

Project partner: Sóller Botanic Garden Foundation

Island

Balearic Islands (Mallorca)

Species name (Family)

Ranunculus bullatus L. (Ranunculaceae)

Common name

Botons d'or, emprenyavelles (locals names)

Autumn buttercup (English name)

Plant description

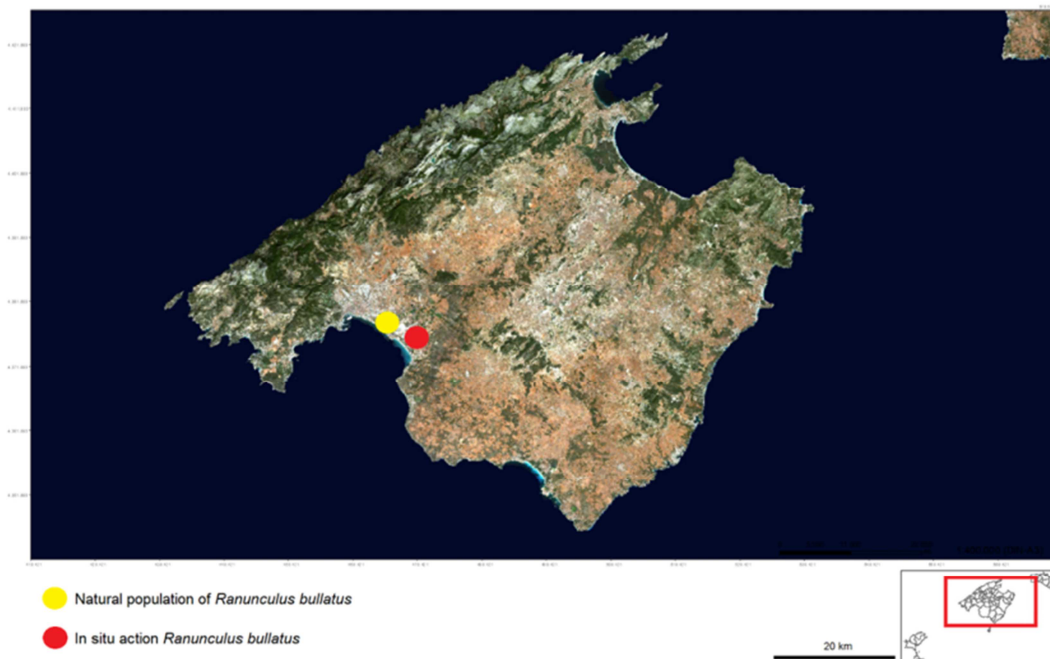
- ✓ Perennial herb with tuberous roots mixed with some tiny fibrous ones. Leaves in a basal rosette. Yellow and solitary flowers.
- ✓ Hemicryptophyte. Flowering time from September to January. Dispersal strategy by barochory.
- ✓ It grows in grasslands where there is elevated soil humidity, often over sandy soils. From 2-5 m.a.s.l.

Distribution

Mediterranean specie, very rare in the western of the region. In the main islands, it is present in Mallorca, Corsica, Sardinia, Malta and Crete.

In Mallorca it is very rare. It was only known from one population in Es Coll den Rabassa, but not seen from many years ago. During the project CARE-MEDIFLORA we found a new population in S'Aranjassa, at about 8 km far away from the known population, which we find again as well between a big road and an urban area.

Map



Legal status

No international protection.

Critically endangered in the regional Red Book of Balearic Islands Flora.

Main threats and conservation status

- 1. Residential & commercial development
- 1.2 Housing & urban areas. One of the populations occurred near an urban area that has experienced great anthropic pressure since 1950.
- 4. Transportations & service corridors.

- 4.1 Roads & railroads. The populations occurred near a road, so any maintenance or improvement works of it can affect severely to this species.
8. Invasive & other problematic species, genes & diseases.
- 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species/diseases
 - 8.1.2: Named species. *Opuntia* spp. *Agave* spp. *Lantana camara*, *Oxalis pes-caprae*. (Timing options: in the past before project, but now suspended and likely to return if there are not a control)
11. Climate change & severe weather
- 11.2 Droughts.
12. Other options
- 12.1 Small number of individuals. Only two populations.

Ex-situ conservation: since 1990, seeds are conserved in the Soller Botanic Garden seed bank and plants are growing in the living plant collections.

Conservation actions carried out in the CARE-MEDIFLORA project

The population founded in S'Aranjassa, was living in the roadside with invasive species. So, the first action was to eliminate the invasive species competition and advise the road security responsible about the species and the exact location in the road to avoid possible actions like cleaning with herbicides, or only kind of modification of the road.

Secondly, we look for a new place where the plants could be translocated with better guarantee of survival. With a verbal accord with a private landowner, we translocate plants of *Ranunculus bullatus* establishing new population.

Photos

