
A LIST OF RECORDS OF SOME RARE VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE MALTESE ISLANDS. (CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN)

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ABSTRACT

A checklist of sixty-two rare vascular plants occurring in the Maltese Islands is hereby given, along with brief notes concerning the record date and location, population size and distribution on the islands.

KEY

In compiling the following species list, the author has followed the family sequence adopted by Lanfranco 2001.

For each species, the localities where populations of the species were discovered by the author are given. The wider district where a specific locality is situated is given when: a) the locality name is a micronym known only by a handful of farmers who happen to live or own land in the same locality eg. il-Mellieħa area (district): ta' Pennellu (micronym); b) when a single toponym serves different specific localities that are well separated geographically eg. Hal Qormi area (district): Wied il-Kbir (a toponym of at least 3 different valleys in Malta and Gozo).

* = Species no longer found in the mentioned locality;

(Number) = Number of individuals found in a locality on date of discovery.

(Only given when the discovered population consists of < 5 individuals).

The list covers a period of field research from Spring 1991 to Summer 2007. The date on which each species was first discovered in each locality is given in brackets. In cases where the exact date of discovery was not recorded, an approximate date is given:

(early 1990's) = found between 1991 and 1995;

(late 1990's) = found between 1996 and 1999;

(c.xxxx) = found in the specified year or up to 2 years before or after the specified year.

In some cases, especially during the dry season, no vegetative, flowering or fruiting stages of the floral species encountered were evident – identification of these species was still possible.

This article is the first of a two-article series, the sequel of which will be published by the author in the next issue of The Central Mediterranean Naturalist.

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Species List

PART 1.

Family : *Aristolochiaceae*

1. *Aristolochia clusii* Lojacono MALTA - Wied id-Dis, Wied il-Faham valley system (5-4-2000) - Wied il-Għasel, near and opposite the quarry, close to the valleybed (2002) - Wied Harq Hamiem (1995) - Wied Hoxt, Wied iż-Żurrieq valley system (13-3-1993).

Family : *Ranunculaceae*

2. *Delphinium staphisagria* L. GOZO - Mgarr valley* (7 - 1992), in a fallow terrace, destroyed a few months later to make space for tomato cultivation.
May be extinct.

Family : *Ulmaceae*

3. *Ulmus canescens* Melville MALTA - Ġnien il-Kbir (1991) - l-Għajn il-Kbira, Girgenti valley system (1992) - Wied ir-Rum (1994).

Family : *Urticaceae*

4. *Parietaria lusitanica* L. MALTA - il-Mellicha area: l-Imġiebaħ, Ras il-Griebeġ (11- 2006) - Rdum Majjiesa (5-2000) - Wied Dalam (3-10-2003) - Wied Fulija, near Għajn il-Kbira (2005) - Wied il-Għasel (late 1990's). GOZO - below Chambray fort, west side (4-3-2004) - Fontana area: ix-Xagħri, is-Sqaq tax-Xagħri (3-4-2004) - ta' Għammar hill (9-11-2006) - Mgarr ix-Xini (2005) - in-Nuffara hill (5-4-2006) - below il-Qortin ta' Għajn Damma: Għajn Barrani to Rdum ta' Kilillu (21-3-2004) - Wied Biljun (20-4-2005) - ix-Xagħra: Triq il-Kortoll (13-3-2003); a country-lane branching from Triq Marsalforn (21-3-2004).

This species is more frequent than is suggested by past literature (eg. Haslam & al. 1977; Lanfranco 1989). Its apparent rarity is probably due to the fact that most of the larger populations occur among boulder screes below the coralline plateaus that are not easily accessible. Grows on well shaded very humid rocks and rubble walls.

Family : *Chenopodiaceae*

5. *Atriplex halimus* L. GOZO - On coastal clay slopes below Qortin Ta' Għajn Damma : Rdum ta' Kilillu to Rdum tas-Surgu to Għajn Barrani & Pergla (5-1994).

Family : *Polygonaceae*

6. *Polygonum bellardi* Allioni MALTA - Wied is-Sewda (13-8-2007), where it is a dominant component of the valleybed vegetation.

7. *Polygonum maritimum* L. MALTA - Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq* (1993), destroyed by cultivation of palms - Ramla tat-Torri (1992). GOZO - ir-Ramla l-Ħamra (1993) - ix-Xatt l-Aħmar (10-1992), population now severely reduced by beach cleaning.

