the field work, 58 were carried out on phrygana (33 relevés) and maquis (25 relevés). Most of the remaining 74 relevés derive from sites near the sea (strandline zone, coastal sands, coastal wetlands, sea cliffs) while few originate from sites far off the coasts (calcareous rocky slopes, ravines, temporary ponds). All relevés were processed as described above for the construction of the dendrogram (Fig. 4). The 132 relevés used in the analysis were grouped into 8 large groups (clusters) each one of them is illustrated by an alphabetic letter. The cophenetic coefficient associated on the dendrogram, has a value of 0.918.

The first two of these clusters include the aquatic and Mediterranean semi-aquatic vegetation belonging to the classes *Potametea* and *Ruppieteae* (cluster a) and to the class *Isoeto-Nano-Juncetea* (cluster b). More precisely, the first cluster (a) includes submerged monotypic communities consisting of *Stuckenia pectinata* or *Ruppia maritima*, while the second one (b) corresponds to *Callitriche brutia* community which is amongst the most commonly observed vegetation units of *Isoeto-Nano-Juncetea* in Greek temporary ponds. The third cluster (c) contains the communities

that thrive on sandy soils near the sea and belong to the classes *Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophiletea australis* and *Thero-Brachypodietea*. The communities of the coastal wetland areas assigned to the classes *Sarcocornietea fruticosae*, *Phragmito-Magno-Caricetea* and *Juncetea maritimi* are all grouped within the cluster (d). This cluster also includes the *Aeluropus littoralis* dominated relevés. In literature the diagnostic species of the communities that this taxon forms, usually belong to the class *Juncetea maritimi* but there are cases in which they belong to *Sarcocornietea fruticosae*, *Festuco-Puccinellietea* or *Thero-Brachypodietea*. In our case this community mainly consists of species belonging to *Thero-Brachypodietea*, *Saginetea maritima* and *Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophiletea australis*. The fifth cluster (e) includes the chasmophytic vegetation of the class *Asplenietea trichomanis* that occurs on calcareous rocky slopes of the interior vegetation zone (alt. 250-350 m.). The next cluster (f) contains the communities of Thermo-Mediterranean riparian galleries, assigned to the class *Nerio-Tamaricetea*, which were dominated by *Nerium oleander* and *Vitex agnus castus*. The following cluster (g) groups phrygana and maquis communities, emphasizing their affinities in terms of altitudinal and petrologic gradients. The last cluster (h) corresponds to the vegetation of maritime calcareous rocks and vertical cliffs of the littoral or su-

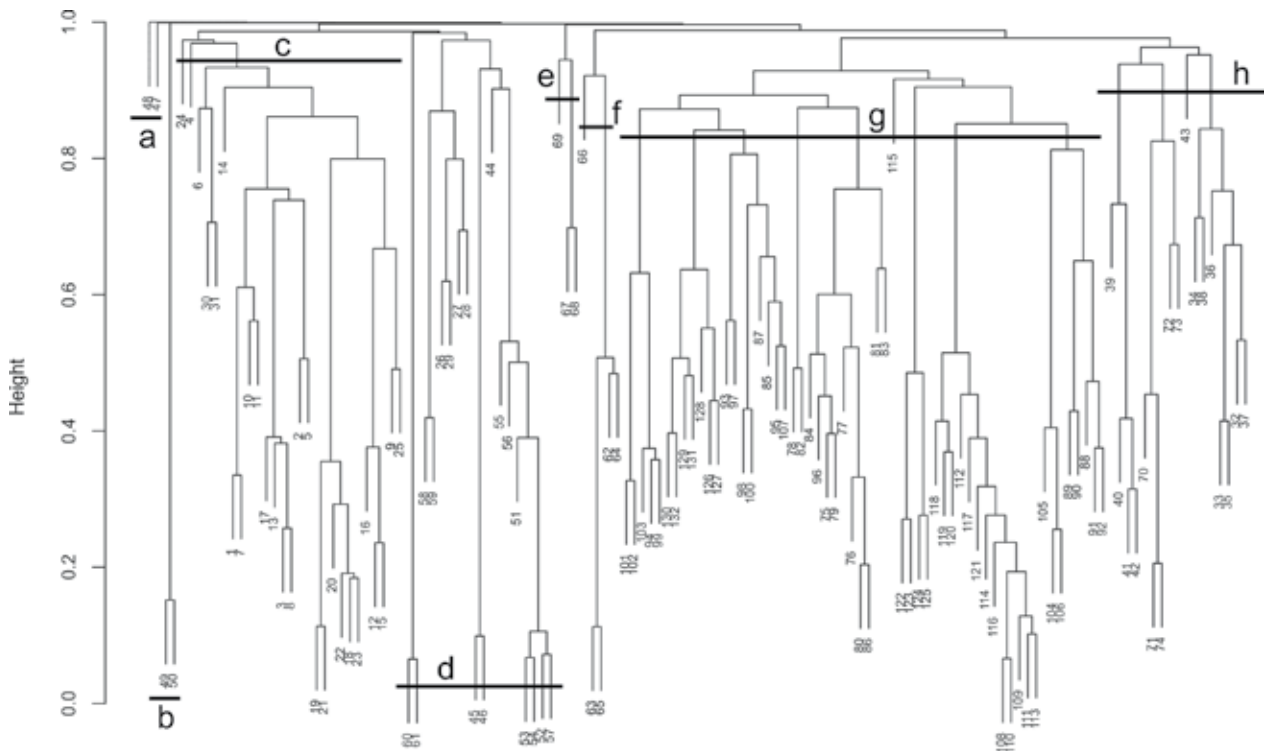


Fig. 4 - Dendrogram of the 132 relevés collected in the study area. The eight different letters (a-h) represent different clusters based on the results of hierarchical clustering.

Tab. 1 - Classification of the distinguished vegetation units into habitat types according to directive 92/43/EU and Dimopoulos *et al.*, (2006). Abbreviations are: Na (Naxos), Ir (Iraklia), Sh (Schinoussa), AK (Ano Koufonisi), KK (Kato Koufonisi), Ke (Keros).

Habitat types and vegetation units	Na	Ir	Sh	AK	KK	Ke	Gl
<i>Aeluropus littoralis</i> community	+						
Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation (8210)							
<i>Scrophularia heterophylla</i> community		+					
<i>Stachelina fruticosa</i> community		+					
Mediterranean temporary ponds (3170*)							
<i>Callitriche brutia</i> community	+						
Mediterranean sclerophyllous shrublands (maquis) (2250*, 5210, 934A**)							
<i>Pistacio lentisci-Juniperetum phoeniceae</i>	+	+			+	+	
<i>Pistacio lentisci-Juniperetum macrocarpae</i>	+						
<i>Rhamno lycioidis-Quercetum cocciferae</i>	+						
Dwarf shrub communities with <i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i> (5420)							
<i>Thymbra capitata</i> community	+		+	+	+	+	
<i>Genista acanthoclada-Sarcopoterium spinosum</i> community	+	+	+	+			
<i>Erica manipuliflora-Thymbra capitata</i> community	+	+		+		+	
<i>Cistus salvifolius-Cistus parviflorus</i> community		+	+		+		
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i> community	+	+					
Thermo-Mediterranean riparian galleries (92D0)							
<i>Nerium oleander-Vitex agnus castus</i> community	+						
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Mediterranean coasts (1240)							
<i>Frankenia hirsuta-Limonium graecum</i> community			+	+	+	+	+
<i>Limonio-Cichorietum spinosi</i>	+	+					
Sublitoral zone of the islets of the Aegean (1260**)							
<i>Theligono cynocrambis-Parietarietum lusitanicae</i>						+	
<i>Mesebrianthemum nodiflorum</i> community			+				
Annual vegetation of drift lines (1210)							
<i>Cakile maritima</i> community			+				
Embryonic shifting dunes (2110)							
<i>Cypero mucronati-Agropyretum juncei</i>	+	+	+	+			
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (2120)							
<i>Medicagini marinae-Ammophiletum australis</i>	+						
<i>Medicago marina-Ononis variegata</i> community	+	+					
Malcolmietalia dune grasslands (2230)							
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata-Pseudorlaya pumila</i> community				+			
Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrub (1420)							
<i>Suaedetum verae</i>	+						
<i>Sarcocornia perennis-Halimione portulacoides</i> community	+						
Mediterranean salt meadows (1410)							
<i>Juncus heldreichianus</i> community	+						
Estuaries (1130)							
<i>Phragmites australis</i> community	+						
<i>Schoenoplectus littoralis</i> community	+						
<i>Ruppium maritima</i>	+						
Lagoons (1150*)							
<i>Potamogetonum pectinatum</i>	+						

pralittoral (epilittoral) vegetation zone (alt. 0-100 m.) including halophytic communities of the class *Crithmo-Staticetea* as well as halo-subnitrophilous thero-phytic communities of the class *Stellarietea mediae*.

Descriptions of the distinguished habitat types and the associated plant communities are presented in the following paragraphs.

Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation (habitat code: 8210)

In the study area, the rupicolous vegetation of the *Asplenieta trichomanis* was represented only by two distinct plant formations. Amongst the species found on calcareous fissures and cliffs of the investigated islands, *Staelhelina fruticosa* and *Scrophularia heterophylla*, were the differential taxa of the distinguished plant communities (Tab. 2). The above mentioned species are listed as diagnostic of the order *Cirsietalia chamaepeuces* (Horvat et al., 1974; Dimopoulos et al., 1997) in which the vegetation of calcareous cliffs of the thermo- and mesomediterranean belts of the Aegean region (Greece and possibly western Turkey) is classified (Bergmeir et al., 2011). Three alliances of this order - the *Capparo-Amaricion tournefortii*, the *Asterion cretici* and the *Inulion heterolepidis* - which were finely described and validated by Bergmeir et al. (2011) are present in the Aegean area. The *Capparo-Amaricion tournefortii* encompasses plant communities of calcareous cliffs on the north and central Aegean islands (Bergmeir et al., 2011), the *Inulion heterolepidis* on the south Aegean islands (Horvat et al., 1974; Devillers et al., 1991; Panitsa & Tzanoudakis, 1998; Zervou, 2011) and the southwest coast of Turkey (Lovric & Rac, 1991) whilst the *Asterion cretici* is regarded as a Cretan endemic alliance (Dimopoulos et al., 1997). We consider the chasmophytic communities of the order *Cirsietalia chamaepeuces* found in the investigated islands possibly belong to the alliance *Capparo-Amaricion tournefortii* but their species poorness and the fact that the *Cirsio chamaepeuces-Scrophularietum heterophyllae* is the only association classified within the *Capparo-Amaracion tournefortii* to date limit their phytosociological interpretation at the order level.

Mediterranean sclerophyllous shrublands (maquis) (habitat codes: 2250*, 5210, 934A)**

The arborescent matorrals (shrublands) dominated by *Juniperus phoenicea* and *Pistacia lentiscus* (habitat code; 5210) (Tab. 3), the dune thickets with *Juniperus macrocarpa* (habitat code: 2250*) and the *Quercus coccifera* (habitat code: 934A**) stands that were encountered in the investigated areas (Tab. 4) belong to the class *Quercetea ilicis*, in which the Mediterranean sclerophyllous forests and maquis are included (Mucina, 1997, Dimopoulos et al., 2011). Within the *Quer-*

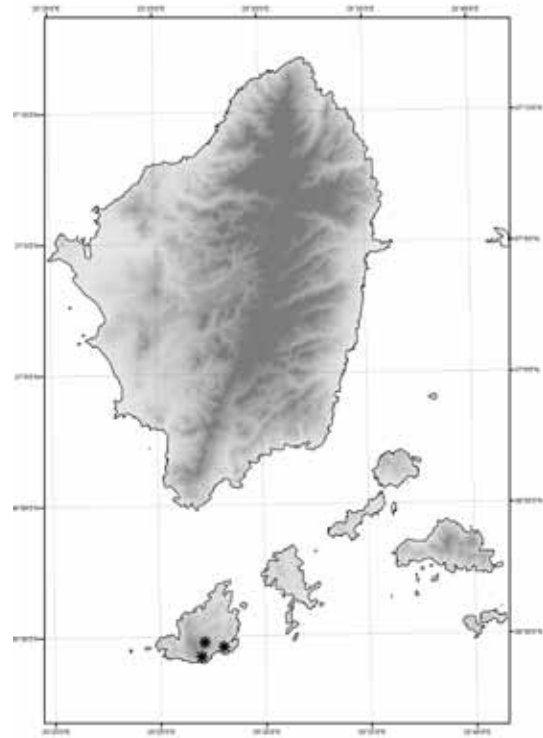


Fig. 5 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation (8210).

cetea ilicis, Rivas-Martínez (1975) described the order *Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni* from Spain, comprising in it the pre-forest vegetation of maquis. He diversified this syntaxon from the order *Quercetalia ilicis*, which as he suggested, comprises the immiscibly forest vegetation. This consideration is adopted in the present study. However, many researchers did not recognize the above mentioned syntaxonomical scheme and they still classify the maquis within the order *Quercetalia ilicis*.

Sclerophyllous shrublands dominated by *Juniperus phoenicea* and/or *Pistacia lentiscus* are generally common in eastern Mediterranean region. Vegetation units with *Juniperus phoenicea* are frequently recorded in literature usually in the framework (bounds) of *Pistacia lentiscus* communities. Barbero & Quézel (1976) described from several littoral territories of central and southern Greece, the Sub-association *Oleo-Lentiscetum aegaeicum juniperetosum phoeniceae* considering that belongs to the alliance *Oleo-Ceratonion siliquae*. This type of vegetation which according to Rivas-Martínez (1975) is grouped in the order *Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni*, was also reported from Sithonia (Pavlidis, 1976a) and from some islands of Southern Evoikos Gulf (Sarlis, 1981) and Saronikos Gulf (Valianatou, 2005).

Georgiadis et al. (1990) recorded from the Strofilia Coastal Area (NW Peloponnisos) shrublands consi-

Tab. 2 - *Staehelina fruticosa* comm. (rels.1-2), *Scrophularia heterophylla* comm. (rel. 3), *Theligono cynocrambis*-*Parietarium lusitanicae* (rels. 4-8).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	
Plot size (m ²)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	
Total cover (%)	70	20	10	5	5	18	10	5	
Exposure	SSE	SSE	SSW	NW	WSW	WNW	WNW	WNW	
Slope (°)	6	6	6	6	3	3	3	3	
Species N.	1	6	7	7	13	16	15	9	
Character species of the associations									
<i>Staehelina fruticosa</i>	4	2a	V	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Scrophularia heterophylla</i>	.	+	III	I	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Theligonum cynocrambe</i>	.	.	.	r	1	1	+	.	III
<i>Parietaria lusitanica</i>	.	r	III	.	.	2m	+	2m	2m
Character species of <i>Cirsietalia chamaepeuces</i>									
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	2m	.
<i>Parietaria cretica</i>	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.
Character species of <i>Asplenietea trichomanis</i>									
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	.	+	III	+	.	+	.	.	.
<i>Melica minuta</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r
Character species of <i>Geranio purpurei-Cardaminetalia hirsutae</i>									
<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	.	.	.	r	.	2m	.	2m	1
<i>Valantia muralis</i>	.	.	.	.	2m	2m	.	.	2m
<i>Arenaria leptoclados</i>	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.
Character species of <i>Stellarietea mediae</i>									
<i>Euphorbia exigua</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	+	.
<i>Bromus sterilis</i>	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	.
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.
<i>Erodium chium</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	.
Other species									
<i>Valantia hispida</i>	.	r	III	.	2m	2m	.	+	2m
<i>Allosorus acrosticus</i>	.	1	III	.	.	+	1	+	1
<i>Tordylium hirtocarpum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	+	r	r	.
<i>Centaurea raphanina</i>	.	.	.	.	.	+	+	r	.
<i>Muscari commutatum</i>	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	.
<i>Catapodium rigidum</i>	.	.	.	.	+	+	1	.	.
<i>Micromeria nervosa</i>	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	+
<i>Drimia numidica</i>	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	r	.
<i>Asterolinon linum-stellatum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	+	.
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	+	.
<i>Crocus</i> sp.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	+	.
<i>Thymra capitata</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	r	.
N. of accidental species	0	0	1	2	0	4	0	4	

sting mainly of *Juniperus phoenicea* and *Pistacia lentiscus*. They indicated this vegetation type as a phase with *Juniperus phoenicea* of the *Oleo-Ceratonion siliqua* alliance. Panitsa (1997) demonstrated the subassociation *Ceratonio-Pistacietum lentisci junipere-tosum phoeniceae* from some East Aegean islets and she classified the distinguished unit, which is also known from Evvia (Krause et al., 1963), within the alliance *Ceratonio-Rhamnion oleoidis*, order *Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni*. Evergreen-sclerophyllous formations with *Juniperus phoenicea* and *Pistacia lentiscus* as dominant species are also known from uncultivated slopes of the island Antikithira (Tzanoudakis et al., 2006). Zervou (2011) cited from the island of Kalimnos a community with *Juniperus phoenicea* which was mainly encountered in inland sites of higher elevation and a phytocoenon with *Pistacia lentiscus* restricted in few wind exposed rocky coastal places. Finally, it must be noted that the association *Pistacio lentisci-Juniperetum phoeniceae* known from two Croatian islands (Trinajstić, 1987) and from the Dalmatian coasts (Kovačić et al., 2001), resembles significantly to *Juniperus phoenicea-Pistacia lentiscus* stands found in our relevés where the dominant species *Juniperus phoenicea* was constantly associated with *Pistacia lentiscus* (Tab. 3).

Juniperus macrocarpa thickets that inhabit sandy soils along the western shores of Naxos (Tab. 4) are amongst the most infrequent vegetation types on dunes and cliffs of the Mediterranean coasts and are both vulnerable and ecologically important. These habitats have been included in the European Union Habitats Directive as a priority type. They settle in an environment that has been traditionally seen as a place for socioeconomic development. During the last century, those coastal woodlands (sensu Tekke, 1993) have been almost destroyed or profoundly disturbed by urban development (building, road construction, tourism) and expansion of cultivated land.

Géhu et al. (1990a), Asensi et al. (2007) and Díez-Garretas & Asensi (2014) pointed out that several character species of *Quercetea ilicis*, especially of the order *Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni*, participate in the formations of *Juniperus macrocarpa*. These diagnostic species are variously distributed from Gibraltar to Turkey in Europe, a fact that results to many geographic equivalents of *Juniperetum macrocarpa* communities. Géhu et al. (1989a) described the association *Rubio tenuifoliae-Juniperetum macrocarpa* from Rodos and Karpathos islands and considered it as the South Aegean endemic syntaxon equivalent to the above mentioned *Juniperetum macrocarpa* communities. Zervou (2011) mentioned a community with *Juniperus macrocarpa* from Kalimnos noting that it is a residual form of the *Rubio tenuifoliae-Juniperetum macrocarpa*. In our opinion, the *Pistacio lentisci-Ju-*

niperetum macrocarpa and *Pistacio-Juniperetum macrocarpa* (order *Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni*), reported from SE Sardinia (Mossa et al., 2000) and from southern Italy (Puglia region) (Di Pietro et al., 2009) respectively, seem quite similar to *Juniperus macrocarpa* stands found in the investigated areas. In our relevés *Juniperus macrocarpa* is always accompanied by *Pistacia lentiscus* and *Prasium majus*, both diagnostic of *Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni*.

The stands of pre-forest Thermo-Mediterranean maquis with *Quercus coccifera* (Tab. 4) are characterized by the constant presence of *Prasium majus*, which is diagnostic of the order *Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni*. In this phytocoenon, character species of *Cisto-Micromerietea julianae* and *Thero-Brachypodietea* are frequently and sometimes abundantly present. Well-developed *Quercus coccifera* communities were also reported from Antikithira, where *Quercus coccifera* was the dominant species in combination with *Calicotome villosa*, *Pistacia lentiscus* and *Thymbra capitata* (Tzanoudakis et al., 2006).

It is widely known that in the thermo-Mediterranean bioclimatic zone, to which the investigated area belongs, *Q. coccifera* is mainly related to the subassociation *quercetosum cocciferae* of the *Oleo-lentiscetum aegeicum* (Barbero & Quézel, 1976) while in the eu-Mediterranean zone it forms the *Quercococciferae-Phillyreetum latifoliae* (southern Greece) and the *Coccifero-Carpinetum* (northern Greece) (Oberdorfer, 1948). Barbero & Quézel (1976) pointed out that besides the above groups, this species appears as an essential element of *Abies cephalonica* formations, up to the level of supra-Mediterranean zone. According to Tsiourlis et al. (2009) the shrublands with *Quercus coccifera* in Greece can be divided into two groups. The first group comprises the *Q. coccifera* shrublands of continental as well as insular Greece, apart from Kriti, while the second one comprises those of Kriti. They classified the first group under the association *Quercococciferae-Pistacietum lentisci* and the second group under the *Rhamno lycioidis-Quercetum cocciferae*. In our opinion relevés 5-11 with *Quercus coccifera* in Tab. 4 are related to the association *Rhamno lycioidis-Quercetum cocciferae*, which is a considerably more arid association.

