

Project partner: National Botanical Conservatory of Corsica of the Office of the Environment of Corsica

Island

CORSICA

Species name (Family)

Centranthus trinervis (Viv.) Bég. (Caprifoliaceae)

Common name

French: Centrante trinervé, English: Three ribs valerian

Plant description

- ✓ Perennial plant, clumps with woody stems from 20 to 40 cm high. Entire opposite leaves, little pink flowers in panicle. Fruits with a kind of feathery pappus.
- ✓ *C. trinervis* flowers from April to the end of June, while fruits appear from late June to July. There are two types of seeds: one with pappus involved in aerophyllus dispersion, the other without pappus with barochorial dispersion.
- ✓ This species grows from 140 to 155 meters high, on siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation.

Distribution

C. trinervis is a strict endemic of Corsica.

Map



Only one known population in the world located in the south of Corsica, on “Trinité” cliffs (municipality of Bonifacio).

Legal status

This species is protected at national level by law and listed in the Appendix I of the Bern Convention and in the Annex II and IV of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.

Main threats and conservation status

This unique population *in natura* in the world of this taxa is stable and for instance the location doesn't seem threatened.

According to the IUCN Threats Classification Scheme (Version 3.2) the potential threats in Corsica are:

- **7.1** Fire & fire suppression. In 1994, a fire burned the cliffs but without consequences on the species.
- **8.1** Invasive non-native/alien species/diseases. The hybridization with *C. ruber* (L.) DC. was obtained *ex situ* and could one of the biggest threatened for the species due to the fact that *C. ruber* is often in the garden of houses in Bonifaziu and is considered as naturalized in Corsica;
- **8.2** Problematic native species/diseases. Dynamic of vegetation.

Conservation actions carried out in the CARE-MEDIFLORA project

Due to the unicity of the population the goal was to increase the population and to create a new one for security raison on a protected site belonging to the "Conservatoire du Littoral". Periodic monitoring of the created population was started in December 2017.

The preliminary results of the monitoring showed a survival rate of 40 % and about forty seedlings.

After the end of the project, the monitoring activities will be continued, ensuring the long-term sustainability of the *in situ* actions.

Photos



C. trinervis habitat & General aspect



In situ conservation action: creation of a new population for security reason