Family : *Plumaginaceae*

8. *Plumbago europaea* L. MALTA - around Addolorata cemetery (early 1990's) - Ħal Far area: tal-Baqqari (7-10-2002) - Ħal Luqa: in a field at the turning point from Triq San Tumas to Vjal l-Avjazzjoni (2-2003); Wied Ħal Saflieni (9-2003) - Ħal Qormi area: Wied il-Kbir (early 1990's) -

Hal Safi: Triq Hlantun (3-3-2005) - Sta. Lucija: Wied ta' Garnaw (2005) - is-Siggiewi: ta' Kollozzu (28-5-1998); Wied il-Hesri (19-6-2006) - Wied il-Qoton (3-3-2005) - Wied Qirda (c.2005).
Frequent in S.E.Malta, growing alongside country-lanes between cultivated fields and roadsides.
Virtually absent in other parts of the country.

Family : *Brassicaceae*

9. *Cardaria draba* (L.) Desvaux GOZO - along pathways on the terraced slopes below Chambray fort, facing South (10-1992) - ir-Rabat area: in roadside centrestrips along Triq il-Wied & Triq Wied il-Lunzjata, next to the upright Roman stone (2-2004)* - ir-Ramla l-Hamra carpark (1992)* - Wied tal-Ghajjun valleybed watercourse (between ix-Xaghra and Nuffara hill) (5-4-2006).

10. *Coronopus squamatus* (Forsskal) Ascherson MALTA - Hal Qormi: Wied il-Kbir* (late 1990's) - il-Mellieha area: Wied tal-Kalkara (22-4-2005) - San Pawl il-Baħar: around the perimeter of Is-Simar bird sanctuary (c. 2004) - Wied ta' l-Imselliet (2002). GOZO - Wied Marsalforn (16-10-2002).

Grows on bare soil, usually in valleybeds, especially in troughs behind dams that are briefly flooded in winter and parts that are heavily trampled.

11. *Matthiola incana* ssp. *melitensis* Brullo, Lanfranco, Pavone & Ronsisvalle MALTA - il-Mellieha area: Ġnien Ingraw (2000) - Rdum Rxawn (1990's).
Records for Gozo, where it is frequent, are not given.

12. *Neslia apiculata* Fischer, Mayer & Ave-Lallemont GOZO - il-Qala area: il-Gwiedi (19-4-2005) (2).
Grows in cultivated fields among forbs.

13. *Rapistrum rugosum* (L.) Allioni MALTA - Pieta pinetum (c. 2003).

Family : *Resedaceae*

14. *Reseda lutea* L. MALTA - between Baħar iċ-Cagħaq and Pembroke (1991) - frequent at Ghajn Tuffieħa - Mgarr region: il-Hamra (plateau facing the Roman Baths) (1990's) (1); il-Mejjieli / il-Hażin (between ta' l-Abatija and Wied il-Hmar) (18-5-2005); in fields alongside Triq Ghajn Tuffieħa and the road leading to Golden Bay, vicinity of Hal Ferħ (26-2-1997); il-Wita tat-Torri, vicinity of the tower (1990's); ix-Xaghra tat-Torri (facing Ras il-Pellegrin) (3-2007) - il-Mellieha area: between it-Torri l-Aħmar and Triq Ghajn Tuta (13-6-2003) - on the plain facing Wied id-Dis (c. 2000). GOZO - it-Telgha taż-Żewwieqa* (between Ghajnsielem and il-Qala) (23-3-1997) (1) - ix-Xaghra area: vicinity of il-Qortin ta' Ghajn Damma refuse dump (early 1990's); between Triq Marsalforn and Wied ta' Kanol (21-9-2007).

Grows in cultivated and fallow fields, rarely along roadsides and country lanes.

Family : *Salicaceae*

15. *Populus alba* L. MALTA - il-Baħrija area: Wied il-Luq (1992) - along watercourse between il-Ballut tal-Wardija and San Pawl il-Baħar (P?) (early 1990's) - Ġnien il-Kbir (P?) (8-1992) (1) - l-Għajn il-Kbira, Wied Fulija, il-Girgenti valley system (1991) - Wied tal-Buskett, Wied il-Luq valley system (1991) - Wied Hażrun (1992) (1) - Wied tas-Santi (27-8-1996).