Quercus coccifera is the most common species of the Mediterranean maquis, thriving in a wide variety of often contrasting environments. It is able to grow in unfavourable soil conditions and under severe human pressure (Liakos & Mouloupoulos, 1967). Overgrazing, wildfires and intense human activities are thought to be the main factors responsible for the predominance of the species across the region (Mavrommatis, 1980; Raus, 1980; Trabaud, 1987) due to its prodigious regenerative capacity that gives it a competitive advantage after cutting or fire events (Vlachos, 2006). Debazac

Tab. 3 - *Pistacio lentisci-Juniperetum phoeniceae* Trinajstić 1987 (rels. 1-14).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	
Plot size (m ²)	100	100	100	80	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total cover (%)	100	95	100	100	100	100	95	95	100	100	95	75	60	90	
Exposure	WNW	WNW	W	NNE	SE	SE	0	E	E	NE	NNW	S	NE	NNW	
Slope (°)	2	2	2	1	0	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Species N.	10	10	11	11	16	14	16	10	25	29	21	21	31	21	
Character species of the associations															
Juniperus phoenicea	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	r	5	5	4	4	4	5	V
Pistacia lentiscus	2m	2b	2b	2m	+	2b	2m	5	2a	+	2b	2b	2b	2b	V
Juniperus macrocarpa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	I
Character species of <i>Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnietalia alaterni</i>															
Prasium majus	+	+	1	2m	1	2m	1	+	2m	1	1	2m	1	2b	V
Arisarum vulgare	2m	.	2m	.	.	.	2m	2m	.	.	.	.	.	.	II
Rubia tenuifolia	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Character species of <i>Quercetea ilicis</i>															
Rhamnus lycioides subsp. oleoides	.	.	.	.	.	+	r	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Calicotome villosa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	I
Ephedra foeminea	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	I
Asparagus acutifolius	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	I
Character species of <i>Cisto-Micromerietea julianae</i>															
Thymra capitata	.	2b	.	2b	3	2a	+	.	+	2a	2a	.	.	+	IV
Teucrium brevifolium	.	.	1	.	2b	1	2b	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	II
Drimia numidica	.	.	.	.	2m	1	1	2m	.	+	.	.	1	+	IV
Centaurea raphanina	.	.	.	1	1	+	1	.	r	.	+	r	.	.	III
Teucrium divaricatum	.	.	.	1	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	+	+	.	II
Genista acanthoclada	.	.	.	.	2a	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Teucrium capitatum	.	.	.	1	2a	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	I
Helichrysum stoechas subsp. barrelieri	.	.	.	r	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	2m	I
Cistus parviflorus	.	.	.	.	.	1	2a	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Asparagus aphyllus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	+	+	.	.	.	.	I
Fumana thymifolia	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	1	I
Cistus salvifolius	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Micromeria nervosa	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	I
Erica manipuliflora	.	.	.	.	4	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Cistus creticus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	I
Carlina corymbosa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	I
Fumana arabica	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Ballota acetabulosa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Anthyllis hermaniae	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Character species of <i>Thero-Brachypodieta</i>															
Valantia hispida	1	+	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	+	1	.	.	II
Crucianella latifolia	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	1	r	.	.	.	I
Trifolium scabrum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	1	.	.	r	I
Brachypodium distachyon	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	1	1	1	2m	.	II
Trifolium campestre	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	r	.	.	.	I
Linum strictum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	.	1	1	.	I
Asterolinon linum-stellatum	1	+	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Lagurus ovatus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	I
Tuberaria guttata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	+	I
Briza maxima	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	r	.	I
Urospermum picroides	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	I
Trifolium stellatum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	+	.	+	.	I
Catapodium rigidum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	I
Hypochaeris achyrophorus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	1	.	.	I
Medicago coronata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	r	.	I
Hippocrepis ciliata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	r	I
Tordylium apulum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	I
Euphorbia exigua	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	r	.	I
Silene colorata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	.	I
Hedypnois rhagadioloides	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	+	.	I
Campanula erinus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	.	I

Crupina crupinastrum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	.	.	I
Bupleurum semicompositum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	I
Medicago littoralis	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	.	I
Plantago lagopus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	.	.	.	.	I
Tolpis umbellata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	I
Onobrychis caput-galli	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	I
Other species														
Phagnalon rupestre subsp. graecum	+	+	+	.	.	.	+	r	.	.	.	.	2a	III
Aetheorhiza bulbosa	1	1	1	.	2m	.	1	.	.	+	.	.	.	II
Asphodelus ramosus	.	.	.	.	.	r	1	1	+	.	.	.	.	II
Dactylis glomerata	.	.	.	.	2a	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	II
Melica minuta	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	+	I
Bupleurum gracile	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	2m	.	+	1	II
Lagoecia cuminoides	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	1	.	.	.	I
Daucus guttatus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	2m	.	1	1	II
N. of accidental species	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	7	5	3	4	14	1

Tab. 4 - *Pistacio lentisci-Juniperetum macrocarpa* Caneva, de Marco et Mossa 1981 (rels. 1-4), *Rhamno lycioidis-Quercetum cocciferae* Br.-Bl. et Bolòs 1954 (rels. 5-11).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132		
Plot size (m ²)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	50	50	50	50		
Total cover (%)	97	95	100	90	90	90	80	80	95	70	90		
Exposure	0	0	S	E	0	0	0	ESE	E	ESE	ENE		
Slope (°)	0	2	1	2	0	0	4	0	5	4	4		
Species N.	13	12	10	12	36	60	27	36	41	59	40		
Character species of the associations													
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	2a	2a	.	+	V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Juniperus macrocarpa</i>	4	4	5	5	V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	.	.	.	.	.	5	5	4	4	4	4	V	
Character species of <i>Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni</i>													
<i>Prasium majus</i>	2b	2b	2b	.	IV	2b	2m	2m	2b	.	2a	2m	V
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	2m	.	.	.	.	III
<i>Rubia tenuifolia</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Rhamnus lycioides</i> subsp. <i>oleoides</i>	2m	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	r	.	1	.	II
<i>Calicotome villosa</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	.	2a	1	III
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Character species of <i>Cisto-Micromerietea julianae</i>													
<i>Drimia numidica</i>	.	.	.	.	.	+	1	.	+	r	+	+	V
<i>Centaurea raphanina</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	+	2b	r	1	IV
<i>Genista acanthoclada</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	3	.	3	III
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	2b	2a	1	III
<i>Thymbra capitata</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	2m	2a	III
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i> subsp. <i>barrelieri</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	2m	III
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	.	1	II
<i>Teucrium divaricatum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	2m	II
<i>Fumana arabica</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	2b	II

Fumana thymifolia	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	1	II	
Micromeria nervosa	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	1	+	III
Ballota acetabulosa	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	+	.	.	.	.	II
Asparagus aphyllus	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	+	.	.	.	.	II
Teucrium capitatum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	II
Anthyllis hermaniae	.	+	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Phlomis fruticosa	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Carlina corymbosa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	I
Erica manipuliflora	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	I
Character species of <i>Thero-Brachypodietea</i>													
Valantia hispida	.	r	.	.	II	.	1	.	2m	1	+	+	IV
Lagurus ovatus	1	.	.	1	III	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
Crucianella latifolia	.	.	.	.	1	2m	+	+	.	+	.	.	IV
Pseudorlaya pumila	1	.	+	.	III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Rumex bucephalophorus	+	.	+	.	III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Silene colorata	.	.	1	2m	III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Urospermum picroides	.	.	.	.	.	r	1	.	1	.	+	.	III
Briza maxima	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	+	+	+	+	.	IV
Trifolium scabrum	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	+	.	+	1	III
Trifolium campestre	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	2m	1	1	IV
Catapodium rigidum	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	.	1	.	r	1	III
Hypochaeris achyrophorus	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	1	.	r	.	III
Trifolium stellatum	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	+	.	II
Medicago coronata	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	+	.	II
Biscutella didyma	.	.	r	.	.	.	.	.	+	r	+	+	III
Tordylium apulum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	+	+	.	III
Asterolinon linum-stellatum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	r	1	.	III
Linum strictum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	1	1	III
Brachypodium distachyon	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	1	II
Aira elegantissima	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	+	.	II
Hippocrepis ciliata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	1	.	II
Euphorbia exigua	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	+	.	II
Cynosurus echinatus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	I
Hedypnois rhagadioloides	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	I
Ononis reclinata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	I
Tuberaria guttata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	I
Campanula erinus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	I
Clypeola jonthlaspi	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	I
Malcolmia chia	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	I
Crupina crupinastrum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	I
Other species													
Phagnalon rupestre subsp. graecum	1	+	2a	.	IV	.	+	.	.	+	.	.	II
Asphodelus ramosus	1	.	.	.	II	1	.	1	.	+	+	.	III
Helichrysum italicum	2m	2b	+	2a	V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Senecio vernalis	.	+	1	2m	IV	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Dactylis glomerata	.	.	.	.	.	2b	2m	2b	1	2m	.	2m	V
Melica minuta	.	.	.	.	.	2m	2m	.	1	1	2m	1	V
Geranium purpureum	.	.	.	.	.	1	2m	+	.	.	r	.	III
Torilis leptophylla	.	.	.	.	.	1	+	r	.	.	.	.	III
Crepis multiflora	.	.	.	.	.	+	1	1	.	.	.	.	III
Trifolium physodes	.	.	.	.	.	2m	+	+	.	.	.	.	III
Lagoecia cuminoides	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	2m	.	1	.	III
Sherardia arvensis	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	+	+	.	III
Scaligeria napiformis	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	.	.	.	1	1	III
N. of accidental species	2	3	1	6		18	32	13	12	14	21	14	

& Mavrommatis (1971) mentioned that the *Q. ilex* formations as well as those of the deciduous *Q. frainetto* and *Q. pubescens* in Greece have been in many cases replaced by *Q. coccifera* shrublands.

The Greek *Q. coccifera* formations occupy an area of more than 1.5 million hectares (Platis & Papanastasis, 2003). Their altitudinal distribution in Southern and Western Greece reaches 1,200 m, in Central Greece 1,000 m, and in Northern Greece 700 m (Mavrommatis, 1980), while in some areas, such as in Kriti, they can be found even higher (Tsiourlis et al., 2001).

***Sarcopoterium spinosum phryganas* (habitat code: 5420)**

Thymbra capitata, *Genista acanthoclada*, *Helichrysum stoechas* subsp. *barrelieri* and *Sarcopoterium spinosum*, all typical and diagnostic species of the class *Cisto-Micromerietea julianae*, are the most frequent and constant elements of dwarf shrub formations investigated in Naxos and in the adjacent Mikres Kiklades. *Thymbra capitata* is recorded in twenty-five out of thirty three relevés corresponding to the habitat type of phrygana and it is the dominant species of a discernible group of 12 relevés (Tab. 5). It is also constantly associated with a different group of (5) relevés dominated by *Erica manipuliflora* (Tab. 5). Moreover *Genista acanthoclada* and *Sarcopoterium spinosum*,

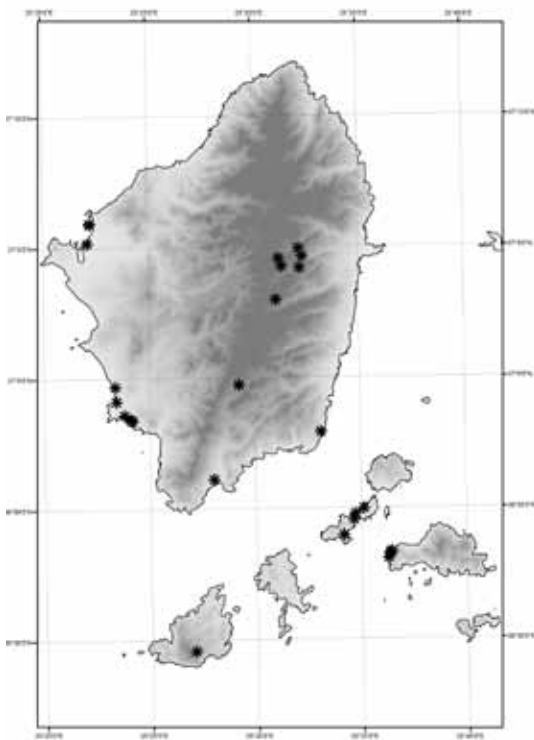


Fig. 6 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat types Mediterranean sclerophyllous shrublands (maquis) (2250, 5210 and the Greek habitat type 934A).

both amongst the significant elements of *Cisto-Micromerietea julianae*, are frequently mixed in a fairly different formation, while five almost always monospecific stands of *Sarcopoterium spinosum* constitute a separate community (Tab. 6). Finally a community dominated by *Cistus salviifolius* and *Cistus parviflorus* is recorded in Schinoussa, Iraklia and Ano Koufonisi (Tab.6).

Bergmeir et al. (2011) notified that phryganic formations of Gavdopoula island are commonly dominated by *Thymbra capitata* while Panitsa & Tzanoudakis (1998) recorded three different phryganic vegetation types from the East Aegean islands Agathonisi and Pharmakonisi. These are very similar to the above mentioned communities. Tzanoudakis et al. (2006) also reported the dominance of xerophilous dwarf shrubs such as *Sarcopoterium spinosum*, *Thymbra capitata* and *Erica manipuliflora* in Antikithira island, where phrygana formations of the class and order *Cisto-Micromerietea (-etalia)* were well developed, underlining that intense grazing and fires or land-clearance lead to the dominance of spiny shrubs, mostly *Genista acanthoclada*. Likewise a *Genista acanthoclada - Sarcopoterium spinosum* vegetation type (Economidou, 1976) and a phase of *Thymbra capitata - Sarcopoterium spinosum* community with *Genista acanthoclada* (Lavrentiades, 1976) are sufficiently similar. Vallianatou (2005) demonstrated a resembling formation from the islands Aigina, Salamina and Moni as *Sarcopoterium spinosi-Coridothymetum capitati*, which however was characterized by minimal presence of *Genista acanthoclada*. Kazanis & Arianoutsou (2006) quoted that in all investigated sites of lower altitude in Western Kriti, seasonal dimorphic shrubs, such as *Sarcopoterium spinosum*, *Genista acanthoclada* and *Thymbra capitata* were the dominant plant species. They also mention a *Pinus halepensis* forest type in Central Greece, with sparse, open, woody understorey, dominated by dwarf shrubs, such as *Thymbra capitata*, *Phagnalon graecum* and *Helichrysum stoechas*, distributed on slopes or plains of low altitude, usually not far away from the seashore (Kazanis & Arianoutsou, 2004). *Thymbra capitata* and *Sarcopoterium spinosum* co-dominance in plant communities has frequently been recorded from several Greek localities (Knapp, 1965; Lavrentiades, 1969; Aplada, 2003).

Economidou (1976) cited the phytocoena of *Thymbra capitata* and/or *Sarcopoterium spinosum* among the most essential dwarf shrub communities of Greece, considering them as a vegetation type commonly encountered in abandoned fields. Lavrentiades (1975) pointed out that *Thymbra capitata* and/or *Sarcopoterium spinosum* communities can be developed in various substrates due to the ability of their roots to penetrate deep into the soil up to the underground water. In Aegean islands, phryganic communities with *Sarco-*

poterium spinosum occur in many soils and throughout a wide climatic range (Delipetrou *et al.*, 1996; Ariannoutsou *et al.*, 1997). The species is thought to have originated in the semiarid transition zone between the Mediterranean and Irano-Turanian steppe vegetation zones (Litav & Orshan, 1971; Zohary, 1973). From there, it invaded abandoned agricultural land in the more humid Mediterranean zone, especially in hilly, rocky regions (Litav & Orshan, 1971; Baruch, 1986, 1990).

Most of the above mentioned researchers assign the communities with *Thymbra capitata* and/or *Sarcopoterium spinosum* within the *Coridothymion capitati* alliance. This syntaxon was renamed as *Dorycnio-Coridothymion capitati* (Brullo *et al.*, 1997) and classified (incorporated) within the *Micromerion julianae* alliance. According to Mucina *et al.* (2009) this alliance is usually related with calcareous substrates of northern and central Greece in contradistinction to the alliance *Helichryso barrelieri-Phagnalion graeci* that is exclusively recorded from non calcareous habitats of southern Greece. The *Helichryso barrelieri-Phagnalion graeci* occurs in the south regions of mainland and insular Greece and in the west and southwest coasts of Turkey. It is characterized by the absence of subnitrophilous species such as *Euphorbia acanthothamnus* and *Ballota acetabulosa*, as well as by the presence of taxa with low nitrogen indicator values such as *Cistus creticus*, *C. salvifolius*, *Genista acanthoclada*, *Erica manipuliflora*, *Satureja thymbra*, *Hypericum empetrifolium* and *Helichrysum stoechas* subsp. *barrelieri* (Böhling *et al.*, 2002).

The floristic composition of the relevés corresponding to the dwarf shrub communities, designates their affinity to the *Helichryso barrelieri-Phagnalion graeci* alliance and allows their classification within this vegetation type (Tab. 5 & 6). Brullo *et al.* (1997) accepted two orders within the class *Cisto-Micromerietea*, the *Sarcopoterietalia spinosi* (synonym of *Cisto-Micromerietalia*) and the *Cisto-Ericetalia* which are distributed in the eastern and central Mediterranean region respectively. Mucina *et al.* (2009) reported the order *Sarcopoterietalia spinosi* as *Poterietalia spinosi* validating the name according to the International Code of Phytosociological Nomenclature (Weber *et al.* 2000). The *Helichryso barrelieri-Phagnalion graeci* is confined to the order *Poterietalia spinosi*.

Southern riparian galleries and thickets (*Nerio-Tamaricetea* and *Securinegion tinctoriae*) (habitat code: 92D0)

Four stands with *Nerium oleander* and one with *Vitex agnus-castus* were found in the investigated area (Tab. 7). This vegetation type was only observed in Naxos, along streams without permanent flow. It belongs to the *Nerio-Tamaricetea* class, which includes dwarf

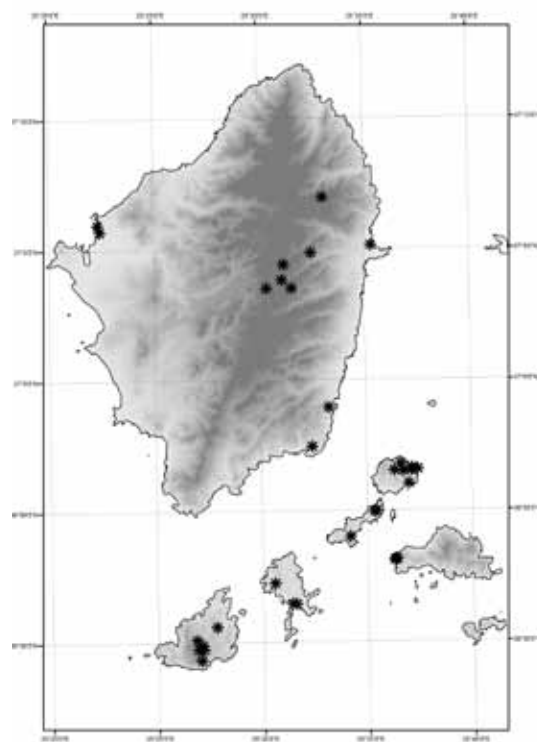


Fig. 7 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type *Sarcopoterium spinosum* phryganas (5420).

woodlands and scrubs developing in fresh, brackish or saline habitats without water (running or standing) during long periods of the year (Asensi & Díez-Garretas, 2011). One order, *Tamaricetalia africanae* and three alliances have been mainly distinguished within this class in the Mediterranean region: *Tamaricion africanae*, *Rubus ulmifolii-Nerium oleandri* (fresh water) and, *Tamaricion boveano-canariensis* (brackish water). These alliances group all the thermophilous communities of *Nerium oleander* or *Vitex agnus-castus* growing in rivulets and dry ravines with discontinuously flowing water (Bolòs, 1985; Jasprica *et al.*, 2007). Another three syntaxa, that are rather regionally restricted, have been lately ascribed to the Mediterranean region (Brullo *et al.*, 2004; Jasprica *et al.*, 2008; Quézel & Médail, 2003; Rivas-Martínez, 2011).

In our opinion, the floristic composition of our *Tamaricetalia africanae* relevés, being dominated by *Nerium oleander* or *Vitex agnus-castus* allows their classification within the alliance *Rubus ulmifolii-Nerium oleandri*. According to Asensi & Díez-Garretas (2011) the taxa that show the greater biomass in the communities of this alliance, which is the most diversified in the Western Mediterranean region, spreading from the Iberian Peninsula and northern Africa to the Adriatic coasts, are *Nerium oleander* and/or *Vitex agnus-castus* along with *Rubus ulmifolius* and several *Quercetea ilicis* elements. However the phytocoena encountered in

Tab. 5 - *Erica manipuliflora*-*Thymbra capitata* comm. (rels. 1-5), *Thymbra capitata* comm. (rels. 6-17).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	88	89	90	91	92	75	76	77	79	78	84	80	96	86	81	82	83
Plot size (m ²)	50	50	50	100	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Total cover (%)	80	80	75	85	85	75	90	90	80	75	90	90	70	80	85	70	75
Exposure	0	E	SW	NNW	ENE	SSW	NNW	E	SE	WNW	SW	ENE	S	SW	WSW	0	SW
Slope (°)	0	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	1
Species N.	8	15	17	9	13	9	20	59	16	20	13	16	23	16	29	9	17

Character species of the associations

<i>Erica manipuliflora</i>	5	4	2a	4	4	V	r	1	+	.	.	.	2m	II	
<i>Thymbra capitata</i>	2b	3	2b	3	2b	V	4	5	5	4	2b	4	5	4	5	3	1	2m	V

Character species of *Helichryso barrelieri*-*Phagnalion graeci*

<i>Genista acanthoclada</i>	2a	2b	3	.	.	III	.	+	.	2a	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	II
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	2m	.	.	.	2a	II	.	.	2a	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	.	I
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i> subsp. <i>barrelieri</i>	1	+	+	.	.	III	.	.	.	4	2b	1	1	1	1	4	+	III
<i>Cistus parviflorus</i>	.	4	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	.	.	.	2a	3	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	I

Character species of *Poterietalia spinosi*

<i>Teucrium brevifolium</i>	.	2b	3	r	.	III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	.	.	I
<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	2b	.	2m	2a	.	+	II
<i>Teucrium divaricatum</i>	.	1	1	.	1	III	.	2m	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Drimia numidica</i>	.	r	.	.	.	I	+	.	.	+	.	.	1	+	+	.	.	III
<i>Fumana thymifolia</i>	1	2m	1	+	.	III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	I
<i>Atractyllis cancellata</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	+	.	.	I

Character species of *Cisto-Micromerietea julianae*

<i>Centaurea raphanina</i>	.	2m	+	.	+	III	.	2m	.	.	.	+	.	.	+	1	.	2b	III
<i>Astragalus spruneri</i>	1	.	.	.	.	I	.	1	.	+	.	.	r	1	.	.	.	II
<i>Anthyllis hermaniae</i>	.	.	2a	.	.	I	3	.	.	.	3	.	3	II
<i>Thymelea tartonraira</i>	2a	2b	4	II
<i>Hypericum empetrifolium</i>	.	.	.	.	2a	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Ballota acetabulosa</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	.	.	.	+	.	I	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	I
<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I

Character species of *Quercetalia ilicis*

<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	.	+	2a	2b	r	IV	+	.	.	.	+	.	.	+	.	.	.	II
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	.	.	2m	2m	+	III	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Rhamnus lycioides</i> subsp. <i>oleoides</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Prasium majus</i>	.	.	1	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	+	2m	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Calicotome villosa</i>	.	.	1	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Rubia tenuifolia</i>	.	.	.	.	1	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Character species of *Thero-Brachypodietea*

<i>Linum strictum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	2m	+	.	1	+	1	1	.	III
<i>Valantia hispida</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	2m	.	.	1	.	.	1	II
<i>Euphorbia exigua</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	r	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	II
<i>Onobrychis caput-galli</i>	+	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	II
<i>Catapodium rigidum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	.	I
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	1	1	.	.	.	+	.	+	.	III

Tab. 6 - *Genista acanthoclada*-*Sarcopoterium spinosum* comm. (rels. 1-8), *Sarcopoterium spinosum* comm. (rels. 9-13), *Cistus salvifolius*-*Cistus parviflorus* comm.

