

Project partner: Sóller Botanic Garden Foundation

Island

Balearic Islands (Mallorca)

Species name (Family)

Linum maritimum L. (*Linaceae*)

Common name

Llí marítim (local name)

Sea flax (English name).

Plant description

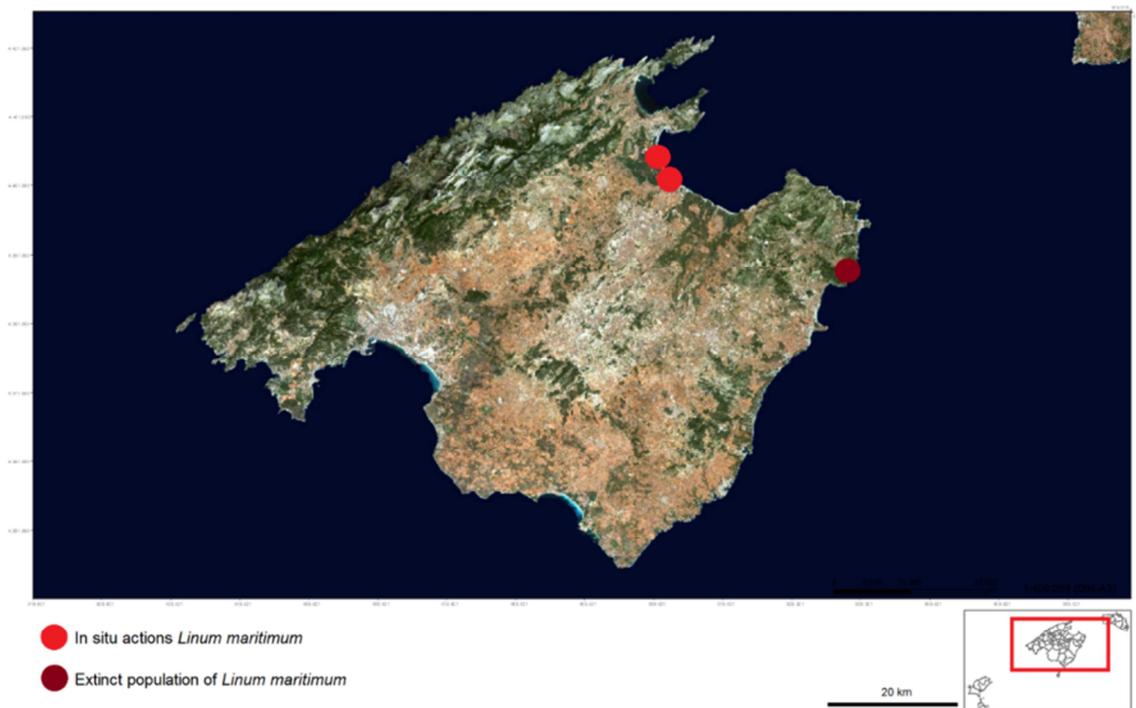
- ✓ Perennial herb 15-60 cm, with woody layer branched. Yellow flowers in clusters forming a corymbiforme panicle. Sepals matching the globular capsule. Ellipsoidal seeds and flattened.
- ✓ Hemicryptophyte. Flowering time from May to August. Fruiting period from July to October. Seed dispersal by barochory.
- ✓ Salt meadows habitat. It grows in humid and slightly saline soils, from 0 to 10 meters over sea level.

Distribution

Mediterranean region, from South Europe to North Africa. Present in some islands such as Mallorca, Corsica, Sardinia or Cyprus.

In Balearic Islands it was only known in Mallorca, in two populations extinct. In one of them, a few individuals were seen in 2006 (Pere Vicens *com. per.*) but never more.

Map



Legal status

- Habitat Directive 92/43/EEC (1410, Mediterranean salt meadows)
- Ley 42/2007 de Patrimonio Natural y Biodiversidad (BOE nº 299) Gobierno de España
- Resolucion Conselleria de Medi Ambient 23/10/2017 (BOIB 131, 26/10/2017)

Main threat(s) and conservation status

According to the IUCN classification scheme version 3.2, the main threats to this taxon in Mallorca are due to:

- 4.1 Roads & Railroads. Secondary roads modifications could destroy the population completely.

- 7.2. Dams & water use: Changing water flow close to the road now, means loose of the habitat.
- 9.3.3. Herbicides and pesticides used to clean the roadside ditches.
- 12.1 Other threats: the small number of populations and of individuals supposes an increase of its risk of disappearing from Balearic Islands.

Conservation actions carried out in the CARE-MEDIFLORA project

There was only one population of *Linum maritimum* in Balearic Islands, located in the North of Mallorca. The last date when the plants where observed was in 2006 (Pere Vicens *com. pers.*). The plants were close to a lagoon in S'Albufera Natural Park.

In situ conservation actions carried on:

- Re-introduction where the plant was last observed.
- Introduction of a new population in a place close to the original one.
- Conservation of seeds and living plants in the collections of Soller Botanic Garden.

Photo