16. *Salix pedicellata* Desfontaines MALTA - Wied l-Isqof (1992) - Mtahleb area: Wied ta' Markozz (1992); il-Wied ta' Ġordajna (2).

Family : *Malvaceae*

17. *Malope malacoides* L. MALTA - Mgarr area: il-Wied ta' Ghoxx ta' Hida (between il-Ballut and tal-Palma) (3-2000) (2).

Presumed extinct (Lanfranco 1989) before the rediscovery recorded above. Though past literature records it as growing on humid clay soil (eg. Haslam & al. 1977), the discovered specimens were growing on limestone rocky slopes.

Family : *Euphorbiaceae*

18. *Euphorbia aleppica* L. MALTA - Bingemma, vicinity of Punic tomb necropolis (1990's) (1) - Bubaqra area: il-Bur ta' l-Imtoli (24-6-2003) - il-Wardija area: id-Demus (25-4-2007) - Wied il-Hesri (20-8-2004) - Wied il-Qoton (21-8-2007) - ix-Xaghra tat-Tombu, near Imselliet school (26-10-2006) (1) - iz-Zurrieq area: Hal Lew (18-6-2003); ta' Cassia (24-6-2003).

19. *Euphorbia characias* L. MALTA - il-Girgenti, below Inquisitor's Palace (1992); Laroka plateau, overlooking il-Buskett (1992) - Mtarfa area: Sant Alessio (6-5-1996) - below Victoria Lines Fortifications, near Wied id-Dis (5-4-2000) (1) - below Victoria Lines fortifications, facing Żebbiegh (c.2000) - Wied Fulija, vicinity of il-Girgenti (2005) - Wied Liemu (c. 2001) (1). GOZO - Ta' Ċenċ area: escarpments below ix-Xaghra l-Kbira and il-Hamra, overlooking tal-Gruwa (18-10-2005) - Wied tax-Xlendi (1993).

20. *Euphorbia peplis* L. MALTA - il-Marfa peninsula: Ramla tat-Torri (8-1992). GOZO - Marsalforn* (1994), a large population that was wiped out by bulldozing soon after the recorded date - ix-Xatt l-Ahmar* (10-1992) (1).

Family : *Crassulaceae*

21. *Crassula tillaea* Lester-Garland MALTA - Pieta area: Sa Maison bastions (1996) - San Pawl tat-Tarġa area: in-Nigret (31-3-2006) - parts of Wied il-Għasel (late 1990's), including tal-Markiz (c. 2000) - Wied Moqbol (13-3-2004).

22. *Sedum album* L. MALTA - Dingli, il-Wardija ta' San Ġorġ, Ġebel Ciantar cliff-tops (early 1990's) - Paceville area: on a hump of rock at carpark alongside Triq id-Dragonara (1990's) - Wied Moqbol (20-3-2004) - Rđum il-Qaws (early 1990's).

23. *Sedum caespitosum* (Cavanilles) DC. MALTA - il-Baħrija cart ruts (late 1990's) - il-Bidni area, vicinity of Marsacala: ix-Xaghra ta' Rafiela (3-4-2007) - Dingli cliffs (late 1990's) - Ġebel Majn, overlooking Chadwick Lakes (c.2000) - l-Għallis area: Xaghret Frankin (2002) - Laroka plateau, overlooking il-Buskett (c.2000) - il-Marfa peninsula: id-Dahar (4-2007) - Misraħ Ġhonoq (late 1990's) - il-Mizieb (25-3-2003) - in-Naxxar (c. 2000) - ir-Rabat area: ix-Xaghra ta' Ġhajn Qajjed (c.2000) - Rđum Majjiesa (5-2000) - vicinity of is-Salib tal-Għolja (18-3-2003) - San Ġwann cart ruts (2007) - San Ġwann tal-Għargħar (2006) - San Pawl tat-Tarġa area: in-Nigret (31-3-2006) - San Tumas bay area: ta' Majru (2002) - Sta. Luċija area: parts of Wied ta' Garnaw, including taċ-Caġhki (2004) - Selmun area (c.2000) - is-Swatar area (2005) - on Victoria Lines bastions alongside ix-Xaghra ta' Qaduma (c. 2000) - il-Wardija area: the karstland behind Palazzo Gauci (25-4-2007) - Wied Babu (late 1990's) - high ground overlooking Wied Babu (vicinity of il-Hofra tal-Bħir) (24-6-2003) - Wied Dalam (3-10-2003) - throughout Wied il-Għasel, including tal-Markiz (late 1990's) - Wied il-Hesri (3-4-2003) - Wied Hoxt (3-2006) - Wied tal-Kalkara (10-3-2004). GOZO - vicinity of Hondoq ir-Rummien (7-2003) - Xewkija: ta' Blankas olive grove (late 1990's); vicinity of ta' Lambert airstrip, including ix-Xaghra tal-Kus (late 1990's).