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	93	95	97	98	100	107	85	87	94	99	101	102	103	104	105	106
Plot size (m ²)	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	60
Total cover (%)	80	70	65	90	95	90	80	90	90	100	80	80	90	100	40	100
Exposure	NNE	WSW	NNE	SE	N	NNW	ESE	NE	0	NNE	N	NNW	SW	NW	NE	SE
Slope (°)	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	2	0	3	2	4	3	2	3	2
Species N.	30	30	30	28	49	21	18	52	33	32	36	25	50	14	36	14

Character species of the associations

<i>Genista acanthoclada</i>	3	4	+	5	5	3	3	4	V	r	2a	.	.	.	II	.	.	.
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	+	2a	2a	2b	2a	.	+	.	IV	5	5	4	4	5	V	.	.	.
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	4	4
<i>Cistus parviflorus</i>	.	.	.	.	.	2b	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	3	2a	3	V

Character species of *Helichryso barrelieri*-*Phagnalion graeci*

<i>Cistus creticus</i>	r	.	+	.	2m	2b	2a	.	IV	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	II
<i>Satureja thymbra</i>	2a	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Erica manipuliflora</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	3	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i> subsp. <i>barrelieri</i>	+	.	.	.	.	+	+	+	III	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	II

Character species of *Poterietalia spinosi*

<i>Thymbra capitata</i>	2a	2a	2a	.	.	.	3	2b	IV	2a	.	+	.	.	II	.	1	.	II
<i>Drimia numidica</i>	.	+	.	.	.	+	.	1	II	+	.	1	+	r	IV	.	1	+	IV
<i>Teucrium brevifolium</i>	.	2a	.	.	.	2a	.	2m	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	+	.	IV
<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>	+	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Teucrium divaricatum</i>	1	2a	.	.	.	.	2m	.	II	.	.	+	.	.	I	2b	+	.	IV
<i>Fumana thymifolia</i>	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Atractylis cancellata</i>	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	+	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Character species of *Cisto-Micromerietea julianae*

<i>Centaurea raphanina</i>	1	+	r	1	.	.	+	2m	IV	.	+	1	+	+	IV	.	+	+	IV
<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	.	.	+	+	+	.	.	.	II	1	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>	.	+	.	+	+	.	.	.	II	.	+	.	.	+	II	.	.	.	.
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	3	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Ballota acetabulosa</i>	.	.	.	.	2m	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	2m	I	.	.	.	.
<i>Micromeria nervosa</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	2m	.	II	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Anthyllis hermaniae</i>	r	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Convolvulus oleifolius</i>	r	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Astragalus spruneri</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Asparagus aphyllus</i>	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Hypericum empetrifolium</i>	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	II	.	.	.	1	.	I	.	.	.	.
<i>Fumana arabica</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	2m	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	II
<i>Thymelea tartonraira</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Character species of *Quercetea ilicis*

<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	+	.	.	.	2a	.	.	.	II	2a	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Prasium majus</i>	.	2b	.	.	.	.	.	1	II	.	.	.	.	+	I	2m	1	2m	V
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	1	.	.	I	.	+	.	II
<i>Rhamnus lycioides</i> subsp. <i>oleoides</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	I	.	.	.	.	2a	I	.	2a	2a	IV
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	+	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	2a	1	V
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	2a	2b	V
<i>Rubia tenuifolia</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	II
<i>Ephedra foeminea</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	II

Character species of *Crithmo-Limonietaea*

<i>Anthemis rigida</i>	.	.	.	2b	+	.	.	.	II	2m	2m	.	.	2m	III
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Character species of *Thero-Brachypodietaea*

<i>Linum strictum</i>	2m	1	.	.	.	+	.	2b	III	1	.	1	+	.	III
<i>Aira elegantissima</i>	r	.	r	+	.	.	.	.	II	1	+	.	.	.	II	.	+	.	II
<i>Tuberaria guttata</i>	1	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	II	+	.	.	.	.	I	.	+	.	II
<i>Onobrychis caput-galli</i>	r	.	r	.	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Catapodium rigidum</i>	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	+	II	.	.	1	.	1	II	.	.	.	.

Trifolium campestre	.	.	.	+	1	.	.	.	II	1	+	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	
Briza maxima	.	.	.	+	+	.	.	.	II	r	+	.	+	1	IV	.	.	.	
Tordylium apulum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	+	+	+	+	V	.	.	.
Asterolinon linum-stellatum	.	2m	.	1	.	2m	.	.	II	+	.	2m	.	.	II	.	1	II	
Galium murale	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	I	1	.	+	.	+	III	.	+	II
Medicago disciformis	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	I	r	.	+	+	.	III	.	.	.
Valantia hispida	.	.	.	.	.	.	2m	I	1	.	.	2m	2m	1	III	.	.	.
Vulpia ciliata	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	I	+	1	.	.	.	II	.	.	.
Hypochaeris achyrophorus	.	+	.	2m	+	.	.	.	II	.	+	.	+	r	III	+	+	II	
Trifolium stellatum	.	.	.	+	1	1	.	.	II	.	1	+	.	1	III	.	.	.	
Trifolium scabrum	.	.	.	r	.	+	.	.	r	II	.	1	.	.	I	.	.	.	
Plantago lagopus	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	II	.	.	1	+	.	II	.	.	.	
Brachypodium distachyon	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plantago afra	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Medicago coronata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	I	.	.	.
Hippocrepis ciliata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Hedypnois rhagadioloides	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plantago bellardii	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ononis reclinata	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Petrorhagia dubia	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	II	.	2m	.	.	r	II	.	.	.	
Cynosurus echinatus	.	.	.	1	2m	.	.	.	II	.	1	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	
Lotus edulis	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Lagurus ovatus	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	+	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Anthemis chia	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	+	I	.	.	.
Hyoseris scabra	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	I	.	.	+	+	.	II	.	.	.
Moraea sisyrinchium	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	+	.	.	I	.	.	.
Silene colorata	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	r	I	.	.	.
Urospermum picroides	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	I	.	.	.	.	1	I	.	.	.
Rumex bucephalophorus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	I	.	.	.
Malcolmia chia	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	I	.	.	.
Clypeola jonthlaspi	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	I	.	.	.
Campanula erinus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	I	.	.	.
Medicago littoralis	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Euphorbia exigua	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	II
Silene nocturna	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Hippocrepis biflora	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Other species																			
Dactylis glomerata	1	.	1	2m	2b	2m	1	2m	V	1	2m	1	.	.	III	2m	2m	IV	
Aetheorhiza bulbosa	.	.	.	.	.	2m	2m	+	II	.	.	2m	2m	.	II	.	2m	II
Phagnalon rupestre subsp. graecum	+	2m	.	.	.	2a	1	+	IV	.	.	.	1	.	I	+	.	IV	
Leontodon tuberosus	.	.	.	.	1	1	+	r	III	.	.	2m	1	.	II	.	1	II
Trifolium uniflorum	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	I	1	1	.	.	+	III	.	.	.
Euphorbia peplis	.	1	.	.	+	1	.	+	III	.	+	2m	2m	+	III	.	2m	II	
Sherardia arvensis	r	1	.	+	.	1	.	+	IV	+	.	2m	1	r	IV	.	.	.	
Lagoecia cuminoides	.	.	.	+	+	.	.	.	II	2m	.	.	.	+	II	.	.	.	
Convolvulus althaeoides	r	.	r	+	+	.	.	.	IV	.	r	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	
Asphodelus ramosus	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	II	.	r	+	.	+	III	1	+	IV	
Anagallis arvensis	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	+	II	+	.	+	.	.	II	.	.	.
Biscutella didyma	.	+	.	+	r	+	.	1	IV	.	.	+	.	r	II	.	+	II	
Vicia cretica	.	.	.	.	2m	1	.	.	II	1	1	1	+	1	V	.	1	II
Rostraria cristata	.	.	r	+	.	.	.	.	II	+	.	.	.	1	II	.	.	.
Avena barbata	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	+	.	.	1	II	.	.	.
Sellaginella denticulata	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	I	.	.	2a	2a	1	III	.	2b	II
Bupleurum gracile	2m	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	II	1	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.
Daucus guttatus	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Allium subhirsutum	1	.	.	I	.	.	2m	.	.	I	.	2m	1	IV
Medicago orbicularis	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	+	II	.	r	.	+	.	II	.	.	.
Rumex tuberosus	.	.	.	2m	1	.	.	.	II	.	1	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	
N. of accidental species	4	7	6	4	19	1	0	25		8	8	6	4	16		1	8	2	

Naxos differ rather sufficiently from the communities of *Rubus ulmifolii-Nerion oleandri* described from the west-Mediterranean territories, as *Rubus ulmifolius* (differential of the alliance) and species of the *Quercetea ilicis* class were thoroughly absent from their structure. Instead, species of *Asplenietea trichomanis* and *Thero-Brachypodietea* were frequent or constantly present. *Arum italicum* appeared also as a constant companion species (Tab. 7). Jasprica et al. (2007) mentioned that herbaceous plants of the *Thero-Brachypodietea* are diverse in the *Rubus ulmifolii-Nerion oleandri* associations, especially in Croatia, Montenegro and Sicily. It must also be noted that the *Nerium oleander* and *Vitex agnus-castus* stands found in the investigated central Aegean area are significantly different from the hygrophilic oleander associations described up till now in the Mediterranean (cf. Izco et al., 1984; Biondi et al., 1994; Dimopoulos et al., 2005), which are usually attached to the *Populetalia albae* both in Greece (Krause et al., 1963; Bolòs et al., 1996) and in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Periploco-Viticetum agni-casti) (Jasprica & Carić, 2002) or *Salicetea purpureae* in southern Italy (Biondi et al., 1994). Finally, the association *Vitici-Tamaricetum* is widespread in brackish habitats of Dalmatia (Horvatić, 1963) and Albania (Fanelli et al., 2015).

Vegetated sea cliffs of the Mediterranean coasts with endemic *Limonium* spp. (habitat code: 1240)

The halophytic vegetation on coastal cliffs sprayed by seawater is assigned to the class *Crithmo-Staticetea* (Mucina, 1997). This vegetation type typically inhabits Mediterranean rocky shores and shows an open and irregular structure. According to Mayer (1995), it represents one of the few well preserved natural habitat types, which are rather inviolate by human activities. Most of the plants on maritime cliffs and slopes are highly specialised and feature halophilous and xerophilous adaptations, as the high concentration of salt in the soil, the protracted exposure to sun and the weather phenomena -wind is one of the most important- are among the main environmental limitations. This pioneering vegetation remains stable over time because environmental conditions cannot change to enable, for example, maquis or even just garrigue to establish.

The halophytic communities of the class *Crithmo-Staticetea* recorded on the investigated maritime rocks and slopes are the following: a community dominated by *Frankenia hirsuta* and *Limonium graecum* - the most common in the area- and the association *Limonio-Cichorietum spinosi* (Tab. 8). Taking into account the statement of Mayer (1995) who pointed out that the alliance *Crithmo-Frankenion hirsutae* is the only one of the class *Crithmo-Staticetea* that occurs in the eastern Mediterranean, the communities found on coastal rocks and cliffs of the investigated area belong

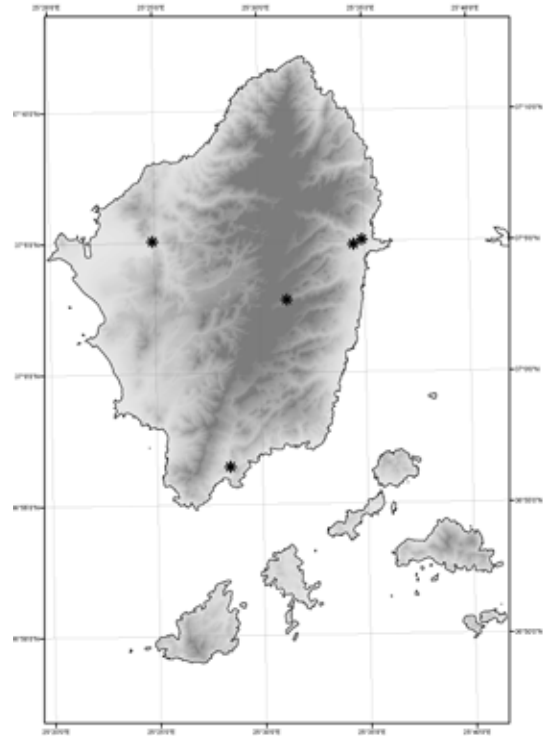


Fig. 8 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type Southern riparian galleries and thickets (*Nerio-Tamaricetea* and *Securinegion tinctoriae*) (92D0).

to this syntaxon. *Frankenia hirsuta* is the local characteristic and differential species of this syntaxon. Lovrić & Rac (1991) indicated that in Greek and Turkish coastal areas the alliance *Crithmo-Malcolmion* substitutes the *Crithmo-Staticion* which according to Mayer (1995) is restricted only to the western Mediterranean. Communities with *Cichorium spinosum* from the eastern Mediterranean areas are assigned either to *Crithmo-Staticion* (Bolòs et al., 1996) or to *Crithmo-Malcolmion* (Zervou, 2011). Panitsa et al. (2004) included the *Limonio-Cichorietum spinosi* within the alliance *Crithmo-Frankenion hirsutae*.

Sublittoral zone of the islets of the Aegean (habitat code: 1260)**

This habitat type that includes phryganic-halophytic and chasmo-halophytic communities thriving in the epilittoral islets zone is generally scattered in Greece and rare in the Natura 2000 sites. It represents one of the (30) additional Hellenic habitat types which are not included in Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive (Dimopoulos et al., 2006). The halo-subnitrophilous vegetation of the class *Stellarietea mediae* encountered on coastal calcareous micro-ledges and shaded steep cliffs of Keros island and on rocky coasts of Shinousa island we consider that they correspond to this habitat type. In Keros island this habitat type was characteri-

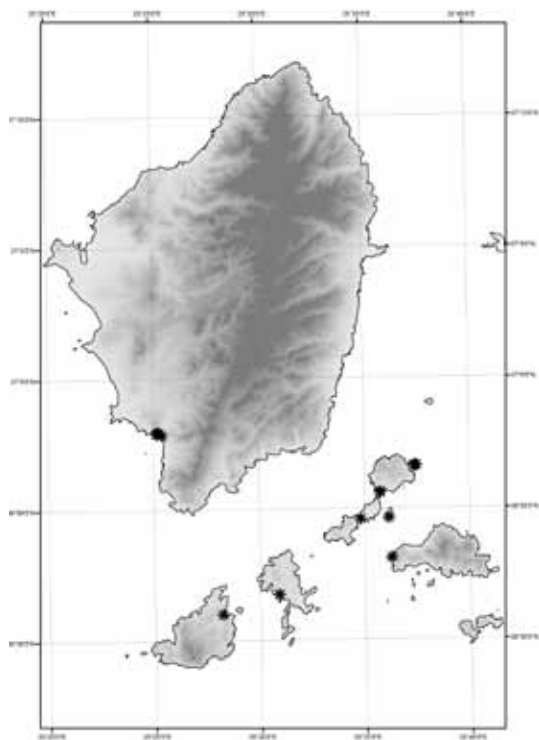


Fig. 9 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type Vegetated sea cliffs of the Mediterranean coasts with endemic *Limonium* spp. (1240).

zed by species such as *Theligonum cynocrambe*, *Parietaria lusitanica*, *Mercurialis annua* and *Valantia muralis* (Tab. 2), all diagnostic of the order *Geranio purpurei-Cardaminetalia hirsutae*, which was first described by Brullo & Marcenò (1985), and it is included in the class *Stellarietea mediae*. The vegetation ascribed to this order groups sciaphilo-subnitrophilous annual plant communities of natural and semi-natural habitats dominated by microphytes that colonize small niches and micro-ledges on substrata rich in organic matter, accumulating on stone-walls, shaded rocks and initial soils (Brullo *et al.*, 2007). According to the bioclimatic classification proposed by Rivas-Martinez *et al.* (2004a, b) this vegetation occurs within the thermo- and mesomediterranean thermotypes, with dry to humid ombrotypes. Its range comes all over the Mediterranean basin and it stretches northwards and westwards up to the southern temperate and Atlantic region. Communities of this vegetation type are mentioned by Brullo *et al.*, (2007) from shaded and nitrified rock habitats far from the sea at higher elevation in Greek islands of Rodos and Naxos. On the other hand Deil & Hammoumi (1997) reported from coastal limestone massif of the Central Rif Mountains (Morocco) a *Mercurialis annua-Theligonum cynocrambe* community colonizing shady and nitrified rock fissures. They assigned this community to the order *Geranio*

purpurei-Cardaminetalia hirsutae, and pointed out its vicinity to the chasmophytic communities of the class *Asplenietea trichomanis*. This vicinity, which was also observed on coastal cliffs of Keros island, permits the occurrence of chasmophytic species such as *Selaginella denticulata* and *Asplenium ceterach* both in community described from Moroccan coasts and in community found in the investigated central Aegean islet. Thereby the presence of chasmophytic species within this sciaphilo-subnitrophilous vegetation that thrives in coastal rocky niches and micro-ledges admits the characterization of it as chasmo-halophytic too and its matching in habitat code 1260.

Besides the above described community a *Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum* dominated formation was also found on coastal cliffs of Shinousa island (Tab. 8). Costa *et al.* (1996) and Biondi *et al.* (2014) attributed the *Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum* dominated communities to the order *Chenopodietalia muralis*, alliance *Mesembryanthenion crystallini* (class *Stellarietea mediae*) which includes Mediterranean nitrophilous communities, that grows in habitats rich in organic matter. In turn Mucina (1997) considered this species as diagnostic of the class *Saginetea maritimae* which includes therophytic, halo-subnitrophilous communities, populating loamy and sandy soils in habitats under salt-spray influence (rocky coasts and salt mar-

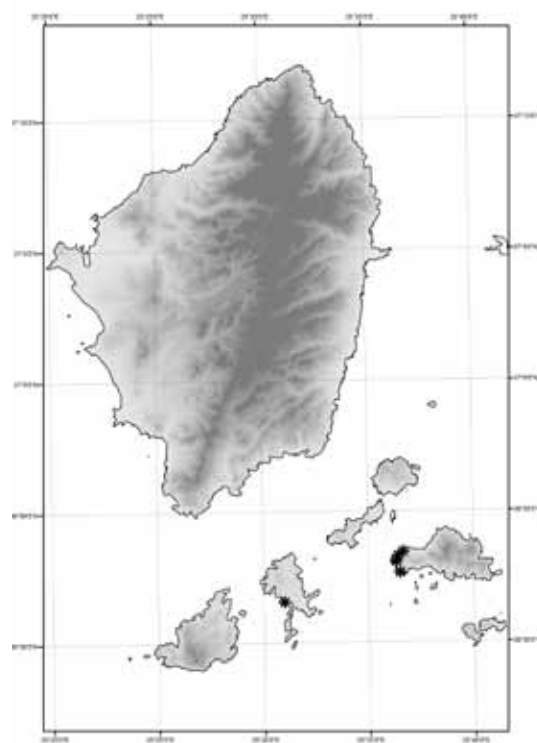


Fig. 10 - Sites of the relevés of the Greek habitat type Sub-littoral zone of the islets of the Aegean (1260).

shes) of the Mediterranean area and temperate Atlantic Europe, where they constitute a mosaic with perennial communities of the *Crithmo-Staticetea*, *Juncetea maritimi*, *Sarcocornietea fruticosae*. Although the community found in Shinousa is difficult to be classified safely into superior syntaxonomic ranks because it is very poor in species, we suggest its assignment within the *Chenopodietalia muralis*.

Annual vegetation of drift lines (habitat code: 1210)

This habitat type was encountered as a fragmented zone in two small sandy beaches of the study area (Tab. 9). It was exclusively represented by floristically poor and scattered stands of *Cakile maritima*. The diagnostic species *C. maritima* was accompanied by few taxa, such as *Elytrigia juncea* and *Matthiola tricuspidata*, originating from adjacent communities. The sandy coastal system usually begins with nitrophilous annual plant communities dominated by *Cakile maritima* and/or *Salsola tragus* which inhabit the strandline zone, starting the dune building. They thrive on substrates rich in sea salts and organic matter in decomposition (drift-line). They are also exposed to wave inundation, wind stress and are often patchy and fragmented (Prisco et al., 2012). These communities are consisted of few species resilient to the disturbance caused by sand mobility and salt spray and are grouped within the *Cakiletea maritimae* class. This specific class contributes to the formation of embryo dunes and is followed by dunes dominated by dune-forming plants such as *Elytrigia juncea* (Seabloom & Wiedemann, 1994, Nordstrom et al., 2009).

Embryonic shifting dunes (habitat code: 2110)

Coastal dunes hold one of the most ecologically remarkable ecosystems on earth. The influence of the sea generates a strong sea-inland environmental gradient which shapes the vegetation features of the coastal dune system. Plant communities are often arranged along a sea-inland zonation (Doing, 1985; Feola et al., 2011) that increases the high values of biodiversity in terms of habitat richness and species of interest (Brullo et al., 2001; Acosta et al., 2003; van der Maarel, 2003; Biondi, 2007). However, at present, dune environments are considered to be threatened worldwide (McLachlan & Brown, 2006).

