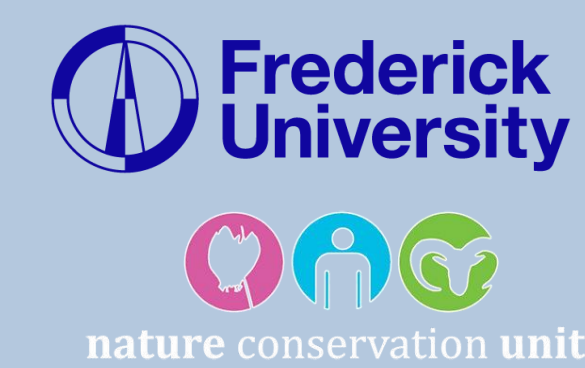


Andreou M.¹, Kouzali I.¹, Kounnamas C.¹, Christodoulou Ch.², Chrysostomou G.², Papasavvas C.², Iosif C.², Koutsovoulou K.³, Georghiou K.³, Thanos C.A.³

1 Frederick University, Y. Frederickou Str. 7, Pallouriotissa, 1036, Nicosia, Cyprus; m.andreou@frederick.ac.cy
2 Department of Forests, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, Cyprus
3 National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

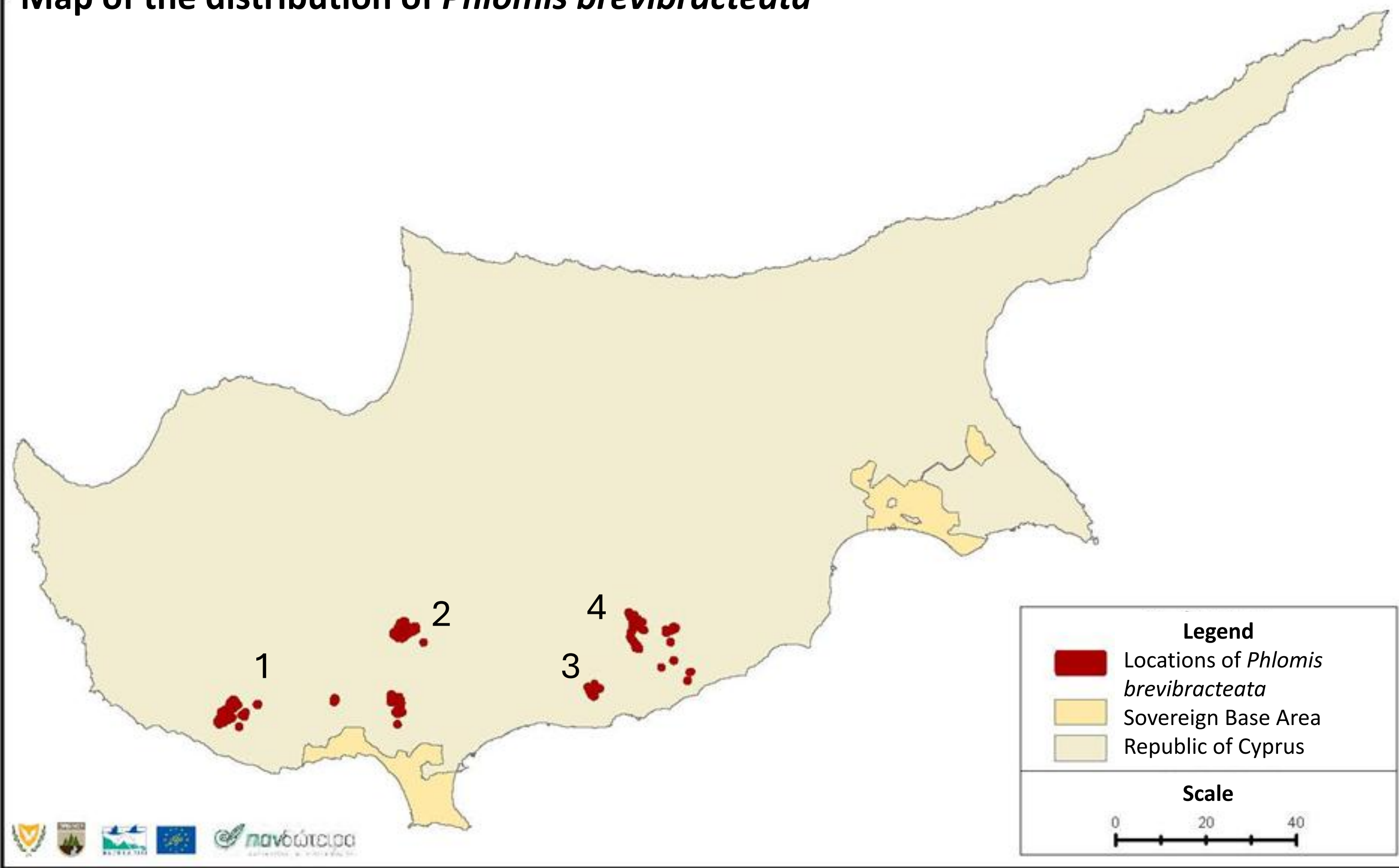


The taxon *Phlomis brevibracteata* Turill (Lamiaceae):

- Is endemic to Cyprus.
- The plants are lax, spreading, much-branched shrubs with opposite leaves. Their yellow tubular, bilabiate flowers form lax, often branched inflorescences. Bracts foliaceous, like leaves and bracteoles very small (2-5 mm x 1 mm). Occurs amongst garigue on limestone slopes. It flowers May – June and fruits June – August.
- Is listed in Annexes II and IV of Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).
- Is included in Appendix I of Bern Convention as strictly protected.
- Occurs in seven (7) sub-populations. Only 47% of its population is protected in the Natura 2000 sites network and is distributed in four (4) sites.
- Its Extent of Occurrence is calculated at 256 km², and its Area of Occupancy is 79 km². The total population is around 18.500 mature individuals.



Map of the distribution of *Phlomis brevibracteata*



The Natura 2000 sites, where the species occurs:

1. CY4000002_SAC Cha-Potami
2. CY5000002_SCI Kokkinokremmos
3. CY5000007_SAC Periochi Asgatas
4. CY6000005_SAC Periochi Lefkaron

The main pressures the species faces:

1. Conversion of natural habitats into agricultural land (PA01) or built-up areas (PF01)
2. Construction and operation of roads (PE01).