This species is far more frequent than is suggested by past literature (eg. Lanfranco 1989). Its apparent rarity is probably due to oversight. However its populations are rather localised, maybe due to competition with the abundant *Sedum caeruleum* L. Occurs on the coralline plateaus and rocky outcrops of cultivated fields.

24. *Sedum stellatum* L. MALTA - Wied il-Għasel, opposite the quarry (6-4-2003) - Wied Hesri (3-4-2003).

Family : *Fabaceae*

25. *Anagyris foetida* L. MALTA - Mgarr area: vicinity of tal-Palma, in a scree below ix-Xaghra ta' San Martin (1998) - Mtarfa area: Sant Alessio (6-5-1996) - Wied il-Luq (early 1990's) - San Ġużepp tat-Targa* (near downhill road from il-Mosta to Ghajn Rihana) (early 1990's) (1) - San Pawl tat-Targa area: in-Nigret (1993) - Wied Anġlu, l-Għar ta' San Brinkat (1993) - Wied id-Dis (5-4-2000) (1).

26. *Lathyrus aphaca* L. MALTA - road alongside Ghajn Tuffieħa Roman Baths (late 1990's) - il-Mellieħa area: Wied tal-Kalkara (2004). GOZO - Wied il-Għasri (early 1990's).

Past literature records this species as frequent (eg. Sommier & Caruana Gatto 1915; Borg 1927; Haslam & al. 1977). Seems to have become rare. Does not grow in habitats subject to regular anthropogenic disturbance such as arable land. Occurs among high garrigue and valleybed vegetation.

27. *Lathyrus cicera* L. MALTA - Dingli cliffs (1992) - il-Manikata area: ta' Ciantar (31-1-2007) (2) - Mgarr area: ix-Xaghra tat-Torri (facing Ras il-Pellegrin) (3-2007), the only sizeable population known to the author - Wied il-Qoton (3-3-2005) (2).

Past literature records this species as frequent (eg. Sommier & Caruana Gatto 1915; Borg 1927; Haslam & al. 1977) and was as common as *Lathyrus chymenum* L. during the 1960's (E.Lanfranco, pers. com.). Seems to have declined dramatically.

28. *Medicago monspeliaca* (L.) Trautvetter MALTA - il-Bahrija area: il-Qortin ta' l-Imdawwar plateau, overlooking tat-Tulliera (5-4-2003) - Dingli cliffs (29-4-2003) - Laroka plateau, overlooking il-Buskett (4-8-2007) - il-Manikata area: ix-Xaghra l-Hamra (13-7-2007); ix-Xaghra ta' Rassa (13-7-2007) - il-Mellieħa area: ta' Pennellu (4 - 2007) - Mgarr area: near the downhill road between Mgarr centre and il-Bokka taċ-Ċerċura (c.1998) - il-Mistra area: ix-Xaghra tal-Qortin (12-3-2003) - vicinity of is-Salib tal-Gholja (18-3-2003) - San Pawl tat-Targa area: in-Nigret (31-3-2006) - il-Wardiya area: on the karstland behind Palazzo Gauci (25-4-2007) - it-Triq ta' l-Imdawwra, overlooking Wied il-Bassasa (3-2000) - Wied id-Dis, Wied il-Faham, on footpath along Victoria Lines (5-4-2000) - Wied il-Għasel (1993) - Wied Ghollieqa* (1991) - Wied Hoxt (3-2006). GOZO - Ghajn Abdul, il-Mixta (5-4-2004) - il-Qortin ta' Ghajn Damma (21-3-2004) - in-Nuffara hill (5-4-2006) - Wied Biljun (23-3-2004).