The embryonic shifting dunes are of exceptional importance as an indicator of the general structural and functional 'health' of a dune system. They involve constant sand deposition by wind in relatively flat beach complexes, influenced by salt or brackish water. Their vegetation that is assigned to the *Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophileta australis* class (*Ammophiletalia australis*, *Agropyron juncei*) promotes the first accumulations of sand that then grow to increased heights (as the mobile dunes) (Biondi & Galdenzi, 2014). Ho-

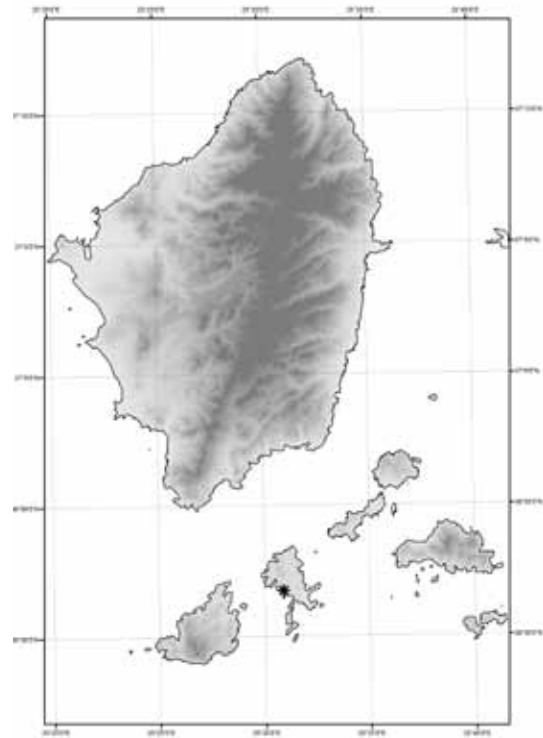


Fig. 11 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type Annual vegetation of drift lines (1210).

wever, it is transient and will either be displaced by shifting dunes with *Ammophila arenaria* ("white dunes") or washed away by storms.

The association *Cypero mucronati-Agropyretum juncei* that includes open grass formations, poor in species, dominated by *Elytrigia juncea* and *Eryngium maritimum* was encountered in the investigated areas and in most cases it was characterized by the constant presence of *Medicago marina* (Tab. 10). The above mentioned species are diagnostic of the alliance *Agropyron juncei* (order *Ammophiletalia australis*, class *Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophiletea australis*). According to Sýkora et al., (2003) this syntaxon is endangered, it occurs at the highest part of the beach as pioneer vegetation on the first embryo dunes (*duni embryonales fundati* sensu van Dieren 1934) and it is sporadically inundated by the sea water during storm. They also noted that the species *Medicago marina* is highly frequent all over the *Cypero mucronati-Agropyretum juncei* relevés reported from Greece. Lavrentiades (1964) demonstrated that in the coasts of western Peloponnisos this community grows especially on dunes up to 1 - 2 meters high and that its development depends particularly on the direction and exposure of the coasts to the SW winds. Bibliographic records concerning this dune-colonising vegetation are more frequent from coastal regions of mainland (Lavrentiades 1963, 1964, 1976; Pavlidis, 1976 a, b; Georgiadis et

al., 1990; Karagianni *et al.*, 2008; Spanou *et al.*, 2006) than from insular Greece (Géhu *et al.*, 1987; Biondi, 1989; Mayer, 1995; Brofas *et al.*, 2001; Vallianatou, 2005). The community is also known from Cyprus (Géhu *et al.*, 1984; 1990b), Spain (Díez *et al.*, 1975), Italy (Gratani, 1987; Giusso Del Galdo *et al.*, 2008; Di Pietro *et al.*, 2009; Tomaselli *et al.*, 2011), Albania (Imeri *et al.*, 2010) and Turkey (Géhu & Uslu, 1989; Karaömerlioglou, 2007).

Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes) (habitat code: 2120)

The increase of dune height is accompanied by gradual change of the vegetation physiognomy. The highest dunes, that are at least 1 m high, are usually colonized by big tufts of the species *Ammophila arenaria* which represent the vegetation of yellow, very permeable and humus poor mobile sand-dunes (Oberdorfer 1952, Lavrentiades 1964, Sýkora *et al.*, 2003). This vegetation is the real builder of the dunes as it is an important factor in impeding the movement of sand quantities pushed away by the sea winds towards the continent. Along the western shoreline of Naxos, in places not intensely disturbed by human activities *Ammophila arenaria* along with *Medicago marina* consist the sand-dune formations land-wards of the *Cypero mucronati-Agropyretum juncei*. *Eryngium maritimum*, *Elytrigia juncea* and *Euphorbia paralias* all diagnostic

species of the order *Ammophiletalia australis* (class *Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophiletalia australis*), were constantly associated with this community throughout its range in the study area (Tab. 10). The association *Medicagini marinae-Ammophiletum australis* known from Sithonia (Pavlidis 1976b), Kriti (Géhu *et al.*, 1987) and many coastal areas of western Greece (Lavrentiades 1964, Georgiadis *et al.*, 1990, Karagianni *et al.*, 2008, Spanou *et al.*, 2006) significantly resembles to the investigated phytocoena in Naxos which were dominated by the same species. Besides Greece the *Medicagini marinae-Ammophiletum australis* is distributed in Spain (Díez *et al.*, 1975), Italy (Gratani 1987; Di Pietro *et al.*, 2009; Giusso Del Galdo *et al.*, 2008; Tomaselli *et al.*, 2011), Albania (Imeri *et al.*, 2010) and Turkey (Géhu & Uslu, 1989). There are no previous records of this community from insular Greece.

Stands co-dominated by *Medicago marina* and *Ononis variegata* were also encountered on the investigated shifting dunes (Tab. 11). They develop sporadically close to the association *Medicagini marinae-Ammophiletum australis* usually at the edges of dunes towards the sea. Literature data reveal that *O. variegata* which is diagnostic of the *Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophiletalia australis* class, occupies the natural gaps of other perennial psammophilous communities of embryo or mobile dunes, replacing them in many cases especially when they are eliminated due to human pressure (Staniski *et al.*, 2004; Acosta *et al.*, 2000, 2007; Géhu & Biondi, 1994). Georgiadis *et al.* (1990) recorded this taxon amongst the species inhabiting the mobile dunes of the Strofilia coastal area.

The loss of plant species that trap and hold sand, makes the beach more vulnerable to wind and erosion, a fact frequently underlined in the literature (Adriani & Terwindt, 1974; van der Maarel, 1993). It is evident that the maintenance of typical sand dune vegetation is essential especially in Mediterranean sandy coastlines which are under threat of extensive erosion and increased human activities (van der Maarel, 1979b; De Lillis, 1998; Dean & Dalrymple, 2002). It is estimated that at present ca. 75% of the sandy Mediterranean coasts are degraded (Géhu, 1985; Salman & Strating, 1992).

Malcolmietalia dune grasslands (habitat code:2230)

In the investigated area this habitat type was poorly represented by small stands of *Matthiola tricuspitata* and *Pseudorhiza pumila* (Tab. 9). This vegetation belongs to the order *Cutandietalia maritimae* that has been proposed within the concept of the class *Thero-Brachypodietaea* (Rivas-Martínez *et al.*, 2002) and includes ephemeral plant communities of coastal sand and dunes with salt spray spreading mostly in the eastern Mediterranean basin. Their optimum is the thermo-Mediterranean zone with semiarid to sub-humid

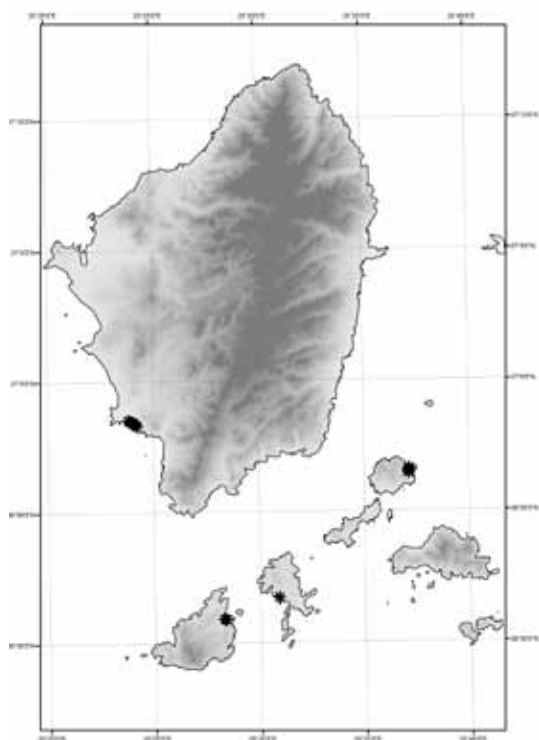


Fig. 12 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type Embryonic shifting dunes (2110).

Tab. 7 - *Nerium oleander-Vitex agnus-castus* comm. (rels. 1-5).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	62	63	64	65	66	
Plot size (m ²)	50	100	100	100	100	
Total cover (%)	80	90	90	100	100	
Exposure	0	SSE	ENE	SW	E	
Slope (°)	0	0	0	0	0	
Species N.	16	20	23	11	13	
Character species of the association						
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	4	5	4	5	.	IV
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	.	.	.	.	4	II
Character species of <i>Stellarietea mediae</i>						
<i>Campanula erinus</i>	2m	+	.	.	1	IV
<i>Anogramma leptophylla</i>	2m	.	.	.	.	II
<i>Saxifraga hederacea</i>	2b	.	.	.	.	II
<i>Bromus madritensis</i>	.	.	1	1	.	III
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	.	+	.	.	.	II
<i>Sedum littoreum</i>	+	.	.	.	.	II
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	.	+	r	.	.	III
<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	.	.	+	.	.	II
<i>Theligonum cynocrambe</i>	.	.	+	.	.	II
<i>Avena barbata</i>	.	.	+	.	.	II
<i>Bromus sterilis</i>	.	.	1	.	.	II
Character species of <i>Thero-Brachypodietea</i>						
<i>Cynosurus echinatus</i>	.	1	1	1	.	IV
<i>Brachypodium distachyon</i>	.	1	1	.	.	III
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	.	1	.	.	.	II
<i>Catapodium rigidum</i>	.	1	.	.	.	II
<i>Plantago lagopus</i>	.	r	.	.	.	II
<i>Plantago afra</i>	.	+	.	.	.	II
<i>Hedypnois rhagadioloides</i>	.	+	.	.	.	II
<i>Galium murale</i>	.	+	.	.	.	II
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	.	.	2m	.	.	II
<i>Briza maxima</i>	.	.	r	.	.	II
<i>Valantia hispida</i>	.	.	.	1	.	II
<i>Silene colorata</i>	.	.	.	+	.	II
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	.	.	.	.	1	II
Other species						
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	2m	1	1	1	2m	V
<i>Arum italicum</i>	1	+	1	+	3	V
<i>Torilis nodosa</i>	+	+	.	+	.	III
<i>Lagoecia cuminoides</i>	+	.	2m	.	2m	III
<i>Ballota acetabulosa</i>	+	.	+	.	.	III
<i>Oxalis pres-capre</i>	+	+	.	.	.	III
<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	.	2m	.	2m	.	III
<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	.	+	1	.	+	III
<i>Euphorbia peplis</i>	.	+	.	+	.	III
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	.	.	1	+	.	III
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	.	.	1	r	.	III
<i>Rumex pulcher</i>	.	r	.	.	.	II
<i>Rostraria cristata</i>	.	+	.	.	+	II
N. of accidental species	5	0	6	0	6	

Tab. 8 - *Frankenia hirsuta-Limonium graecum* comm. (rels. 1-7), *Limonio-Cichorietum spinosi* (Knapp 1965) Géhu *et al.* 1987 (rels. 8-11), *Mesebrianthemum nodiflorum* comm. (rel.12).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43
Plot size (m ²)	20	20	20	20	20	20	10	20	20	20	20	15
Total cover (%)	30	10	80	50	70	40	10	20	40	30	20	50
Exposure	WSW	ESE	0	SW	SW	SW	SE	ESE	W	SW	SW	SSW
Slope (°)	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
Species N.	8	18	7	11	17	11	4	11	9	8	10	10

Character species of the associations

<i>Limonium graecum</i>	3	4	1	4	1	3	2m	.	.	.	.	.	+
<i>Frankenia hirsuta</i>	2m	r	1	3	3	.	.	IV	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Cichorium spinosum</i>	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	I	2a	3	3	3	V
<i>Limonium virgatum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	1	.	.	III
<i>Mesebrianthemum nodiflorum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4

Character species of *Crithmo-Staticetea*

<i>Lotus cytisoides</i>	r	+	.	2m	1	.	+	IV	1	+	.	r	IV	3
<i>Malcolmia flexuosa</i>	+	.	.	1	2b	.	.	III	.	r	.	.	II	.
<i>Anthemis rigida</i>	.	2m	.	2b	3	.	.	III	.	.	.	+	II	.
<i>Reichardia picroides</i>	.	+	1	.	r	.	+	III	.	.	.	.	.	1
<i>Silene sedoides</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	I	.	.	.	.	.	2m
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	I	r	.	.	.	II	.
<i>Parietaria cretica</i>	.	.	.	.	.	2b	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i> subsp. <i>barrelieri</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2a	.	II	.

Character species of *Saginetea maritima*

<i>Plantago weldenii</i>	2m	2m	.	1	3	.	.	III	.	.	.	+	II	.
<i>Sedum litoreum</i>	.	.	.	+	+	1	.	III	+	.	.	.	II	.
<i>Catapodium maritimum</i>	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	II	+	+	.	.	III	.

Other species

<i>Podospermum canum</i>	.	.	.	2b	+	.	.	II	.	r	2m	+	IV	.
<i>Taraxacum</i> sp.	.	1	.	+	.	2m	.	III	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	r	1	.	.	.	+	.	III	r	.	.	.	II	.
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	.	3	+	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	2m	2b	III	.
<i>Trifolium scabrum</i>	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	1	1	2m	IV	.
<i>Allium</i> sp.	+	1	.	.	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Phleum exaratum</i>	.	2b	.	2b	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Salsola soda</i>	.	.	.	1	2b	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Valantia muralis</i>	.	.	.	.	1	2b	.	II	2m	+	.	r	IV	.
<i>Phleum exaratum</i> subsp. <i>aegaeum</i>	2m	+	.	III	.
<i>Brachypodium distachyon</i>	+	1	III	.

N. of accidental species	1	5	2	0	5	3	0	3	0	1	1	6
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Tab. 9 - *Cakile maritima* comm. (rel. 1), *Matthiola tricuspidata*-*Pseudorlaya pumila* comm. (rels. 2-3).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	32	30	31	
Plot size (m ²)	20	30	20	
Total cover (%)	50	30	30	
Exposure	SSW	S	S	
Slope (°)	1	1	1	
Species N.	4	11	7	
Character species of the associations				
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	3	.	.	.
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	+	2a	3	V
<i>Pseudorlaya pumila</i>	.	3	2a	V
Character species of <i>Thero-Brachypodietea</i>				
<i>Medicago littoralis</i>	.	4	r	V
<i>Hedypnois rhagadioloides</i>	.	2m	.	III
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	.	.	.	.
<i>Echium arenarium</i>	.	2m	r	V
<i>Valantia hispida</i>	.	+	.	.
Other species				
<i>Elytrigia juncea</i>	+	.	.	.
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	.	1	+	V
<i>Reichardia picroides</i>	.	+	.	III
<i>Lotus cytisoides</i>	.	r	.	III
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>	.	r	.	III
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	.	+	.	III
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	.	.	r	III
<i>Salsola tragus</i>	.	.	r	III

ombrotypes. They usually represent a therophytic element between the perennial vegetation of *Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophiletea australis*. On altered and nitrified soils these communities evolve annual, nitrophilous communities belonging to the *Stellarietea mediae* (Díez-Garretas *et al.*, 2003).

Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrub (Sarcocornietea fruticosae) (habitat code: 1420)

This vegetation type of semi-woody shrubs and perennial halophytes that thrives on sea water logged muddy substrates, is classified as *Sarcocornietea fruticosae* and it was found in scattered, poor in species stands, dominated by *Sarcocornia perennis* or *Suaeda vera* (Tab. 12). Both species are diagnostic of the order *Sarcocornietalia fruticosae*. We consider *Sarcocornia perennis* stands found in the study area as segments of the *Sarcocornia perennis-Halimione portulacoides* community that has been frequently reported from several coastal territories of Greece (Wolff, 1968; Babalonas, 1979; Sarika, 2012) and Turkey (Altinözlü, 2004). We also consider *Suaeda vera* dominated re-

levés as representatives of the *Suaedetum verae* association which is widely distributed in the Mediterranean, sometimes under the names *Suaedetum fruticosae* (Trinajstić, 2009) or *Halimiono portulacoidis-Suaedetum verae* (Attore *et al.*, 2004). Nevertheless we must note that in literature these syntaxa are generally more diverse.

The perennial grass *Aeluropus littoralis* was the dominant species of several stands (Tab. 12) encountered in the western sandy coasts of Naxos. It was close to the communities of Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrub (*Sarcocornietea fruticosae*) or between the communities of shifting dunes (*Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophiletea australis*) and of *Malcolmietalia* dune grasslands (*Thero-Brachypodietea*) as well as nearby to communities of Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetea maritimi*). *Aeluropus littoralis* is widespread mostly in the Mediterranean and Black Sea coasts and is usually listed as a diagnostic species of the *Juncetea maritimi* (Mucina, 1997). However its phytosociological position is not very clear as it frequently varies to a significant extent. The communities that it forms may consist of diagnostic species of the

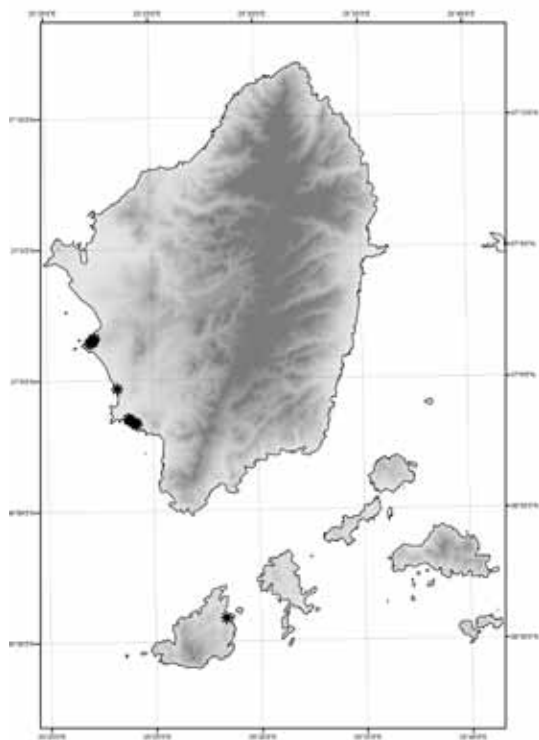


Fig. 13 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes) (2120).

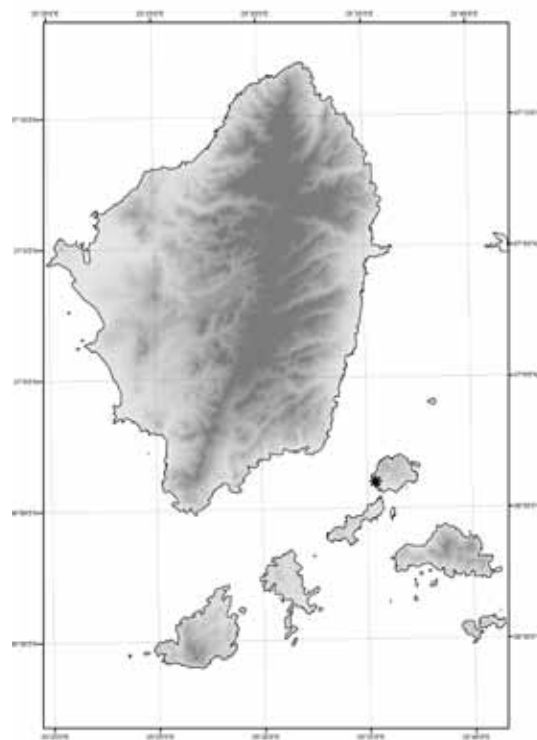


Fig. 14 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type *Malcolmietalia* dune grasslands (2230).

Juncetea maritimi (Rivas-Martínez *et al.*, 2001; Cazzin *et al.*, 2009; Theurillat & Moravec, 1998; Fägäras *et al.*, 2003; Karaömerlioglou, 2007). However, there are cases in which their physiognomy is designated by species of the *Sarcocornietea fruticosae* (Babalonas, 1979; Vasiliou *et al.*, 2000; Tzonev *et al.*, 2008; Krausch, 1965; Géhu *et al.*, 1994; Pop, 2002; Dubyna & Neuhäuslová, 2000), *Festuco-Puccinellietea* (Tzonev *et al.*, 2008) or *Thero-Brachypodietea* (Sarika, 2012). In the study area the *Aeluropus littoralis* community is mainly associated with species that belong to the *Thero-Brachypodietea*, *Saginetea maritimae* and *Euphorbio paraliae-Ammophilettea australis* (Tab. 9).

Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) (habitat code: 1410)

The *Juncetalia maritimi* grasslands that flourish on subsaline soils of the Mediterranean coastal and inland wetlands are the main vegetation constituents of this habitat type. At these lands various species of the genus *Juncus* grow plentifully and form communities on the transitional zone between the upper salt marsh zone and the upland vegetation, on sites where salt and fresh phreatic water mix (Rivas-Martínez *et al.*, 1980). These communities are usually dominated by *Juncus acutus* and/or *J. maritimus* whilst stands dominated by *J. heldreichianus* such as those found in the inve-

stigated area (Tab. 13) are reported less frequently in literature. A similar but more diverse *J. heldreichianus* community has been recently reported from coastal wetland areas of eastern continental Greece (Sarika, 2012). There are also records demonstrating the presence of *J. heldreichianus* dominated tufts within the tall humid herb grasslands of the *Molinio-Holoschoenion vulgaris* (Karagianni, 2009) or in degrading fixed coastal dunes (Vitsou-Labraki *et al.*, 2008). Yurdakulol *et al.* (1996) mentioned the association *Cardopatio-Juncetum heldreichianii* from salt marshes formed in closed basins at the inner parts of Turkey considering that it belongs to the order *Juncetalia maritimi*.