3. Natural wildfires (PM03) and/or wildfires initiated by arson (PH04)
4. Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, especially after fire (PA07)
5. Presence/absence of pollinators (PM06)

An Action Plan has been developed for the long-term conservation of *P. brevibracteata*, focusing on three core objectives:

- A. Conserving and/or increasing the population to secure the species' survival
- B. Ensuring adequate habitat suitability within its range
- C. Identifying critical zones and enhancing connectivity among subpopulations

Favourable Reference Values:

Based on data collected during the project LIFE IP PHYSIS, as Favourable Reference Values of the species are taken into consideration the Favourable Reference Population (FRP) which is estimated to 18.500 individuals and the Favourable Reference Range (FRR) which is calculated to be 60 km².

The species' conservation status is evaluated as Least Concern (LC) based on the IUCN criteria.

The Action Plan aims to increase the species' population to a FRP of 20.000 individuals and maintain its FRR at 60 km².

No.	Measure	Priority level	Core objectives	N2000 sites or locations
1	Enhancement of sub-populations via plantations and seed dispersal	1	A & B	CY4000002 CY5000002 CY5000007
2	Evaluation of the locations the species occurs outside the N2000 network and suggestion of a new N2000 site for its protection as a key species	1	A & B	New N2000 site
3	Search for new locations where the species occurs	3	C	Outside N2000 network
4	Study of the reproductive biology of the species	2	A	All N2000 sites
5	<i>Ex situ</i> conservation of the species	2	A	All N2000 sites

The project LIFE IP PHYSIS [LIFE18 IPE/CY/000006] is implemented with the financial contribution of the EU's LIFE Programme and the co-financing of the Green Fund.