This species is thinly scattered across the country, occurring on rocky areas that have been subject to much trampling, such as old footpaths, rocky outcrops of fields and coralline plateaus, among degraded garrigue and steppic vegetation. It is however unusually abundant on a stretch of karstland at Nigret, South Malta: ix-Xaghra ta' Sur Anġla (8-4-2003), where it forms dense mats, then occurring intermittently further downhill to il-Munqar.

29. *Ononis biflora* Desfontaines MALTA - Hal Far: ta' Rikka (15-3-2005). GOZO - in-Nuffara hill (5-4-2006), the largest known population, occurring in cultivated wheat fields - ir-Rabat area: ta' Marziena (26-2-2004), among prehistoric remains.

30. *Ononis ornithopodioides* L. MALTA - Ghajn Tuffieħa area: il-Qarraba (7-2006) - il-Mellieħa area: on boulders between Ghajn Żnuber tower and Rdum id-Delli (16-5-2006). GOZO - il-Qala area: tal-Bombli, a scree below iz-Żewwieqa (20-4-2005); Hondoq ir-Rummien (4-7-2003).

31. *Trifolium lappaceum* L. MALTA - beside a watercourse at Rdum Majjiesa clays (5-2000).

32. *Trifolium angustifolium* L. MALTA - high ground overlooking Wied Babu (vicinity of il-Hofra tal-Bhir) (24-6-2003) - Ghajn Tuffieħa clays (7-2002).

33. *Vicia villosa* Rothmaler MALTA - Dingli cliffs area: among a boulder scree facing the North East side of il-Wardiya ta' San Gorg (29-4-2003).

34. *Vicia tenuissima* (Bieberstein) Schinz et Thellung GOZO - Wied ir-Riħan: ta' Xalati (24-4-2003).

Family : *Linaceae*

35. *Linum bienne* Miller MALTA - il-Bidnija area: tal-Għazzi (12-3-2000) - ix-Xagħra tat-Tombu cart-ruts, near Imselliet school (c.2001), a population much depleted by the creation of bird-trapping hides - Selmun area (c.2005).

Family : *Santalaceae*

36. *Thesium humile* Vahl MALTA - il-Blat plateau (overlooking Wied Bufula) (25-4-2007) - il-Marfa peninsula: il-Qatgħa ta' Sufa (on hills facing Ċirkewwa quays) (30-3-2003) - Mgarr area: in-Naqla, vicinity of l-Iskorvit (18-5-2005) - Laroka plateau, overlooking Buskett (6-2002) - ta' Pijru, ta' Żejsi, humps pf rock near the road between Mosta and Żebbiegħ (c. 2000) - is-Salina area: ta' Matthew rocks (c. 2004). GOZO - Ghajn Abdul, il-Mixta (5-4-2004) - Fort Chambray, west side (4-5-2003) - San Lawrenz area: Wied il-Kbir, in a disused quarry (26-3-2003).

Family : *Lamiaceae*

37. *Stachys ocymastrum* (L.) Briquet MALTA - Mtarfa area: Ghajn Kellija (c.1996) (1) - frequent between Wied il-Magħlaq and Wied Ħoxt, Wied iż-Żurrieq valley system (late 1990's). GOZO - Dahlet Qorrot (2-1993) - il-Fontana area: il-Muntanja tas-Saqwi (3-4-2004) - Wied ir-Riħan (8-4-2004).

Family : *Scrophulariaceae*

38. *Kickxia elatine* (L.) Dumortier MALTA - Wied Ghollieqa (1991); Wied Ghollieqa University carpark (8-2007). GOZO - fields between Triq ta' Bordin and Triq ta' Xhajma (4-9-2007) - ix-Xewkija: tal-Muknar (8-2007).

39. *Linaria chalepensis* (L.) Miller MALTA - il-Mellieħa area: fields between Wied il-Mizieb and it-Telgħa ta' Selmun (27-4-2005) - Mgarr area: il-Mielħa, overlooking Gnejna valley (late 1990's) - il-Wardija: id-Demus (25-4-2007) - Wied Bufula (c. 2000).

40. *Linaria pseudolaxiflora* Lojacono MALTA - Wied il-Bassasa (3-2000); Wied id-Dis (5-4-2000); Wied Żnuber (27-2-2004). GOZO - iċ-Ċittadella: St.John's demibastion, St.Martin's demibastion, stairs outside Citadel gate (c.2002) - Gelmus hill (early 1990's) - ta' Harrax hill (early 1990's) - il-Qolla s-Safra (11-3-2003). COMINO - rocky ground between Ghemieri peninsula and Sta. Marija bay (28-3-2005); on rubble around Comino tower ditch and adjoining peninsula (2005).