Estuaries (habitat code:1130), Coastal lagoons (habitat code: 1150*)

Submerged monotypic communities consisting of *Ruppia maritima* or of *Stuckenia pectinata* were encountered in near shore aquatic habitats exposed to excessive salinity (Tab. 14). The species *Ruppia maritima* was found at the outfall of a rivulet in the western coastline of Naxos (near Pirgaki village). On the other hand, *Stuckenia pectinata* was found in a pond occurring at the edges of a coastal wetland area expanded behind sand dune formations in the southern part of Naxos (Kalantos beach). *Ruppia maritima* mostly thrives in temporarily to permanently flooded mesohaline-

Tab. 10 - *Cypero mucronati-Agroropyretum juncei* (Kuhnhaltz-Lordat 1923) Br.-Bl. 1933 (rels. 1-11), *Medicagini marinae-Ammophiletum australis* Br.-Bl. 1921 corr. Fernández Prieto & T.E. Diaz 1991 (rels. 12-17).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig.	8	9	10	11	12	13	17	25	14	15	16	18	19	20	21	22	23		
Plot size (m ²)	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	15	30	20	20	20	30	30	30	20	30		
Total cover (%)	80	70	70	50	60	70	70	70	70	70	80	70	50	80	70	70	70		
Exposure	NNW	SSE	SW	SE	NNE	WSW	0	SE	W	ENE	ENE	0	0	SSE	NE	NE	W		
Slope (°)	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	4	2	1	0	0	3	1	1	2		
Species N.	5	7	5	4	6	9	14	5	7	5	4	14	7	16	3	6	7		
Character species of the associations																			
<i>Elytrigia juncea</i>	1	3	2m	1	4	2b	.	2b	2m	4	5	V	3	.	3	.	2b	3	III
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	1	1	2a	1	+	.	r	.	r	1	2m	V	1	r	r	r	1	2m	V
<i>Ammophilla arenaria</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	I	4	4	4	4	4	4	V
<i>Medicago marina</i>	4	2b	3	2m	2a	4	4	.	.	.	.	IV	2m	+	2a	.	2m	1	V
Character species of <i>Ammophiletea</i>																			
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	.	.	1	1	II	1	.	+	.	1	+	IV
<i>Achillea maritima</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	I	.	.	2a	.	.	.	I
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	.	.	1	3	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	II	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Character species of <i>Thero-Brachypodietea</i>																			
<i>Pseudorlaya pumila</i>	2m	2b	.	.	1	2m	2a	1	r	+	+	IV	2b	+	2a	.	r	+	V
<i>Medicago littoralis</i>	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Hedypnois rhagadioloides</i>	.	.	.	.	.	2b	2m	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Silene colorata</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	1	.	.	.	II
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	.	.	.	.	.	3	r	.	.	.	.	I	.	+	2m	.	.	.	III
<i>Cutandia maritima</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2b	.	.	I	1	.	1	.	.	.	II
Other species																			
<i>Hyoseris lucida</i>	3	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	I	1	+	1	.	.	.	III
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	.	.	+	.	+	2a	.	2a	.	.	.	II	.	r	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Hordeum marinum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	2b	.	r	.	III
<i>Echinophora spinosa</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	I	+	.	2m	.	.	.	III
N. of accidental species	-	3	-	-	-	2	4	1	2	1	-	5	-	3	1	-	1	-	

hyperhaline estuarine wetlands which have a greater range of salinity than the one that is tolerated by any other submerged angiosperm. However, it is likely at a competitive disadvantage among specialist taxa in soft or acid waters (Kantrud, 1991). *Stuckenia pectinata* that is amongst the most important competitors of *Ruppia maritima* is a very phenoplastic species, that usually occurs in inland freshwaters, but it can grow equally well in slightly brackish waters where the salinity does not exceed 6 ‰ (van Wijk et al., 1988). Both species are cosmopolitan. In Europe and in the Mediterranean region *Stuckenia pectinata* is often found in brackish waters (Grillas, 1990; van Wijk et al., 1994; Ninot et al., 2000; Imeri et al., 2010), while *Ruppia maritima* having a pronounced salinity tolerance mostly inhabits river deltas, lagoons, ponds and other coastal environments subject to tidal influence (Verhoeven, 1977; Ninot et al., 2000). In Greek littoral wetlands these species are rather common as they are frequently reported (Wolff, 1968; Babalonas, 1979; Georgiadis et al., 1990, 1997; Malea et al., 2004; Sarika et al., 2005; Christia et al., 2011; Sarika, 2012). It must also be noted that *Ruppia maritima* is widely

distributed in Naxos (Langagen, 2004).

Fragmented and not widely expanded formations of the class *Phragmito-Magno-Caricetea* dominated by the common reed *Phragmites australis* or by the tall helophyte *Schoenoplectus littoralis* (Tab. 14) were also encountered in the western coastline of Naxos, at the rivulet outfall near Pírgaki and at the coastal wetland area of Ajassos. We consider *Phragmites australis* stands as segments of the association *Phragmitetum communis* (alliance *Phragmition communis*) and those of *Schoenoplectus littoralis* as segments of the association *Scirpetum compacto-littoralis* (alliance *Cirsio brachypetali-Bolboschoenion*) which is rarely mentioned from coastal wetlands of Greece (Wolff, 1968; Babalonas, 1979) or other geographically more distant areas. The *Scirpetum compacto-littoralis* is known from southern France and Dalmatia (Braun-Blanquet et al., 1952), Spain (Ninot et al., 2000; Molina & Moreno, 2003), Italy (Braun-Blanquet et al., 1952; Pignatti, 1966; Filigheddu et al., 2000; Frondoni & Iberite, 2002; Attore et al., 2004) and Egypt (Tadros & Atta, 1958). In Spain and Italy its typical form is designated by the constant and usually single presence

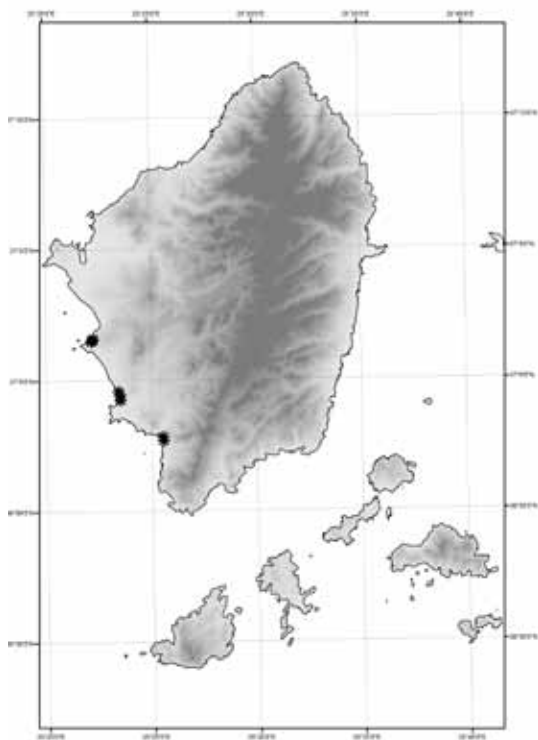


Fig. 15 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrub (*Salicornietea fruticosae*) (1420).

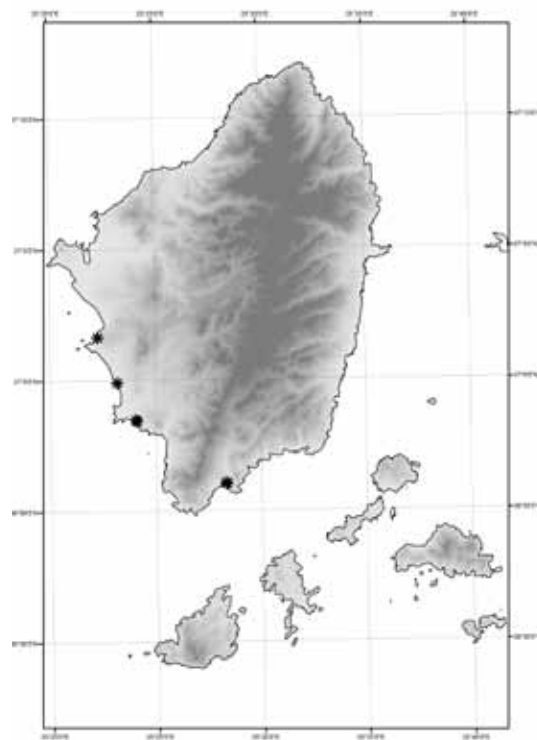


Fig. 16 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) (1410).

of *Bolboschoenus maritimus*. *Schoenoplectus littoralis*, that is almost totally absent from this form, constitutes a clearly diversified subassociation in Spain (*Schoenoplectetosum littoralis*) which consists either of monospecific *Schoenoplectus littoralis* stands or of *Bolboschoenus maritimus*-*Schoenoplectus littoralis* co-dominated stands (Ninot *et al.*, 2000). In Greece related syntaxa are reported from Kriti (Gradstein & Smittenberg, 1977), NW Peloponnese (Georgiadis *et al.*, 1990) and Epirus (Karagianni *et al.*, 2008). The association *Scirpetum compacto-littoralis* also occurs in the coastal wetland area of Shinias (north eastern part of Attiki) consisting of an extensive mosaic of pure *Bolboschoenus maritimus* stands alternated with mixed *Bolboschoenus maritimus*-*Schoenoplectus littoralis* dominated tufts (personal observation).

Mediterranean temporary ponds (habitat code: 3170*)

Temporary ponds are unusual habitats characteristic of climatic conditions typified by long dry seasons, in the Mediterranean region and also in various parts of the world which are subject to more or less arid climates. They often shelter many rare and threatened species and are very vulnerable due to their shallow depth and their frequently small surface area (Grillas, 2004). Thereby they are considered priority habitats

according to the Natura 2000 network of the European Union (Habitats Directive 92/43/ EC). They are neither truly aquatic nor truly terrestrial habitats, and their drying up for a sufficiently long period of time provides the elimination of plant communities that are usually widespread in permanent wetlands. The alternating phases of flooding and drying out, as well as their isolation, favour the establishment of unique and diverse Mediterranean semi-aquatic vegetation of the class *Isoeto-Nano-Juncetea*. Within this class, which comprises hygrophilous herbaceous ephemeral plant-communities linked to periodically submerged soils two orders are recognized: the *Isoetetalia*, distributed mainly in the Mediterranean territory, and the *Nanocyperetalia* having its optimum in the Central and Atlantic Europe, entering marginally in the Mediterranean area.

The temporary pond encountered in the study area was almost dried up in late spring and its bottom was covered by the semi-aquatic species *Callitriche brutia*. *Lythrum hyssopifolia* and *Juncus bufonius* both diagnostic species of the class *Isoeto-Nano-Juncetea* were also sporadically present (Tab. 14). *Callitriche brutia* is amongst the most commonly observed plant species in Greek temporary ponds (Zacharias *et al.*, 2007). The communities that it forms such as the *Isoeto tigulianae-Callitrichetum brutiae* (Bagella *et al.*, 2009) and

Tab. 11 - *Medicago marina-Ononis variegata* comm. (rels. 1-7).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Plot size (m ²)	50	20	20	20	30	20	20	
Total cover (%)	65	70	70	60	75	50	40	
Exposure	S	S	NNW	SSE	0	S	S	
Slope (°)	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	
Species N.	11	11	5	2	10	7	5	
Character species of the association								
<i>Medicago marina</i>	2b	2m	4	r	2b	+	2a	V
<i>Ononis variegata</i>	1	1	2a	3	1	.	.	IV
<i>Elytrigia juncea</i>	1	r	.	.	.	.	.	II
Character species of <i>Thero-Brachypodietea</i>								
<i>Pseudorhiza pumila</i>	+	1	2b	.	2m	+	.	IV
<i>Medicago littoralis</i>	.	.	.	.	1	2b	.	I
<i>Hedypnois rhagadioloides</i>	.	2m	.	.	1	.	.	II
<i>Silene colorata</i>	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	.	.	r	.	.	.	.	I
Character species of <i>Ammophiletea</i>								
<i>Helichrysum italicum</i>	3	.	.	.	2a	.	.	II
<i>Achillea maritima</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	r	I
Other species								
<i>Scirpoides holoschoenus</i>	2m	2m	.	.	2m	.	.	III
<i>Silene sartorii</i>	2m	1	.	.	2m	.	.	III
<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	r	3	.	.	.	.	.	II
<i>Reichardia picroides</i>	r	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Lotus edulis</i>	r	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Orobancha</i> sp.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
<i>Crypsis aculeata</i>	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	I
N. of accidental species	3	2	1	0	2	4	3	

Tab. 13 - *Juncus heldreichianus* comm. (rels. 1-7).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	
Plot size (m ²)	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	
Total cover (%)	100	100	100	80	70	70	100	
Exposure	0	0	0	S	0	0	0	
Slope (°)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Species N.	3	4	4	5	18	8	5	
Character species of the association								
<i>Juncus heldreichianus</i>	4	5	5	5	4	4	5	V
Character species of <i>Juncetea maritimi</i>								
<i>Carex extensa</i>	.	.	2b	2b	.	.	.	II
Character species of <i>Saginetea maritimae</i>								
<i>Parapholis incurva</i>	.	1	.	2m	.	.	.	II
<i>Polypogon monspeliensis</i>	1	.	+	.	.	.	.	II
<i>Spergularia salina</i>	.	+	.	1	.	.	.	II
<i>Plantago weldenii</i>	.	.	.	.	1	.	r	II
Character species of <i>Thero-Brachypodietea</i>								
<i>Hedypnois rhagadioloides</i>	.	.	.	.	2b	.	.	I
<i>Medicago littoralis</i>	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	I
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	I
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	.	.	.	.	.	2m	.	I
Other species								
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	2b	1	+	.	.	.	.	III
<i>Limonium</i> sp.	.	.	.	.	1	2a	.	II
<i>Aegilops biuncialis</i>	.	.	.	.	2a	.	.	I
<i>Halimione portulacoides</i>	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	I
<i>Suaeda vera</i>	.	.	.	.	2m	.	.	I
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	.	.	.	.	2m	.	.	I
<i>Picris pauciflora</i>	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	I
<i>Medicago disciformis</i>	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	I
<i>Bromus madritensis</i>	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	I
<i>Aeluropus littoralis</i>	.	.	.	.	.	2b	.	I
N. of accidental species	0	0	0	1	5	4	3	

Tab. 14 - *Schoenoplectus littoralis* comm. (rel. 1), *Phragmites australis* comm. (rels. 2-3), *Ruppium maritima* Hocquette 1927 (rel. 4), *Potamogetonum pectinatum* Carstensen (rel. 5), *Callitriche brutia* comm. (rels. 6-7).

Relevé N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Relevé N. (dendrogram of Fig. 4)	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Plot size (m ²)	30	30	30	25	30	5	5
Total cover (%)	100	100	100	100	100	70	80
Exposure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slope (°)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Species N.	2	2	3	1	1	2	7
Character species of the associations							
<i>Schoenoplectus littoralis</i>	5	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	.	5	5	.	.	.	.
<i>Ruppia maritima</i>	.	2b	.	5	.	.	.
<i>Stuckenia pectinata</i>	.	.	.	.	5	.	.
<i>Callitriche brutia</i>	.	.	.	.	.	4	4
Other species							
<i>Juncus heldreichianus</i>	2b	.	2b	.	.	.	.
<i>Carex extensa</i>	.	.	+	.	.	.	.
<i>Plantago weldenii</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
<i>Lythrum hyssopifolia</i>	.	.	.	.	.	r	1
<i>Poa infirma</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
<i>Spergularia bocconeii</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1

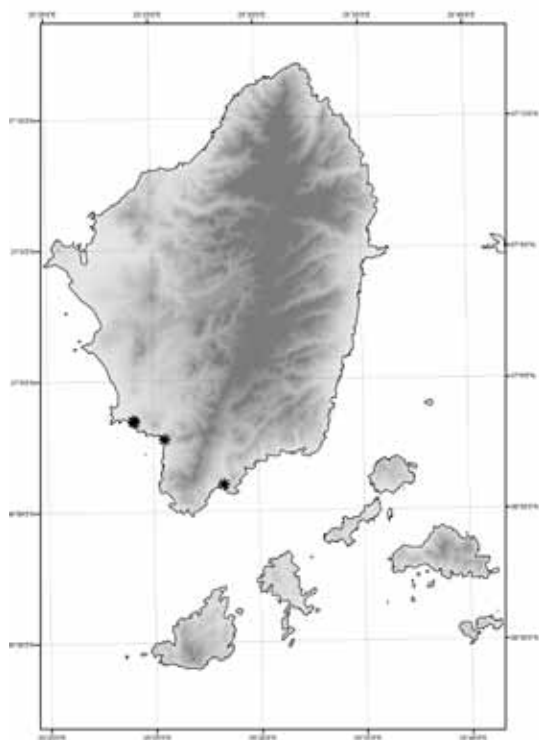


Fig. 17 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat types Estuaries (1130) and Coastal lagoons (1150).

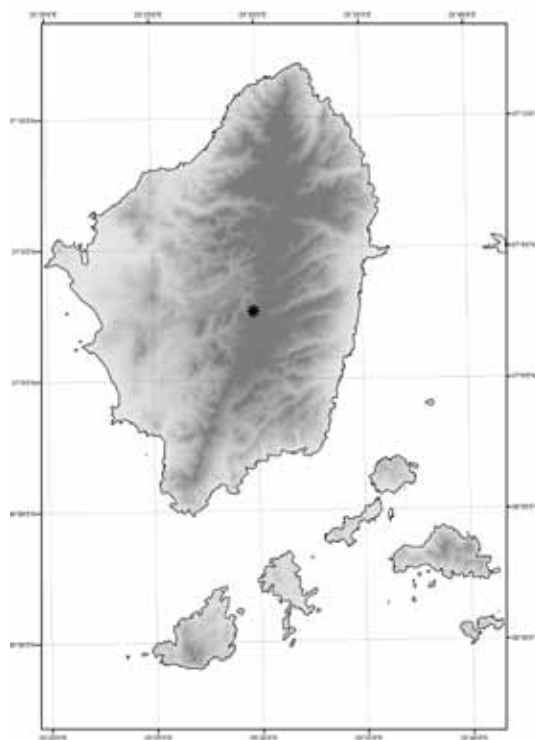


Fig. 18 - Sites of the relevés of the habitat type Mediterranean temporary ponds (3170).

the *Ranunculo-Callitrichetum brutiae* (Brullo & Minissale, 1998) are used to be referred to the *Preslion cervinae* alliance, order *Isoetalia*. Nevertheless in the syntaxonomical scheme proposed by Rivas-Martínez *et al.* (2001) *C. brutia* is treated as diagnostic of many communities classified within the alliance *Ranunculation aquatilis* (order *Potametalia*, class *Potametea*). It should also be noted that Sarika *et al.* (2003) reported a vegetation type with *Ranunculus rionii* and *C. brutia* from Epirus considering that it belongs to *Ranunculation aquatilis* as well. Moreover Mucina (1997) cited *C. brutia* within the class *Isoëto-littoreletea* which corresponds to the habitat code 3130. We think that the floristic composition of *C. brutia* stands found in the

investigated area permits their assignment to the class *Isoëto-Nano-Juncetea* and possibly to the alliance *Preslion cervinae*.

Acknowledgments

The floristic, phytosociological and habitat records given in the present study are based on data collected by the authors during the spring and summer of 2000, within the framework of the Natura 2000 Vegetation and Habitat Identification and Mapping project. The authors would like to warmly thank Prof. Edoardo Biondi and Dr. Daniela Gigante for their valuable comments on an earlier version of the manuscript.

Syntaxonomic scheme

Aeluropus littoralis community

ASPLENIETEA TRICHOMANIS (Br.-Bl. in Meier et Br.-Bl. 1934) Oberd. 1977

CIRSIETALIA CHAMAEPEUCES Horvat in Horvat *et al.* 1974

Stachelina fruticosa community

Scrophularia heterophylla community

ISOETO-NANO-JUNCETEA Br.-Bl. & Tüxen ex Westhoff, Dijk & Passchier 1946

ISOETALIA Br.-Bl. 1936

Preslion cervinae Br.-Bl. ex Moor 1937

Callitriche brutia community

QUERCETEA ILICIS Br.-Bl. ex A. et O. Bolòs 1950

QUERCETALIA ILICIS Br.-Bl. ex Molinier 1934 em. Rivas-Martínez 1975

Quercion ilicis Br.-Bl. ex Molinier 1934 em. Rivas-Martínez 1975

Rhamno lycioidis-Quercetum cocciferae Br.-Bl. et Bolòs 1954

PISTACIO LENTISCI-RHAMNETALIA ALATERNI Rivas-Martínez 1975

Oleo-Ceratonion silique Br.-Bl. Guinochet & Drouineau 1944 em. Rivas-Martínez 1975

Pistacio lentisci-Juniperetum phoeniceae Trinajtić 1987

Juniperion turbinatae Rivas-Martínez 1975 corr. 1987

Pistacio lentisci-Juniperetum macrocarpae Caneva, De Marco et Mossa 1981

CISTO-MICROMERIETEA JULIANAE Oberd. 1954

POTERIETALIA SPINOSI Eig 1939

Helichryso barrelieri-Phagnalion graeci (Barbero & Quèzel 1989) R. Jahn in Mucina et al. 2009

Erica manipuliiflora-Thymbra capitata community

Thymbra capitata community

Genista acanthoclada-Sarcopoterium spinosum community

Sarcopoterium spinosum community

Cistus salvifolius-Cistus parviflorus community

NERIO-TAMARICETEA Br.-Bl. & O. Bolòs 1958

TAMARICETALIA AFRICANAE Br.-Bl. & O. Bolòs 1958; em. Izco, Fernández & Molina 1984

Rubo ulmifolii-Nerion oleandri O. Bolòs 1985

Nerium oleander-Vitex agnus-castus community

CRITHMO-STATICETEA Br.-Bl. in Br.-Bl., Roussine & Nègre 1952

CRITHMO-STATICETALIA Molinier 1934

Crithmo-Staticion Molinier 1934

Limonio-Cichorietum spinosi (Knapp 1965) Géhu et al. 1987

Crithmo-Frankenion hirsutae Mayer 1995

Frankenia hirsuta-Limonium graecum community

STELLARIETEA MEDIAE R.Tx., Lohmeyer & Preising ex von Rochow 1951

GERANIO PURPUREI-CARDAMINETALIA HIRSUTAE Brullo in Brullo & Marcenò 1985

Theligono cynocrambis-Parietarietum lusitanicae ass. nova

Holotypus: Table 2, rel. 5, *hoc loco*

Character species: *Theligonum cynocrambe*, *Parietaria lusitanica*, *Mercurialis annua*, *Valantia muralis*.

Physiognomy and ecology: Sciaphilo-subnitrophilous vegetation dominated by *Parietaria lusitanica*, growing on shaded coastal limestone slopes and cliffs.

Distribution: Keros island (Greece)

CHENOPODIETALIA MURALIS Br.-Bl. in Br.-Bl., Gajewski, Wraber & Walas 1936

Mesembryanthenion crystallini Rivas-Martínez, Wildpret, Del Arco, Rodríguez, Pérez de Paz, García-Gallo, Acebes, T.E. Díaz & Fernández-González 1993

Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum community

CAKILETEA MARITIMAE Tx. et Preising ex Br.-Bl. et Tx. 1952

EUPHORBIETALIA PEPLIS Tx. ex. Oberd. 1949

Euphorbion peplis Tx. ex. Oberd. 1952

Cakile maritima community

EUPHORBIO PARALIAE-AMMOPHILETEA AUSTRALIS Géhu & Rivas-Martínez in Rivas-Martínez et al. 2011

AMMOPHILETALIA AUSTRALIS Br.-Bl. 1933

Agropyron juncei (R. Tüxen 1945 in Br.-Bl. & R. Tüxen 1952) Géhu, Rivas-Martínez & R. Tüxen 1972 in Géhu, Costa, Scoppola, Biondi, Marchiori, Peris, Franck, Caniglia & Veri 1984

Cypero mucronati-Agropyretum juncei (Kuhnhaltz-Lordat 1923) Br.-Bl. 1933

Ammophilion australis Br.-Bl. 1921 corr. Rivas-Martínez, Costa & Izco in Rivas-Martínez, Lousa, Díaz, Fernández-González & Costa 1990

Medicagini marinae-Ammophiletum australis Br.-Bl. 1921 corr. Fernández Prieto & T.E. Diaz 1991

Medicago marina-Ononis variegata community

THERO-BRACHIPODIETEA Br.-Bl. ex A. de Bolos y Vayreda 1950

CUTANDIETALIA MARITIMAE Rivas-Martínez, Díez-Garretas & Asensi in Rivas-Martínez *et al.* 2002

Matthiola tricuspidata-Pseudorlaya pumila community

SARCOCORNIETEA FRUTICOSAE Br.-Bl. et R. Tx. ex A. et O. de Bolòs 1950 *nom. mut. propos.* Rivas-Martínez *et al.* 2002

SARCOCORNIETALIA FRUTICOSAE Br.-Bl. 1933 *nom. mut. propos.* Rivas-Martínez *et al.* 2002

Arthrocnemion perennis Rivas-Martínez in Rivas-Martínez & Costa 1984

Sarcocornia perennis-Halimione portulacoides community

Suaedion verae (Rivas-Martínez, Lousã, T.E. Díaz, Fernández-González & J.C. Costa 1990) Rivas-Martínez, Fernández-González & Loidi 1999.

Suaedetum verae Br.-Bl. ex O. de Bolòs & Molinier 1958

JUNCETEA MARITIMI R. Tx. et Oberd. 1958

JUNCETALIA MARITIMI Br.-Bl. ex Horvatić 1934

Juncion maritimi Br.-Bl. ex Horvatić 1934

Juncus heldreichianus community

PHRAGMITO-MAGNO-CARICETEA Klika in Klika et Novák

PHRAGMITETALIA W. Koch 1926

Phragmition communis W. Koch 1926

Phragmites australis community

BOLBOSCHOENETALIA MARITIMI Hejný in Holub *et al.* 1964

Cirsio brachycephali-Bolboschoenion (Passarge 1978) Mucina in Bal.-Tul. *et al.* 1933

Schoenoplectus litoralis community

POTAMETEA Klika in Klika & Novák 1931

POTAMETALIA Koch 1926

Potamion (Koch 1926) Libbert 1931

Potamogetonetum pectinati Carstensen

RUPPIETEA J. Tüxen 1960

RUPPIETALIA MARITIMAE J. Tüxen 1960

Ruppion maritimae Br.-Bl. ex Westhoff in Bennema, Sissingh & Westhoff 1943

Ruppium maritimae Hocquette 1927

Others syntaxa quoted in the text

Asterion cretici Zaffran 1990; *Capparo-Amaricion tournefortii* Horvat in Horvat *et al.* 1974; *Cardopatio-Juncetum heldreichianii* Yurdakulol *et al.* 1996, ass. nova; *Cerantonio-Pistacietum lentisci* Zohary 1962 *juniperetosum phoeniceae*; *Cerantonio-Rhamnion oleoidis* Barbero & Quézel 1979; *Cirsio chamaepeuces-Scrophularietum heterophyllae* Horvat in Horvat *et al.* 1974; *Cisto-Ericetalia* Horvatic 1958; *Coccifero-Caprinetum* Oberdorfer 1948; *Coridothymion capitati* Eig 1939; *Crithmo-Malcolmion* Lovrić et Uslu 1990; *Dorygnio-Coridothymion capitati* (Oberd. 1954) Brullo *et al.* 1997; *Festuco-Puccinellietea* Soó 1968; *Halimiono portulacoidis-Suaedetum verae* (Br.-Bl. 1952) Molinier et Tallon 1970; *Inulion heterolepidis* Horvat in Horvat *et al.* 1974; *Isoëto-Littoreletea* Br.-Bl. et Vlieger in Vlieger 1937; *Isoëto tigulianae-Callitrichetum brutiae* Bagella *et al.* 2009, ass. nova; *Micromerion julianae* Oberd. 1954; *Molinio-Holoschoenion vulgaris* Br.-Bl. ex Tchou 1948; *Nanocyperetalia* Klika 1935; *Oleo-lentiscetum aegaicum* Krause, Ludwig et Seidel 1963 *juniperetosum phoeniceae*; *Oleo-lentiscetum aegaicum* Krause, Ludwig et Seidel 1963 *quercetosum cocciferae*; *Periploco-Vitacetum agni-casti* Lakušić 1980; *Phragmitetum communis* Schmale 1939; *Pistacio-Juniperetum macrocarpae* Bartolo, Brullo & Marcenò 1982; *Populetalia albae* Br.-Bl. ex Tchou 1948; *Quercococciferae-Phillyretrum latifoliae* Barbero & Quézel 1976; *Quercococciferae-Pistacietum lentisci* Br.-Bl. *et al.* 1935 em. A.

& O. Bolòs 1950; *Ranunculion aquatilis* Passarge 1964; *Ranunculo-Callitrichetum brutiae* Brullo & Minissale 1998, ass. nova; *Rubio tenuifoliae-Juniperetum macrocarpae* Géhu et al. 1989; *Saginetea maritimae* Weshoff et al. 1962; *Salicetalia purpureae* Moor 1958; *Sarcopoterietalia spinosi* Eig 1939; *Sarcopoterio spinosi-Coridothymetum capitati* Lavr. 1975; *Schoenoplectetum litoralis* O. Bolòs 1967; *Scirpetum compacto-litoralis* (Br.-Bl. in Br.-Bl., Roussine & Nègre 1952) O. Bolòs 1962 corr. Rivas-Martínez, Costa, Castraviejo & E. Valdés 1980; *Suaedetum fruticosae* Br.-Bl. ex O. Bolòs & Molinier 1958; *Tamaricion africanae* Br.-Bl. & O. Bolòs 1958; *Tamaricion boveano-canariensis* Izco et al. 1984; *Vitici-Tamaricetum* Horvatić 1963.

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Appendix I: List of taxa found in the investigated regions. Abbreviations are: Na (Naxos), AK (Ano Koufonisi), KK (Kato Koufonisi), Ir (Iraklia), Sh (Schinoussa), Ke (Keros), Gl (Glaronisi).

	Life form	Chorological type	Distribution
Pteridophyta			
Aspleniaceae			
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i> L.	H	European-SW Asian	Na, Ir, Ke
Dennstaedtiaceae			
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> (L.) Kuhn in Kersten	G	Cosmopolitan	Na
Polypodiaceae			
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i> L.	G	Mediterranean	Na
Pteridaceae			
<i>Allosorus acrosticus</i> (Balb.) Christenh. in Greuter & Raab-Straube	G	Mediterranean	Ir, Ke
<i>Anogramma leptophylla</i> (L.) Link	Th	Cosmopolitan	Na
Selaginellaceae			
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i> (L.) Spring	H	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Ke
Spermatophyta			
Gymnospermae			
Cupressaceae			
<i>Juniperus macrocarpa</i> Sm. in Sibth. & Sm.	Ph	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i> L.	Ph	Mediterranean	Na
Ephedraceae			
<i>Ephedra foeminea</i> Forssk.	Ph	Mediterranean	Na, AK
Angiospermae Dicotyledones			
Aceraceae			
<i>Acer sempervirens</i> L.	Ph	E Mediterranean	Na
Aizoaceae			
<i>Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Sh

Anacardiaceae

Pistacia lentiscus L. Ph Mediterranean Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh, Gl

Apiaceae

Bupleurum gracile d'Urv. Th Mediterranean Na
Bupleurum semicompositum L. Th Mediterranean-SW Asian Na
Crithmum maritimum L. Ch Mediterranean-European KK, Ir
Daucus guttatus Sm. in Sibth. & Sm. Th Mediterranean Na
Echinophora spinosa L. H Mediterranean Na
Eryngium campestre L. H European-SW Asian Na
Eryngium maritimum L. G Mediterranean-European Na, AK, Ir, Sh
Hellenocarum multiflorum (Sm.) H. Wolff G Mediterranean Na
Lagoecia cuminoidea L. Th Mediterranean-European Na, AK
Orlaya daucoidea (L.) Greuter in Greuter & Rech. f. Th Mediterranean-SW Asian Na
Pseudorlaya pumila (L.) Grande H Mediterranean Na, AK, Ir, Sh
Scaligeria napiformis (Spreng.) Grande H E Mediterranean Na, Ir
Scandix australis L. Th Mediterranean-European Ke
Scandix pecten-veneris L. Th European-SW Asian Na, Ke
Smyrniolum perfoliatum L. subsp. *rotundifolium* (Mill.) Hartvig in Strid H Mediterranean Na
Thapsia garganica L. H Mediterranean Na
Tordylium apulum L. Th Mediterranean Na, Ir
**Tordylium hirtocarpum* Candargy Th E Mediterranean Ke
Torilis leptophylla (L.) Rchb. f. Th European-SW Asian Na
Torilis nodosa (L.) Gaertn. Th European-SW Asian Na

Apocynaceae

Nerium oleander L. Ph Mediterranean Na

Araceae

Arisarum vulgare O. Tag. Tozz. subsp. *vulgare* G Mediterranean Na, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh, Gl
Arum italicum Mill. G Mediterranean-European Na
Dracunculus vulgaris Schott. in Schott & Endl. G Mediterranean Na

Araliaceae

Hedera helix L. Ph Mediterranean-European Na

Asteraceae

Achillea maritima (L.) Ehrend. & Y.P. Guo H Mediterranean-Atlantic Na
Aetheorhiza bulbosa (L.) Cass. G Mediterranean Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh
Anthemis chia L. Th Mediterranean Na
Anthemis rigida Heldr. H E Mediterranean Na, AK
Arctylis cancellata L. Th Mediterranean Na, AK, Sh
Bellium minutum (L.) L. Th Mediterranean Gl
Calendula arvensis L. Th Mediterranean-European Na, AK, Sh
Carduus pycnocephalus L. H Mediterranean-European Na
Carlina corymbosa L. H Mediterranean Na, AK, KK, Sh
Centaurea raphanina Sm. in Sibth. & Sm. H Greek Endemic Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh, Gl
Cichorium spinosum L. Ch Mediterranean Na, AK, Ir
Crepis foetida L. H Mediterranean-European Na
Crepis multiflora Sm. in Sibth. & Sm. Th E Mediterranean Na, Sh
Crupina crupinastrum (Moris) Vis. Th European-SW Asian Na, Sh
Filago aegaea Wagenitz subsp. *aristata* Wagenitz Th E Mediterranean Na
**Filago cretensis* Gand. Th Greek Endemic Na
Filago eriocephala Guss. Th Mediterranean Na
Filago pygmaea L. Th Mediterranean Na
Glebionis coronaria (L.) Spach Th Mediterranean AK
Helichrysum italicum (Roth) G. Don in Loudon Ch Mediterranean Na, Ir
Helichrysum stoechas (L.) Moench subsp. *barrelieri* (Ten.) Nyman Ch Mediterranean Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh
Hedypnois rhagadioloides (L.) F. W. Schmidt Th Mediterranean Na, Ak, Sh
**Hymenonema graecum* (L.) DC. H Greek Endemic Na
Hyoseris lucida L. H Mediterranean Na, Ir
Hyoseris scabra L. Th Mediterranean Na, AK, Ir
Hypochaeris achyrophorus L. Th Mediterranean Na, Ke, Ir, Sh
Hypochaeris glabra L. Th Mediterranean Na
**Leontodon graecus* Boiss. & Heldr. in Boiss. H Greek Endemic Na
Leontodon tuberosus L. H Mediterranean Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh
Pallenis spinosa (L.) Cass. H Mediterranean Na, AK, Sh
Phagnalon rupestre (L.) DC. subsp. *graecum* (Boiss. & Heldr.) Batt. Ch Mediterranean Na, AK, Ke, Ir, Sh
Phagnalon saxatile (L.) Cass. Ch Mediterranean Na

<i>Picnemon acarna</i> (L.) Cass.	Th	Paleotemperate	Na
<i>Picris pauciflora</i> Willd.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na
<i>Podospermum canum</i> C.A. Mey.	H	European-SW Asian	Na, Ak
<i>Reichardia picroides</i> (L.) Roth	H	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Sh
<i>Rhagadiolus stellatus</i> (L.) Gaertn.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Senecio vernalis</i> Waldst. & Kit.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na, AK, , Ke, Ir, Gl
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i> L.	Th	Paleotemperate	AK, Ke, Ir
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na
* <i>Staelhelina fruticosa</i> (L.) L.	Ch	Greek Endemic	Ir
<i>Taraxacum</i> sp.	H		Ak, Ke
<i>Tolpis umbellata</i> Bertol.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Tragopogon</i> sp.			Na
<i>Urospermum picroides</i> (L.) F.W. Schmidt	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Sh
Boraginaceae			
<i>Alkanna tinctoria</i> Tausch	H	E Mediterranean	Na
<i>Echium angustifolium</i> Mill.	H	E Mediterranean	Na
<i>Echium arenarium</i> Guss.	H	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Sh
<i>Buglossoides arvensis</i> (L.) I.M. Johnst.	Th	Mediterranean	Ir
Brassicaceae			
* <i>Aethionema saxatile</i> (L.) R.Br. in W. T. Aiton subsp. <i>creticum</i> (Boiss. & Heldr.) I.A.Andersson & al.	Ch	Greek Endemic	Na
<i>Allyssum</i> sp.			Ir
<i>Biscutella didyma</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Ir, Sh
<i>Cakile maritima</i> Scop.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na, AK, Ir, Sh
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i> (L.) Medik.	Th	Cosmopolitan	AK
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i> L.	Th	Cosmopolitan	Na
<i>Chypeola jonthlaspi</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i> (L.) Lagr.-Foss.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na
<i>Malcolmia chia</i> (L.) DC.	Th	E Mediterranean	Na
<i>Malcolmia flexuosa</i> (Sm.) Sm. in Sibth. & Sm.	Th	E Mediterranean	Na, AK, Gl
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i> (L.) R.Br. in W. T. Aiton	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Ir, Sh
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i> (L.) Scop.	Th	Euro-Siberian/[Cosmopolitan]	Na
<i>Sisymbrium orientale</i> L.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na
Callitrichaceae			
* <i>Callitriche brutia</i> Petagna	A	Mediterranean-European	Na
Campanulaceae			
<i>Campanula erinus</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na
<i>Legousia falcata</i> (Ten.) Fritsch ex Janch.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Legousia hybrida</i> (L.) Delarbré	Th	European-SW Asian	Na
Caprifoliaceae			
<i>Lonicera etrusca</i> Santi	Ph	Mediterranean	Na
Caryophyllaceae			
* <i>Arenaria aegaea</i> Rech. f.	Th	Greek Endemic	Ke
<i>Arenaria leptoclados</i> (Rchb.) Guss.	Th	European-SW Asian	Ir
<i>Cerastium comatum</i> Desv.	Th	E Mediterranean	Na
* <i>Dianthus cinnamoneus</i> Sm. in Sibth. & Sm. subsp. <i>cinnamoneus</i>	H	Greek Endemic	Na
<i>Dianthus fruticosus</i> L.	Ch	Greek Endemic	Na
<i>Minuartia mediterranea</i> (Link) K. Malý	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Paronychia argentea</i> Lam.	H	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Paronychia capitata</i> (L.) Lam.	H	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Paronychia macrosepala</i> Boiss.	H	E Mediterranean	AK, KK
<i>Petrorhagia dubia</i> (Raf.) G. López & Romo	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Silene colorata</i> Poir.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Ir
<i>Silene cretica</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Silene nocturna</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK
* <i>Silene sartorii</i> Boiss. & Heldr. in Boiss.	Th	Greek Endemic	Na
<i>Silene sedoides</i> Poir.	Th	Mediterranean	Ke, Sh
<i>Spergularia bocconei</i> (Scheele) Asch. & Graebn.	Th	Mediterranean-Atlantic	Na
<i>Spergularia salina</i> J. Presl & C. Presl	Th	Paleotemperate	Na
<i>Stellaria apetala</i> Ucria	Th	European-SW Asian	Na
Chenopodiaceae			
<i>Arthrocnemum macrostachyum</i> (Moric.) K. Koch	Ch	Mediterranean	AK
<i>Atriplex prostrata</i> DC. in Lam. & DC.	Ch	Euro-Siberian	Na
<i>Halimione portulacoides</i> (L.) Aellen	Ch	Mediterranean-European	Na

<i>Salsola soda</i> L.	Th	Paleotemperate	AK
<i>Salsola tragus</i> L.	Th	Paleotemperate [Cosmopolitan]	Na, AK
<i>Sarcocornia perennis</i> (Mill.) A.J. Scott	Ch	Mediterranean-Atlantic	Na
<i>Suaeda vera</i> J.F. Gmel.	Ch	Mediterranean-Atlantic	Na
Cistaceae			
<i>Cistus creticus</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, Ir, Sh
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Cistus parviflorus</i> Lam.	Ch	E Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ir, Sh
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean	AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh
<i>Helianthemum apenninum</i> (L.) Mill.	Ch	Mediterranean	AK
<i>Fumana arabica</i> (L.) Spach	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ir, Sh
<i>Fumana thymifolia</i> (L.) Webb	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Ke, Sh
<i>Tuberaria guttata</i> (L.) Fourr.	Th	Mediterranean-Atlantic	Na, Ir
Convolvulaceae			
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i> L.	H	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Convolvulus oleifolius</i> Desr. In Lam.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, Gl
<i>Cressa cretica</i> L.	Ch	Subtropical-Tropical	Na
<i>Cuscuta</i> sp.	Th		AK, KK
Crassulaceae			
<i>Sedum hispanicum</i> L.	H	European-SW Asian	Na
<i>Sedum litoreum</i> Guss.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Ke, Ir
<i>Umbilicus horizontalis</i> (Guss.) DC.	G	Mediterranean	Na
* <i>Umbilicus parviflorus</i> (Desf.) DC.	G	Balkan-Anatolian	Na
Cucurbitaceae			
<i>Bryonia cretica</i> L.	G	E Mediterranean	Na
Ericaceae			
<i>Erica manipuliflora</i> Salisb.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir
Euphorbiaceae			
<i>Euphorbia characias</i> L.	H	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Euphorbia exigua</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i> L.	H	Mediterranean-European	Na, AK
<i>Euphorbia peplis</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na, AK, Ke, Ir, Sh
<i>Mercurialis annua</i> L.	Th	Paleotemperate	Ke, Ir
Fabaceae			
<i>Anthyllis hermanniae</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ir, Sh
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> L.	H	European	Na
<i>Astragalus hamosus</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	AK
<i>Astragalus spruneri</i> Boiss.	H	Balkan	Na, AK, KK, Gl
<i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i> (L.) C.H. Stirt.	H	Mediterranean-European	Na, AK
<i>Calicotome villosa</i> (Poir) Link in Schrad.	Ph	Mediterranean	Na, AK
<i>Coronilla scorpioides</i> (L.) W.D.J. Koch	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na, KK
<i>Genista acanthoclada</i> DC.	Ch	E Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ir, Sh
<i>Hippocrepis biflora</i> Spreng.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	AK
<i>Hippocrepis ciliata</i> Willd.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Hymenocarpus circinnatus</i> (L.) Savi	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Lotus cytisoides</i> L.	H	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh, Gl
<i>Lotus edulis</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Ke, Sh, Gl
<i>Lotus ornithopodioides</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Medicago coronata</i> (L.) Bartal	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Medicago disciformis</i> DC.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Ir
<i>Medicago littoralis</i> Rohde ex Loisel.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na, AK, Sh
<i>Medicago marina</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean-European	Na, AK, Ir, Sh
<i>Medicago monspeliaca</i> (L.) Trautv.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na, Sh
<i>Medicago murex</i> Willd.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Medicago orbicularis</i> (L.) Bartal.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na, AK, Ir
<i>Medicago polymorpha</i> L.	Th	Paleotemperate	Na
<i>Medicago praecox</i> DC.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Medicago rigidula</i> (L.) All.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Medicago truncatula</i> Gaertn.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Onobrychis caput-galli</i> (L.) Lam.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Ononis reclinata</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na
<i>Ononis variegata</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Ornithopus compressus</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Sh
<i>Sulla spinosissima</i> (L.) B.H. Choi H. Ohashi	Th	Mediterranean	Na