41. *Verbascum creticum* (L.) Cavanilles MALTA - il-Girgenti (1992) - Wied Ħanzira (1992) - Wied tal-Lewża* (28-5-1998) (2), along the road between is-Sigġiewi and Għar Lapsi.

Family : *Orobanchaceae*

42. *Orobanche lavandulacea* Reichenbach MALTA - ta' l- Ibraġ area: Wied Mejxu (4-1995) - il-Manikata area: ix-Xagħra l-Ħamra (1990's) - Wied il-Għasel (2002) - Wied Ħoxt (4-2006) (1) - Mtaħleb area: ix-Xagħra tal-Borghom (2006) - between ix-Xemxija heights and il-Mizieb woodland (26-4-2005), possibly the largest known population..

Family : *Plantaginaceae*

43. *Plantago bellardi* Allioni MALTA - il-Manikata area: ix-Xagħra tal-Majjiesa, ix-Xagħra tal-Qortin (c.2000) - il-Mellieħa area: between il-Mizieb wood and Wied tal-Kalkara valleybed (26-4-2005); tat-Tomna, near uphill road from il-Manikata to il-Mellieħa ridge (c. 2000); Wied San Niklaw

(28-1-2003) - il-Mistra area: ix-Xagħra tal-Qortin (12-3-2003) - Qalet Marku peninsula* (29-4-1993) - Wied Ħarq Ħamiem (1995). GOZO - in-Nadur area: ix-Xagħra tal-Magun (3-2000).

Family : *Asteraceae*

44. *Ambrosia maritima* L. MALTA - near Għadira bird sanctuary (early 1990's). GOZO - Wied Sara (10-1992) (3).

45. *Atractylis cancellata* L. MALTA - il-Manikata area: Wied l-Abjad, ta' Ciantar (31-1-2007) - il-Mellieħa area: West side of Danish Village (c.2000) - intermittently on cliff-tops between il-Munqar and Wied il-Bassasa (5-4-1999) - Pembroke (22-6-2003) - Wied Ħarq Ħamiem (1995) - Wied Hoxt (3-2006) - Wied Moqbol (13-3-2004) - Wied Żnuber (27-2-2004). GOZO - ta' Ġordan hill plateau (9-11-2006); Hondoq ir-Rummien (6-7-2004).

46. *Carduncellus coeruleus* (L.) DC. MALTA - il-Buskett (2004) (1) - Mgarr area: vicinity of tas-Santi (c. 2000) (1) - il-Qolla (vicinity of Chadwick Lakes) (late 1990's), the only sizeable population known to the author - Wied ir-Rum (1994) (1). GOZO - ta' Ghammar hill (9-11-2006) (1).

47. *Catananche lutea* L. MALTA - il-Mellieħa area: Wied Ħanzira (16-5-2006); vicinity of Torri l-Aħmar (31-8-2004) - Pembroke (22-6-2003) - frequent on the stretches of karstland between wied Rini and Bieb ir-Ruwa, towards plateaus overlooking wied tas-Santi (2002).

48. *Centaurea melitensis* L. GOZO - iċ-Ċittadella* (c.2002) (1); Nuffara hill* (c.2000) (1) - il-Qala area: l-Irdum cart ruts (18-4-2005).

49. *Glebionis segetum* (L.) Fourr. MALTA - Mtaħleb area: l-Irdum tas-Sarġ (1995). Records for Gozo, where the species is frequent, are not given.

50. *Onopordum argolicum* Boissier MALTA - Għajn Tuffieħa tower* (6-2002) (1). GOZO - il-Qala area: il-Wardija, along a road now called Triq il-Barbaġann* (23-3-1997) (1) - it-Terrapien* (near Fort Chambray) (late 1990's), the largest population known to the author, destroyed when a road was widened to create parking space. COMINO - roadside along il-Palazz (15-11-1996).

51. *Otanthus maritimus* (L.) Hoffmannsegg & Link MALTA - Marfa peninsula: Ramla tat-Torri* (8-1992) (4). GOZO - Xatt l-Aħmar* (5-2002) (1), destroyed by beach cleaning. May be extinct.