<i>Trifolium campestre</i> Schreb.in Sturm	Th	European-SW Asian	Ke, Ir, Sh
<i>Trifolium glomeratum</i> L.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na
<i>Trifolium grandiflorum</i> Schreb,	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Trifolium infamia-ponertii</i> Greuter	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Trifolium nigrescens</i> Viv.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Trifolium physodes</i> M. Bieb.	H	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Trifolium scabrum</i> L.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na, AK, Ir, Sh
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Ir
<i>Trifolium tomentosum</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Trifolium suffocatum</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na
<i>Trifolium uniflorum</i> L.	H	E Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Gl
<i>Trigonella corniculata</i> (L.) L.	Th	Mediterranean	Sh
<i>Vicia cretica</i> Boiss. & Heldr. in Boiss.	Th	E Mediterranean	Na, Ir
<i>Vicia sativa</i> L. subsp. <i>sativa</i>	Th	Paleotemperate	Na
<i>Vicia villosa</i> Roth	Th	European-SW Asian	Na
Fagaceae			
<i>Quercus coccifera</i> L..	Ph	Mediterranean	Na
Frankeniaceae			
<i>Frankenia hirsuta</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na, AK, Gl
Fumariaceae			
<i>Fumaria kralikii</i> Jord.	Th	E Mediterranean	Na
Gentianaceae			
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i> (L.) Huds.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na
Geraniaceae			
<i>Erodium chium</i> (L.) Willd.	Th	Mediterranean	Ke
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i> (L.) L'Hér. in Aiton	Th	Circumtemperate	Na, AK, Ke
<i>Erodium malacoides</i> (L.) L'Hér. in Aiton	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na, AK
<i>Geranium lucidum</i> L.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na
<i>Geranium molle</i> L.	Th	Paleotemperate	AK, Ir, Sh
<i>Geranium purpureum</i> Vill.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Ir
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i> L.	Th	Paleotemperate	Na
Hypericaceae			
<i>Hypericum empetrifolium</i> Willd.	Ch	E Mediterranean	Ir
<i>Hypericum perfoliatum</i> L.	H	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i> L.	H	Paleotemperate	Na
Lamiaceae			
<i>Ballota acetabulosa</i> (L.) Benth.	Ch	Balkan-Anatolian	Na, Ir
<i>Micromeria nervosa</i> (Desf.) Benth.	Ch	Cosmopolitan	Na, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i> L.	Ph	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Prasium majus</i> L.	Ph	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh, Gl
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i> L.	H	Mediterranean-Atlantic	Na
<i>Satureja thymbra</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Sideritis curvidens</i> Stapf	Th	E Mediterranean	Na
<i>Stachys</i> sp.			Na
<i>Teucrium brevifolium</i> Schreb.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh
<i>Teucrium capitatum</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Sh, Gl
<i>Teucrium divaricatum</i> Heldr.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ir, Sh
<i>Thymbra capitata</i> (L.) Cav.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh
Linaceae			
<i>Linum strictum</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh
<i>Linum trigynum</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
Lythraceae			
<i>Lythrum hyssopifolia</i> L.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na
Malvaceae			
<i>Malva cretica</i> Cav.	Th	Mediterranean	AK
<i>Malva parviflora</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Malva sylvestris</i> L.	Th	European-SW Asian	AK
Oleaceae			
<i>Olea europaea</i> L. subsp. <i>europaea</i>	Ph	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Sh
Orobanchaceae			
<i>Bellardia latifolia</i> (L.) Cuatrec.	Th	European-SW Asian	Ir
<i>Orobanche</i> sp.	Th		Na, Sh
<i>Phelipanche ramosa</i> (L.) Pomel	Th	Paleotemperate	Na

Oxalidaceae			
<i>Oxalis pres-caprae</i> L.	G	[S-Afr.]	Na
Plantaginaceae			
<i>Plantago afra</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Plantago bellardii</i> All.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Sh
<i>Plantago cretica</i> L.	Th	E-Mediterranean	Na
<i>Plantago lagopus</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Ir, Sh, Gl
<i>Plantago weldenii</i> Rchb.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Gl
Plumbaginaceae			
* <i>Limonium graecum</i> (Poir.) Rech. f.	Ch	Greek Endemic	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Gl
<i>Limonium sinuatum</i> (L.) Mill.	H	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Limonium virgatum</i> (Willd.) Fourr.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, Ir
Polygalaceae			
<i>Polygala monspeliaca</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	AK, KK
<i>Polygala venulosa</i> Sm. in Sibth. & Sm.	H	E-Mediterranean	Na, AK
Polygonaceae			
<i>Polygonum maritimum</i> L.	H	Mediterranean-European	Na
<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Rumex pulcher</i> L.	H	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Rumex tuberosus</i> L.	G	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
Primulaceae			
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> L.	Th	Cosmopolitan	Na, AK, Ke, Ir, Sh
<i>Asterolinon linum-stellatum</i> (L.) Duby in A. DC.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Ke, Ir, Sh
<i>Cyclamen graecum</i> Link	G	E-Mediterranean	Na
<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i> Sol. ex Aiton	G	E-Mediterranean	Na
Ranunculaceae			
<i>Adonis microcarpa</i> DC.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	AK
<i>Anemone coronaria</i> L.	G	Mediterranean	KK, Ke, Ir
<i>Clematis cirrhosa</i> L.	Ph	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Nigella doerfleri</i> Vierh.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na
Rhamnaceae			
<i>Rhamnus lycioides</i> L. subsp. <i>oleoides</i> (L.) Jahand. & Maire	Th	Greek Endemic	
	Ph	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ir
Rosaceae			
<i>Pyrus spinosa</i> Forssk.	Ph	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i> (L.) Spach	Ch	E Mediterranean	Na, Ir, Sh
Rubiaceae			
<i>Crucianella angustifolia</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na
<i>Crucianella latifolia</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na
<i>Galium aparine</i> L.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na, Ir
<i>Galium murale</i> (L.) All.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Ir
<i>Galium setaceum</i> Lam.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Rubia tenuifolia</i> d'Urv.	Ph	E-Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ir
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i> L.	Th	European-SW Asian	Na, AK, Ir, Sh
<i>Theligonum cynocrambe</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Ke, Ir
<i>Valantia aprica</i> (Sm.) Tausch	H	Balkan	Na
<i>Valantia hispida</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir
<i>Valantia muralis</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh
Rutaceae			
<i>Ruta chalepensis</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na
Santalaceae			
<i>Osyris alba</i> L.	Ph	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Thesium bergeri</i> Zucc.	H	E Mediterranean	Na
Saxifragaceae			
<i>Saxifraga hederacea</i> L.	Th	E Mediterranean	Na
Scrophulariaceae			
<i>Scrophularia heterophylla</i> Willd.	H	E Mediterranean	Ir
<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
Tamaricaceae			
<i>Tamarix</i> sp.	Ph		Na
Thymelaeaceae			
<i>Thymelaea hirstuta</i> (L.) Endl.	Ph	Mediterranean	Ke, Gl
<i>Thymelaea tartonraira</i> (L.) All.	Ph	Mediterranean	AK, Ir
Veronicaceae			
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i> Bodard	Th	Mediterranean	Na

Urticaceae

<i>Parietaria cretica</i> L.	Th	E Mediterranean	Na, Ke, Ir
<i>Parietaria judaica</i> L.	H	European-SW Asian	Na
<i>Parietaria lusitanica</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-European	Na, AK, Ke, Ir
<i>Urtica pilulifera</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na

Valerianaceae

<i>Valeriana italica</i> Lam.	H	E Mediterranean	Na
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Verbenaceae

<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i> L.	Ph	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
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Angiospermae Monocotyledones**Alliaceae**

<i>Allium subhirsutum</i> L.	G	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Ir
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Amaryllidaceae

<i>Pancreatium maritimum</i> L.	G	Mediterranean	AK
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Asparagaceae

<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, AK
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<i>Asparagus aphyllus</i> L.	Ch	Mediterranean	Na, Ir
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Asphodelaceae

<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i> L. subsp. <i>ramosus</i>	G	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ir, Sh
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Colchicaceae

<i>Colchicum</i> sp.	G		Ke
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Cyperaceae

<i>Carex extensa</i> Gooden	H	Mediterranean-Atlantic	Na
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<i>Carex flacca</i> Schreb. subsp. <i>serrulata</i> (Spreng.) Greuter in Greuter & I	G	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na, AK
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<i>Cyperus distachyos</i> All.	G	Mediterranean	Na
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<i>Schoenoplectus littoralis</i> (Schrad.) Palla	G	Cosmopolitan	Na
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<i>Scirpoides holoschoenus</i> (L.) Soják	G	Paleotemperate	Na
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Dioscoraceae

<i>Dioscorea communis</i> (L.) Caddick & Wilkin	H	Mediterranean-European	Na
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Hyacinthaceae

<i>Drimia numidica</i> (Jord. & Fourr.) J.C. Manning & Goldblatt	G	Mediterranean	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh
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<i>Muscari commutatum</i> Guss.	G	Mediterranean-European	Na, AK, Ke, Ir
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<i>Muscari comosum</i> (L.) Mill.	G	Mediterranean-European	Na
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Iridaceae

<i>Crocus</i> sp.	G		Ke
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<i>Moraea sisyrrinchium</i> (L.) Ker-Gawl.	G	Mediterranean	Ir
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<i>Romulea bulbocodium</i> (L.) Sebast. & Mauri	G	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Ke
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Juncaceae

<i>Juncus heldreichianus</i> Parl.	H	E Mediterranean	Na
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<i>Juncus bufonius</i> L.	Th	Cosmopolitan	Na
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Juncaginaceae

<i>Triglochin barrelieri</i> Loisel	G	Mediterranean	Na
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Liliaceae

<i>Gagea graeca</i> (L.) Irmisch	G	Balkan-Anatolian	Na, Ir
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Orchidaceae

<i>Anacamptis papilionacea</i> (L.) R.M. Bateman, Pridgeon & M.W. Chase	G	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Ir
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<i>Ophrys fusca</i> Link in Schrad	G	Mediterranean	KK
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<i>Ophrys ferrum-equinum</i> Desf.	G	Balkan-Anatolian	Ir
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<i>Ophrys lutea</i> Cav.	G	Mediterranean	AK
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<i>Orchis</i> sp.	G		Na
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Poaceae

<i>Achnantherum bromoides</i> (L.) P. Beauv.	H	Mediterranean	Na
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<i>Aegilops biuncialis</i> Vis.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
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<i>Aeluropus littoralis</i> (Gouan) Parl.	G	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
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<i>Aira elegantissima</i> Schur	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na, Ir
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<i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (L.) Link	G	Mediterranean	Na
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<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> L.	H	Cosmopolitan	Na
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<i>Arrhenatherum palaestinum</i> Boiss.	H	E Mediterranean	Na
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<i>Avena barata</i> Link in Schrad.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Sh
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<i>Brachypodium distachyon</i> (L.) P. Beauv.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
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<i>Briza maxima</i> L.	Th	Subtropical-Tropical	Na, Ir
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<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i> L.	Th	Cosmopolitan	Na
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<i>Bromus fasciculatus</i> C. Presl	Th	Mediterranean	Na
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<i>Bromus intermedius</i> Guss.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Ke
<i>Bromus madritensis</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Bromus rubens</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Bromus sterilis</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Catapodium marinum</i> (L.) C.E. Hubb.	Th	Mediterranean-Atlantic	Na, AK, Ke, Ir
<i>Catapodium rigidum</i> (L.) C.E. Hubb. in Dony	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Ke, Ir, Sh, Gl
<i>Crypsis aculeata</i> (L.) Aiton	Th	Subtropical-Tropical	Na
<i>Cutandia maritima</i> (L.) Barbey	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (L.) Pers.	G	Cosmopolitan	Na, AK
<i>Cynosurus echinatus</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i> L.	H	Paleotemperate	Na, AK, KK, Ke, Ir, Sh, Gl
<i>Dasypyrum villosum</i> (L.) P. Candargy	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Echinaria capitata</i> (L.) Desf.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, Ir
<i>Elytrigia juncea</i> (L.) Nevski	G	Mediterranean	Na, AK, Sh, Ir
<i>Gastridium</i> sp.	Th		Ke
<i>Hordeum marinum</i> Huds.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
<i>Hordeum murinum</i> L. subsp. <i>leporinum</i> (Link) Arcang.	Th	Mediterranean	Na, AK
<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i> (L.) Stapf in Prain	H	Subtropical-Tropical	Na
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i> (L.) Raeusch.	G	Cosmopolitan	Na
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i> L.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Lolium rigidum</i> Gaudin subsp. <i>lepturoides</i> Sennen & Mauricio	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Melica minuta</i> L.	H	Mediterranean	Na, Ke, Ir
<i>Parapholis incurva</i> (L.) C.E. Hubb.	Th	Mediterranean-Atlantic	Na, Ir
<i>Phleum exaratum</i> Griseb. subsp. <i>aegaeum</i> (Vierh.) Doğan	Th	Greek Endemic	Na, AK
<i>Phleum</i> sp.			Sh
<i>Phragmites australis</i> (Cav.) Steud.	G	Cosmopolitan	Na
<i>Piptatherum coeruleum</i> (Desf.) P. Beauv.	H	Mediterranean	Na, Sh
<i>Piptatherum miliaceum</i> (L.) Coss.	Ch	Mediterranean	KK, Sh
<i>Poa bulbosa</i> L.	H	Paleotemperate	Na
<i>Poa infirma</i> Kunth in Humb., Bonpl. & Kunth	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Poa timoleontis</i> Heldr. ex Boiss.	H	E Mediterranean	Na
<i>Polypogon monspeliensis</i> (L.) Desf.	Th	Subtropical-Tropical	Na
<i>Polypogon maritimus</i> Willd.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Rostraria cristata</i> (L.) Tzvelev	Th	Cosmopolitan	Na
<i>Stipa capensis</i> Thunb.	Th	Mediterranean	Na
<i>Vulpia ciliata</i> Dumort.	Th	Mediterranean-SW Asian	Na
Potamogetonaceae			
<i>Stuckenia pectinata</i> (L.) Börner	A	Cosmopolitan	Na
Ruppiaceae			
<i>Ruppia maritima</i> L.	A	Cosmopolitan	Na
Smilacaceae			
<i>Smilax aspera</i> L.	G	Mediterranean	AK

Appendix II: Localities and dates of relevés

Tab. 2 – Rel. 1: Iraklia, calcareous cliffs, alt. 250 m., 36°49'45"N, 25°27'17"E (27.03.2000); Rel. 2: Iraklia, calcareous cliffs, alt. 350 m., 36°49'22"N, 25°27'05"E (27.03.2000); Rel. 3: Iraklia, calcareous cliffs, alt. 250 m., pathway to Prophet Ilias towards the open sea, 36°49'42"N, 25°27'14"E (27.03.2000); Rel. 4: Keros, calcareous rocky slope, alt. 100 m., 36°53'37"N, 25°36'47"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 5: Keros, steep coastal limestone cliffs, alt. 50 m., 36°53'14"N, 25°36'26"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 6: Keros, calcareous cliffs opposite of the built-up area of the island Kato Koufonisi, alt. 68 m., 36°53'28"N, 25°36'32"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 7: Keros, steep calcareous cliffs, alt. 80 m., 36°52'23"N, 25°36'29"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 8: Keros, steep coastal limestone cliffs near the sea, alt. 60 m., 36°53'16"N, 25°36'25"E (24.03.2000);

Tab. 3 - Rels. 1, 2: Keros, slope, alt. 20-60 m., 36°53'29-35"N, 25°36'32-42"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 3: Keros, slope, alt. 20 m., 36°53'14"N, 25°36'23"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 4: Kato Koufonisi, slope, alt. 60 m., 36°54'07"N, 25°34'16"E (23.03.2000); Rel. 5: Kato Koufonisi, southeast side of the island, alt. 60 m., 36°54'42"N, 25°34'46"E (23.03.2000); Rel. 6: Kato Koufonisi, alt. 60 m., 36°54'56"N, 25°34'50"E (23.03.2000); Rel. 7: Kato Koufonisi, alt. 50 m., 36°55'08"N, 25°35'14"E (23.03.2000); Rel. 8: Iraklia, pathway to Prophet Ilias, alt. 300 m., 36°49'43"N, 25°27'11"E (27.03.2000); Rel. 9: Naxos, near Kalandos, alt. 20 m. (15.05.2000); Rels. 10, 13: Naxos (Panormos), rocky ground near the coast (14.05.2000); Rel. 11: Naxos (Psili ammos), sandy soil, distance from the sea 25 m. (14.05.2000); Rel. 12: Naxos (Volakas), steep rocky coast, distance from the sea 5 m. (14.05.2000); Rel. 14: Naxos (Agali), sandy soil, distance from the sea 30 m. (11.05.2000).

Tab. 4 - Rel. 1: Naxos (Glifada), sand dunes, distance from the sea 40 m. (11.05.2000); Rel. 2: Naxos (Agali), sand dunes, alt. 5 m., distance from the sea 50 m. (11.05.2000); Rel. 3: Naxos (Agios Georgios), sand dunes, alt. 10 m., distance from the sea 70 m. (11.05.2000); Rel. 4: Naxos (Pirgaki), sand dunes, alt. 5 m., distance from the sea 200 m. (11.05.2000); Rels. 5, 9: Naxos, near Apiranthos, steep slopes, alt. 550-700 m. (12.05.2000); Rel. 6: Naxos, on the road from Moutsouna bay to Apiranthos, alt. 500 m., (12.05.2000); Rel. 7: Naxos (Filoti), on the road to monastery Christos Fotodotis, alt. 580 m. (12.05.2000); Rel. 8: Naxos, hillcrest at the south east side of the island adjacent to locality Pirgos himmarou, alt. 490 m. (15.05.2000); Rels. 10, 11: Naxos, on the road to Moutsouna bay, alt. 380-440 m. (12.05.2000).

Tab. 5 - Rel. 1: Naxos (Azalas), at the northeast side of the island, alt. 30 m. (11.05.2000); Rel. 2: Ano Koufonisi, alt. 100 m., 36°56'56"N, 25°36'44"E (21.03.2000); Rel. 3: Ano Koufonisi, slope, alt. 10 m., distance from the sea 100 m., 36°56'11"N, 25°37'06"E (22.03.2000); Rel. 4: Keros, alt. 50 m., 36°53'25"N, 25°35'30"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 5: Iraklia, alt. 320 m., 36°49'29"N, 25°27'09"E (27.03.2000); Rel. 6: Keros, slope, alt. 40 m., 36°53'16"N, 25°36'24"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 7: Kato Koufonisi, slope at the south west side of the island, alt. 60 m., 36°54'10"N, 25°34'18"E (23.03.2000); Rel. 8: Naxos, slope near Apiranthos, alt. 670 m. (12.05.2000); Rel. 9: Naxos, near to the sandy beach of Agios Georgios, alt. 2 m., distance from the sea 100 m. (16.05.2000); Rel. 10: Keros, near to the coastline, alt. 10 m., distance from the sea 30 m., 36°53'24"N, 25°36'23"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 11: Ano Koufonisi (Finikas), sandy beach, alt. 1 m., distance from the sea 15 m., 36°55'59"N, 25°36'46"E (22.03.2000); Rel. 12: Ano Koufonisi, abandoned field, alt. 80 m., 36°56'57"N, 25°36'47"E (21.03.2000); Rel. 13: Naxos (Volakas), slope, alt. 10 m. (14.05.2000); Rel. 14: Kato Koufonisi, slope near to seaport, alt. 20m., 36°55'10"N, 25°35'33"E (23.03.2000); Rel. 15: Shinousa, slope, alt. 50 m., 36°51'37"N, 25°31'42"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 16: Ano Koufonisi (Pori), coastal sands, distance from the sea 30 m. (25.03.2000); Rel. 17: Ano Koufonisi (Pori), foreland, alt. 8 m., distance from the sea 30 m., 36°56'46"N, 25°37'25"E (25.03.2000).

Tab. 6 - Rel. 1: Naxos, on the road from Panormos to Moutsouna, alt. 32 m., (14.05.2000); Rel. 2: Shinousa, abandoned field near to seaport, 36°52'24"N, 25°30'41"E (26.03.2000); Rel. 3: Naxos, on the road from Panormos to Moutsouna, alt. 50 m., (14.05.2000); Rel. 4: Naxos, mountain Zefs, climbing from Danakos village to country church Agia Marina, alt. 660 m., (13.05.2000); Rel. 5: Naxos (Apiranthos), slope, alt. 570 m., (12.05.2000); Rel. 6: Iraklia, slope near Panagia, on patway to Profitis Ilias, alt. 200 m., 36°50'04"N, 25°27'12"E (27.03.2000); Rel. 7: Iraklia, slope, alt. 250 m., 36°49'54"N, 25°27'15"E (27.03.2000); Rel. 8: Ano Koufonisi, slope, alt. 50 m., 36°56'40"N, 25°36'51"E (21.03.2000); Rel. 9: Naxos, small plateau near Moutsouna, alt. 470 m., (15.05.2000); Rel. 10: Naxos, mountain Zefs, climbing from Danakos village to country church Agia Marina, alt. 700 m., (13.05.2000); Rel. 11: Iraklia, on pathway to cave Agios Ioannis, alt. 180 m., 36°50'15"N, 25°26'56"E (27.03.2000); Rel. 12: Iraklia, slope near Panagia, the main settlement of the island, alt. 200 m., 36°49'53"N, 25°27'01"E (27.03.2000); Rel. 13: Naxos, south-western

side of Mount Zefs, near the entrance of homonymous cave, alt. 520 m. (13.05.2000); Rel. 14: Shinousa, slope, alt. 10 m., 36°51'39"N, 25°31'26"E (26.03.2000); Rel. 15: Iraklia, slope, 36°50'45"N, 25°27'54"E (25.03.2000); Rel. 16: Kato Koufonisi, near the settlement, alt. 35 m., 36°55'07"N, 25°35'27"E (23.03.2000).

Tab. 7 - Rel. 1: Naxos, ravine near the village Danakos, eastern foothills of the mountain Zefs, alt. 330 m. (13.05.2000); Rel. 2: Naxos, ravine along the road from Moutsouna to Panormos, 50 m. from the sea shore (14.05.2000); Rel. 3: Naxos, ravine, alt. 30 m. (14.05.2000); Rel. 4: Naxos, ravine near the road to Kalandos, alt. 20 m. (15.05.2000); Rel. 5: Naxos, ravine along the road from Panormos to Moutsouna (14.05.2000).

Tab. 8 - Rel. 1: Glaronisi, rocky coast, distance from the sea 25 m., 36°54'48"N, 25°36'16"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 2: Ano Koufonisi (Pori), coastal rocks, distance from the sea 20 m., alt. 10 m., 36°56'47"N, 25°37'35"E (25.03.2000); Rel. 3: Ano Koufonisi (Pori), coastal rocks, distance from the sea 30 m., alt. 10 m., 36°56'47"N, 25°37'30"E (25.03.2000); Rels. 4, 5: Ano Koufonisi, maritime cliffs near to seaport, distance from the sea 2 m., alt. 5 m., 36°55'46"N, 25°35'52"E (22.03.2000); Rel. 6: Keros, steep coastal cliffs, distance from the sea 5 m., 36°53'14"N, 25°36'20"E (24.03.2000); Rel. 7: Kato koufonisi, maritime cliffs, 36°54'45"N, 25°34'55"E (23.03.2000); Rel. 8: Iraklia, rocky shore, distance from the sea 5 m., 36°51'08"N, 25°28'21"E (25.03.2000); Rels. 9 - 11: Naxos, costal cliffs in Agiassos, distance from the sea 3 m. (16.05.2000); Rel. 12: Shinousa, costal cliffs, distance from the sea 10 m., 36°51'43"N, 25°31'07"E (26.03.2000).