52. *Rhagadiolus stellatus* (L.) Willdenow MALTA - Had Dingli area: Misraħ Suffara (2004) - il-Mellieħa area: between it-Telgħa ta' Selmun and il-Migduma (27-4-2005) - high ground overlooking Wied Gerżuma* (17-4-1993) (4), destroyed by bird-trapping activities. GOZO - il-Qala area: ta' Cassar, ta' Simar (high ground overlooking wied is-Simar) (25-4-2005). Grows in cultivated fields with shallow soil among forbs.

Family : *Alismataceae*

53. *Damasonium bourgaei* Cosson MALTA - l-Għallis ta' Ġewwa (1993) - Mgarr area: ix-Xagħra ta' San Martin (overlooking il-Palma) (3-2000) - Wied ta' l-Imselliet (2002) - Wied il-Għasel, San Pawl tat-Tarġa region (1993) - Sta. Luċija borehole reservoir (c.2000), the largest known population. GOZO - Xlendi area: Ras il-Fekruna (1993) - Ta' Ċenċ area (1993).

Family : *Hyacinthaceae*

54. *Muscari neglectum* Gussone MALTA - Hal Far: ta' Rikka (15-3-2005).

55. *Scilla clusii* Parlatore MALTA - Wied il-Ħżejjen (2002), 1 clump growing in clay soil close to the valleybed watercourse..

Family : *Iridaceae*

56. *Iris sicula* Todaro MALTA - uphill road between ir-Rabat and Mtaħleb* (1990's) - clay fields below Dingli cliffs* (2003). GOZO - Wied tax-Xlendi (1993).

Family : *Orchidaceae*

57. *Ophrys ciliata* Bivona MALTA - il-Marfa peninsula: id-Dahar (4-2007) (1) - il-Mellieħa area: Iċ-Ċumnija acacia wood (c. 2000) (1) - Mġarr area: ta' Mrejnu (1) (c. 2000) - Pembroke (early 1990's) (1) - San Pawl tat-Targa area : in-Nigret (31-3-2006) - Wied id-Dis (5-4-2000) (1) - Wied il-Faħam (5-4-2000) (1).

Records for Gozo, where this species is frequent, are not given.

58. *Ophrys lutea* Cavanilles MALTA - vicinity of Għar il-Kbir (early 1990's) - Verdala* (26-3-1994) (1) - Wied Babu (3-1992) (1) - high ground overlooking wied Babu (vicinity of il-Ħofra tal-Bħir) (c. 2000). GOZO - ta' Ħarraz hill (early 1990's) (1).

Family : *Juncaceae*

59. *Juncus articulatus* L. GOZO - in a watercourse on clays below il-Qortin ta' Għajn Damma, between Rdum tas-Surgu and Għajn Barrani (5-1994).

Family : *Cyperaceae*

60. *Bolboschoenus maritimus* (L.) Palla MALTA - Wied l-Arkata, Wied Għajn Mula, Għajn Rihana valley system (early 1990's) - Wied tal-Gnejna (2-1992). GOZO - Wied tal-Grazzja, Wied Marsalforn valley system (10-1992) - in a marshy area behind Ramla l-Ħamra sand dunes (8-1992). Seems to be spreading, maybe due to soaring nitrogen levels in watercourses. C.2000 it appeared close to the point where il-Baħrija valleybed watercourse meets Fomm ir-Riħ cliffs and in il-Fiddien, Wied il-Qliegha valley system.

61. *Cyperus fuscus* L. GOZO - Wied tal-Grazzja* (10-1992).

Destroyed soon after original discovery. The author has conserved this species by growing it in his private garden from seeds collected from the above-mentioned population. Introduced to Argotti Botanic Gardens, Floriana, and Wied Għolliēqa nature reserve.

Family : *Poaceae*

62. *Melica ciliata* L. MALTA - Wied il-Ħesri (1990's).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is very grateful to Ms. Lisa Jane Schembri Gambin and Ms. Marie Therese Gambin for long hours of assistance in tracing place-names on ordinance survey maps. Credit also goes to Mr. Alex Camilleri, an ardent researcher on Maltese toponyms, for providing several barely known, previously unpublished, micronyms, and to many farmers and herders living in the countryside, who also provided a number of place-names. Thanks also goes to Mr. Edwin Lanfranco and Mr. Michael Briffa for providing information on the past status of some species.

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(Accepted October 2007)