Tab. 9 - Rel. 1: Shinousa, sandy beach near the settlement of the island, alt. 20 m., distance from the sea 12 m., 36°51'54"N, 25°30'58"E (26.03.2000); Rels. 2, 3: Ano Koufonisi, sandy sea shore near to seaport, distance from the sea 6 m., 36°56'11"N, 25°35'30"E (22.03.2000); Rel. 4: Naxos (Pirgaki), coastal sands, distance from the sea 100 m. (11.05.2000).

Tab. 10 - Rels. 1, 5: Iraklia, coastal sands, distance from the sea 40-50 m., 36°51'03"N, 25°28'27"E (25.03.2000); Rel. 2: Ano Koufonisi (Pori), sandy coast, distance from the sea 10 m., 36°56'46"N, 25°37'18"E (25.03.2000); Rels. 3, 4: Ano Koufonisi (Pori), sandy coast, distance from the sea 30-80 m., 36°56'10"N, 25°37'11"E (22.03.2000); Rel. 6: Shinousa, sandy beach near the settlement of the island, distance from the sea 10 m., 36°51'53"N, 25°31'01"E (26.03.2000); Rel. 7: Naxos (Mikri Vigla), sand dunes, distance from the sea 40m. (11.05.2000); Rel. 8: Ano Koufonisi (Finikas), sandy coast, distance from the sea 10 m., 36°50'50"N, 25°36'50"E (22.03.2000); Rel. 9: Naxos (Mikri Vigla), coastal sands, distance from the sea 30 m. (11.05.2000); Rels. 10, 11: Ano Koufonisi (Pori), sand dunes, distance from the sea 10 m., 36-39°56'34"N, 25°37'13"E (22.03.2000); Rels. 12, 14, 17: Naxos (Mikri Vigla), sand dunes, distance from the sea 30-70 m. (11.05.2000); Rel. 13: Naxos (Glifada), sand dunes, distance from the sea 20 m. (11.05.2000); Rel. 15, 16: Naxos (Pirgaki), sand dunes, distance from the sea 25 m. (11.05.2000).

Tab. 11 - Rels. 1, 2: Naxos (Pirgaki), sandy coast, distance from the sea 100-150 m. (16.05.2000); Rel. 3: Iraklia, coastal sands, distance from the sea 35 m., 36°51'03"N, 25°28'29"E (25.03.2000); Rels. 4, 5, 6: Naxos (Pirgaki),

coastal sands, distance from the sea 90-150 m. (11.05.2000).
 Tab. 12 - Rels. 1, 2: Naxos, salt marsh vegetation along ditch, behind the sandy beach of Mikri Vigla, 200-250 m from the sea shore (11.05.2000); Rel. 3: Naxos (Mikri Vigla), salt marsh vegetation, 150 m from the sea shore (11.05.2000); Rel. 4: Naxos, offshore salt marsh vegetation in Agiassos, alt. 10 m. (16.05.2000); Rel. 5: Naxos (Kastraki), sandy coast, alt. 20 m., distance from the sea 10 m. (11.05.2000); Rel. 6: Naxos (Glifada), coastal sands, distance from the sea 30 m. (11.05.2000); Rel. 7: Naxos, at sandy edges of a small salt marsh near Agiassos (1.05.2000); Rel. 8: Naxos (Kastraki) coastal sands, distance from the sea 40 m. (11.05.2000);
 Tab. 13 - Rels. 1, 2, 4: Naxos (Kalandos), coastal wetland (15.05.2000); Rels. 3, 7: Naxos, outfall of local rivulet near the village Pirgaki (16.05.2000); Rel. 5: Naxos (Mikri Vigla), adjacently to salt marsh vegetation (11.05.2000); Rel. 6: Naxos (Kastraki) (11.05.2000).
 Tab. 14 - Rels. 1, 3: Naxos (Agiassos), coastal wetland (16.05.2000); Rels. 2, 4: Naxos, outfall of local rivulet near the village Pirgaki (16.05.2000); Rel. 5: Naxos (Kalandos), coastal wetland (15.05.2000); Rels. 6, 7: Naxos, dried-up temporary pond, south-east of the village Filoti, alt. 470 (15.05.2000).

Appendix III: Accidental species

Tab. 2 - Rel. 3: *Sedum* sp. +; Rel. 4: *Crucianella* sp. 1, *Galium* sp. 2m; Rel. 6: *Euphorbia peplis* 1, *Scandix australis* 1, *Bromus* sp. r, *Anagallis arvensis* +; Rel. 8: *Aetheorhiza bulbosa* +, *Anemone coronaria* r, *Senecio vulgaris* r, *Clematis cirrhosa* 1.

Tab. 3 - Rel. 1: *Crocus* sp. +, *Bupleurum* sp. +; Rel. 2: *Crocus* sp. +, *Carex* sp. 1; Rel. 3: *Gastridium* sp. +, *Colchicum* sp. 2a; Rel. 4: *Coronilla scorpioides* +, *Valantia muralis* +; Rel. 5: *Valantia muralis* 2m; Rel. 6: *Piptatherum miliaceum* 1; Rel. 7: *Piptatherum miliaceum* 2m, Rel. 8: *Allysum* sp. r; Rel. 9: *Atractyllis cancellata* +, *Muscari comosum* r, *Hymenocarpus circinnatus* +, *Orchis* sp. r, *Torilis nodosa* +, *Aegilops* sp. 1, *Avena barbata* r; Rel. 10: *Torilis nodosa* +, *Hyparrhenia hirta* 1, *Blackstonia perfoliata* 2m, *Trifolium grandiflorum* +, *Lotus ornithopodioides* +; Rel. 11: *Medicago disciformis* +, *Hyoseris lucida* 1, *Bromus madritensis* 2m; Rel. 12: *Atractyllis cancellata* 1, *Olea europaea* subsp. *europaea* 2b, *Dioscorea communis* 1; Rel. 13: *Atractyllis cancellata* +, *Hymenocarpus circinnatus* r, *Olea europaea* subsp. *europaea* +, *Dioscorea communis* r, *Anthyllis vulneraria* r, *Sideritis curvidens* r, *Cyclamen graecum* +, *Sellaginella denticulata* 1, *Bromus intermedius* 2m, *Hymenonema graecum* 1, *Bituminaria bituminosa* +, *Stipa capensis* +, *Galium setaceum* +, *Plantago cretica* +; Rel. 14: *Limonium* sp. 1.

Tab. 4 - Rel. 1: *Vulpia* sp. +, *Malcolmia flexuosa* +; Rel. 2: *Reichardia picroides* r, *Valantia muralis* 1, *Elytrigia juncea* 1; Rel. 3: *Reichardia picroides* +; Rel. 4: *Vulpia* sp. +, *Bromus madritensis* 1, *Parietaria cretica* 1, *Lolium rigidum* subsp. *lepturoides* 2m, *Bromus fasciculatus* 2b, *Erodium malacoides* +; Rel. 5: *Avena barbata* +, *Torilis nodosa* 1, *Dracunculus vulgaris* +, *Clematis cirrhosa* 3, *Medicago polymorpha* +, *Sedum hispanicum* r, *Vicia sativa* subsp. *sativa* +, *Cyclamen hederypholium* 1, *Aetheorhiza bulbosa* 2m, *Theligonum cynocrambe* 1, *Anthemis chia* +, *Calendula arvensis* r, *Euphorbia characias* 1, *Stellaria apetala* 1, *Car-*

duus pycnocephalus +, *Rhagadiolus stellatus* +, *Cardamine hirsuta* +, *Crepis* sp. +; Rel. 6: *Allium subhirsutum* 1, *Avena barbata* +, *Clematis cirrhosa* 1, *Sedum hispanicum* +, *Vicia sativa* subsp. *sativa* 1, *Cyclamen hederypholium* 2m, *Galium aparine* 2m, *Acer sempervirens* 2b, *Veronica cymbalaria* 1, *Bromus sterilis* +, *Poa timoleontis* 1, *Trifolium glomeratum* +, *Muscari comosum* +, *Lotus ornithopodioides* +, *Geranium rotundifolium* 1, *Coronilla scorpioides* +, *Cyclamen graecum* 2m, *Dioscorea communis* 1, *Umbilicus parviflorus* +, *Sedum litoreum* 1, *Cerastium comatum* +, *Silene cretica* 1, *Trifolium tomentosum* +, *Umbilicus horizontalis* +, *Piptatherum coerulescens* 1, *Ruta halepensis* +, *Hedera helix* 1, *Trifolium infamia-ponertii* r, *Arrhenatherum palaestinum* 2m, *Minuartia mediterranea* r, *Legousia falcata* r, *Lonicera etrusca* 1; Rel. 7: *Dracunculus vulgaris* +, *Medicago polymorpha* +, *Galium aparine* 2m, *Acer sempervirens* 2a, *Veronica cymbalaria* +, *Anthemis rigida* 2m, *Orlaya daucoides* 1, *Rumex tuberosus* 1, *Geranium lucidum* 2m, *Fumaria kralikii* +, *Poa bulbosa* 1, *Smyrniolum perfoliatum* subsp. *rotundifolium* r, *Anthoxanthum odoratum* +; Rel. 8: *Convolvulus althaeoides* r, *Avena barbata* 1, *Bromus sterilis* +, *Orlaya daucoides* +, *Malva parviflora* r, *Achnantherum bromoides* 1, *Medicago orbicularis* r, *Scandix pecten-veneris* r, *Picnemon acarna* +, *Euphorbia peplis* r, *Echinaria capitata* +, *Olea europaea* subsp. *europaea* +; Rel. 9: *Convolvulus althaeoides* 1, *Poa timoleontis* 2m, *Trifolium glomeratum* 1, *Anthemis rigida* r, *Anthyllis vulneraria* 1, *Linum triginum* +, *Gagea graeca* +, *Scorpiurus muricatus* r, *Astragalus spruneri* r, *Crucianella angustifolia* r, *Vicia cretica* 2m, *Eryngium campestre* +, *Rostraria cristata* r; Rel. 10: *Allium subhirsutum* 1, *Avena barbata* 1, *Torilis nodosa* 1, *Muscari comosum* r, *Malva parviflora* +, *Achnantherum bromoides* 2m, *Medicago orbicularis* +, *Anthyllis vulneraria* 1, *Linum triginum* 1, *Bupleurum gracile* r, *Leontodon tuberosus* r, *Vulpia ciliata* +, *Convolvulus oleifolius* 2m, *Bromus hordeaceus* 1, *Nigella arvensis* 1, *Erodium cicutarium* r, *Aegilops biuncialis* 1, *Pallenis spinosa* r, *Sideritis curvidens* 1, *Sellaginella denticulata* 1; Rel. 11: *Valantia muralis* 1, *Bromus madritensis* 1, *Allium subhirsutum* +, *Convolvulus althaeoides* 1, *Avena barbata* +, *Aetheorhiza bulbosa* +, *Bupleurum gracile* 1, *Leontodon tuberosus* +, *Vulpia ciliata* 1, *Thesium bergeri* 1, *Osyris alba* +, *Carex flacca* subsp. *serrulata* +, *Polygala venulosa* 1, *Coronilla scorpioides* +.

Tab. 5 - Rel. 2: *Asphodelus ramosus* subsp. *ramosus* +, *Polygala venulosa* 1, *Thesium bergeri* 1, *Carex flacca* subsp. *serrulata* 2m; Rel. 3: *Asphodelus ramosus* subsp. *ramosus* r, *Thesium bergeri* r, *Carex flacca* subsp. *serrulata* +; Rel. 5: *Asphodelus ramosus* subsp. *ramosus* +; Rel. 6: *Taraxacum* sp. 1, *Bromus* sp. 2m; Rel. 7: *Polygala monspeliaca* r, *Cuscuta* sp. 1, *Paronychia macrosepala* 1, *Anemone coronaria* 1, *Ophrys fusca* +, *Bupleurum* sp. r; Rel. 8: *Anthemis rigida* 2m, *Lagoecia cuminoides* 1, *Convolvulus althaeoides* 1, *Avena barbata* 1, *Vicia cretica* 1, *Bromus intermedius* 1, *Sisymbrium orientale* 1, *Trifolium tomentosum* 1, *Anagallis arvensis* +, *Lolium rigidum* subsp. *lepturoides* +, *Torilis nodosa* +, *Rostraria cristata* r, *Hymenocarpus circinnatus* +, *Scandix pecten-veneris* +, *Rumex tuberosus* 1, *Trifolium glomeratum* 1, *Pyrus amygdaliformis* 2m, *Euphorbia characias* +, *Orlaya daucoides* r, *Geranium lucidum* +, *Plantago cretica* 2m, *Filago eriocephala* +, *Alkanna tinctoria* r, *Ornithopus compressus* +, *Eryngium campestre* 1, *Senecio vulgaris*

r, *Silene cretica* +, *Gagea graeca* r, *Trifolium nigrescens* +; Rel. 9: *Lagoecia cuminoides* 1, *Convolvulus althaeoides* r, *Daucus guttatus* 1, *Hyparrhenia hirta* 1, *Calicotome villosa* +, *Piptatherum coerulescens* +; Rel. 10: *Anagallis arvensis* 1, *Euphorbia peplis* 1, *Valantia muralis* 1, *Romulea bulbocodium* 2a, *Erodium cicutarium* 2m; Rel. 11: *Reichardia picroides* 1, *Valantia muralis* +; Rel. 12: *Pallenis spinosa* 1, *Asphodelus ramosus* subsp. *ramosus* r, *Polygala venulosa* +; Rel. 13: *Bromus intermedius* 1, *Hymenocarpus circinatus* r, *Bromus madritensis* +, *Sherardia arvensis* r, *Daucus guttatus* +, *Hyparrhenia hirta* 1, *Blackstonia perfoliata* +, *Galium setaceum* 1; Rel. 14: *Paronychia macrosepala* +, *Valantia muralis* 2m, *Asphodelus ramosus* subsp. *ramosus* r, *Bituminaria bituminosa* 1; Rel. 15: *Sherardia arvensis* 2m, *Asphodelus ramosus* subsp. *ramosus* 1, *Pallenis spinosa* +, *Muscari* sp. +; Rel. 16: *Cynodon dactylon* 1, *Elytrigia juncea* 1, *Eryngium maritimum* 1; Rel. 17: *Reichardia picroides* +, *Romulea bulbocodium* 2a, *Malcolmia* sp. +.

Tab. 6 - Rel. 1: *Dianthus cinnamomeus* subsp. *cinnamomeus* 1, *Melica minuta* +, *Achnantherum bromoides* +, *Crucianella latifolia* +; Rel. 2: *Valantia muralis* +, *Calendula arvensis* +, *Medicago monspeliaca* +, *Geranium molle* +, *Pallenis spinosa* 1, *Micromeria nervosa* +, *Piptatherum miliaceum* 1; Rel. 3: *Hymenocarpus circinatus* r, *Anthyllis vulneraria* +, *Dianthus cinnamomeus* subsp. *cinnamomeus* +, *Pallenis spinosa* r, *Aegilops biuncialis* 1, *Filago pygmaea* +; Rel. 4: *Sisymbrium orientale* 2m, *Bromus sterilis* 2m, *Pyrus amygdaliformis* 2a, *Bromus madritensis* 2m; Rel. 5: *Trifolium tomentosum* +, *Scandix pecten-veneris* r, *Anthyllis vulneraria* 1, *Thesium bergeri* 1, *Trifolium nigrescens* +, *Trifolium grandiflorum* +, *Medicago polymorpha* +, *Trifolium physodes* 1, *Euphorbia characias* 2m, *Orlaya daucoides* 1, *Geranium lucidum* +, *Vicia villosa* 1, *Hypericum perforatum* 2m, *Thapsia garcanica* +, *Vicia sativa* subsp. *sativa* 1, *Sisymbrium officinale* 1, *Dasypyrum villosum* +, *Medicago murex* 1, *Linum triginum* 2m; Rel. 6: *Muscari commutatum* +; Rel. 8: *Valantia muralis* r, *Sisymbrium orientale* r, *Muscari commutatum* +, *Senecio vulgaris* r, *Calendula arvensis* r, *Geranium molle* r, *Pallenis spinosa* 1, *Hordeum murinum* subsp. *leporinum* +, *Polygala monspeliaca* r, *Astragalus hamosus* +, *Helianthemum apenninum* +, *Adonis microcarpa* 2m, *Erodium cicutarium* +, *Glebionis coronata* +, *Parietaria lusitanica* r, *Malva cretica* 2m, *Capsella bursa-pastoris* 2m; Rel. 9: *Trifolium tomentosum* r, *Trifolium nigrescens* r, *Medicago monspeliaca* +, *Plantago weldenii* +, *Crepis multiflora* 2m, *Cerastium comatum* +, *Trifolium suffocatum* r, *Filago cratensis* +; Rel. 10: *Sisymbrium orientale* 1, *Trifolium tomentosum* +, *Trifolium glomeratum* +, *Medicago polymorpha* r, *Trifolium physodes* +, *Hypericum perforatum* +, *Anthoxanthum odoratum* 2m, *Phelipanche ramosa* r; Rel. 11: *Muscari commutatum* +, *Senecio vulgaris* +, *Gagea graeca* +, *Geranium molle* 1, *Geranium purpureum* +, *Buglossoides arvensis* r; Rel. 12: *Helichrysum italicum* r, *Medicago* sp. +,

Convolvulus sp. 2m, *Echinaria capitata* +; Rel. 13: *Trifolium tomentosum* +, *Scandix pecten-veneris* +, *Plantago weldenii* +, *Trifolium grandiflorum* +, *Bromus sterilis* +, *Hordeum murinum* subsp. *leporinum* 1, *Bromus madritensis* 2m, *Geranium purpureum* r, *Dracunculus vulgaris* +, *Picnomon acarua* +, *Carduus pycnocephalus* +, *Plantago cretica* r, *Valantia aprica* +, *Medicago praecox* r, *Melica minuta* 2m, *Legouisia hybrida* +; Rel. 14: *Olea europaea* subsp. *europaea* 2a; Rel. 15: *Muscari commutatum* 1, *Gagea graeca* +, *Anemone coronaria* +, *Buglossoides arvensis* r, *Bellardia latifolia* +, *Scaligeria napiformis* +, *Anacamptis papilionacea* r, *Ophrys ferrum-equinum* r; Rel. 16: *Anacamptis papilionacea* +, *Olea europaea* subsp. *europaea* 1.

Tab. 7: Rel. 1: *Scrophularia peregrina* 1, *Hedera helix* +, *Asplenium ceterach* +, *Pteridium aquilinum* +, *Arisarum vulgare* 1; Rel. 3: *Galium aparine* 1, *Rhagadiolus stellatus* 1, *Allium subhirsutum* r, *Crepis multiflora* +, *Picris pauciflora* +, *Picnomon acarua* r; Rel. 5: *Daucus guttatus* 2m, *Bryonia cretica* 2b, *Hirschfeldia incana* 1, *Filago aegaea* subsp. *aristata* 1, *Crepis foetida* 1, *Vicia cretica* +.

Tab. 8 - Rel. 1: *Bellium minutum* 1; Rel. 2: *Anagallis arvensis* r, *Lotus edulis* +, *Euphorbia peplis* +, *Cuscuta* sp. 1, *Aetheorhiza bulbosa* 2b, *Medicago littoralis* r; Rel. 3: *Arthrocnemum macrostachyum* 1, *Valantia hispida* r; Rel. 5: *Silene colorata* r, *Echium arenarium* r, *Trifolium uniflorum* 1, *Romulea bulbocodium* r, *Plantago lagopus* r; Rel. 6: *Arenaria aegaea* 1, *Muscari* sp. 1, *Phagnalon rupestre* subsp. *graecum* +; Rel. 8: *Silene colorata* r, *Anagallis arvensis* r, *Parapholis incurva* 1; Rel. 10: *Paronychia capitata* 1; Rel. 11: *Bupleurum semicompositum* r; Rel. 12: *Echium arenarium* 1, *Lotus edulis* +, *Phleum* sp. +, *Trigonella corniculata* +, *Crepis multiflora* r, *Urospermum picroides* +.

Tab. 10 - Rel. 2: *Cynodon dactylon* 3, *Reichardia picroides* r, *Cichorium spinosum* +; Rel. 6: *Orobanche* sp. +, *Echium arenarium* 1; Rel. 7: *Orobanche* sp. r, *Paronychia argentea* 1, *Plantago afra* 2m, *Echium angustifolium* 1; Rel. 8: *Cynodon dactylon* 4; Rel. 9: *Salsola tragus* r, *Senecio vernalis* +; Rel. 10: *Cynodon dactylon* 2m; Rel. 12: *Silene sartorii* 1, *Senecio vernalis* r, *Crepis multiflora* r, *Aeluropus littoralis* +, *Reichardia picroides* r; Rel. 14: *Silene sartorii* 1, *Senecio vernalis* r, *Avena barbata* +; Rel. 15: *Imperata cylindrica* 2b; Rel. 17: *Senecio vernalis* +.

Tab. 11: Rel. 2: *Erodium cicutarium* r, *Anagallis arvensis* r; Rel. 3: *Cakile maritima* r; Rel. 5: *Lotus cytisoides* 1, *Paronychia argentea* r; Rel. 6: *Polygonum maritimum* +, *Euphorbia peplis* +, *Salsola tragus* +.

Tab. 13: Rel. 4: *Aetheorhiza bulbosa* +; Rel. 5: *Phagnalon saxatile* r, *Hyoseris scabra* +, *Frankenia hirsuta* 2m, *Reichardia picroides* +, *Catapodium marinum* +; Rel. 6: *Salsola tragus* 2m, *Elytrigia juncea* 2b, *Phleum exaratum* subsp. *aegeum* 1, *Lolium rigidum* 1; Rel. 7: *Atriplex prostrata* 1, *Polypogon maritimus* 1, *Tamarix* sp. +.