

Some noteworthy records of flowering plants in Cyprus (1997–2016)

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Abstract. – This paper deals with specimen-based records of 38 taxa, most of them having a scattered occurrence or restricted distribution areas in Cyprus. *Vicia johannis*, a member of the taxonomically controversial *V. narbonensis* group, has not been mentioned previously for Cyprus.

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Introduction

Publication of specimen-based data has been established for many years in Cypriot floristics, following Meikle's (1977, 1985) tradition in "Flora of Cyprus". In the last two decades, many papers have focused on adding records of taxa for the eight phytogeographical divisions in Cyprus, as proposed in the standard Flora of Cyprus (Meikle 1977). In recent years and after the publication of the "Red Data Book of the Flora of Cyprus" (Tsintides & al. 2007), documentation of endangered species and their occurrence has become a new important feature in the floristics of the island. However, some species slip through the net, being either not new for any division or not listed as threatened. This refers mostly to taxa with a very scattered distribution or taxa with restricted distribution areas in a single or few divisional units.

The following list presents a selection of records of taxa which belong to the various groups of plants mentioned above but focusing on rarely documented taxa of the latter groups.

Material and methods

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow Hand & al. (2011), herbarium abbreviations Thiers (2017). First records for any phytogeographical unit are marked with a "+". Plants listed in the Red Data Book are marked with the abbreviation RDB followed by the status, which is explained in full detail by Tsintides & al. (2007). Known data on distribution of taxa in Cyprus are not repeated here but can be found in the online checklist for Cyprus (Hand & al. 2011), which aims at a complete recording of specimen-based records. Georeferenced data are not presented here but are stored in a database. They will be published at a later date making them accessible via the above-mentioned website.

Results

• *Aizoaceae*

***Aizoon hispanicum* L.** – RDB: EN

Division 3: Pissouri, Pissouri Bay, W tip of bay at Akrotirio Aspro, coastal phrygana, openings, alt. 10 m, 8.4.2015, *R. Hand 7164* (B).

• *Apiaceae*

***Bupleurum sintenisii* Huter**

Division 3: Pissouri, cliff area at W part of Pissouri Bay, near small beach, open rocky slope of dry stream, alt. 5 m, 12.6.2011, *R. Hand 5826* (B). – *ibid.*, Pissouri Bay, Pikrokremmos area, above cliffs E of settlement, rocky ground in open phrygana, alt. 55 m, 24.6.2011, *R. Hand 5885* (B).

***Ferulago cypria* H. Wolff**

Division 2: Lythrodontas, on the road to Lefkara c. 2.5 km S of Lythrodontas, near point where European walking trail crosses, open pine stands and olive groves by track W of the road, alt. c. 500 m, 12.5.2009, *R. Hand 5487* (B). – *ibid.*, 19.9.2010, *R. Hand S-151* (B-seedbank).

***Torilis pseudonodosa* Bianca**

+ Division 8: Rizokarpaso, Ronnas valley below village, at bridge of main road, grassy bank on right side below road, alt. 42 m, 10.4.2014, *R. Hand 6405* (B).

• *Asteraceae*

***Tolpis umbellata* Bertol.** [Syn.: *T. barbata* sensu Meikle, non (L.) Gaertn.]

Division 1: Neo Chorio, ridge next to/below Koutsaggas view point, at the track down to Lara, grassy slope, alt. 311 m, 3.4.2015, *R. Hand 7128* (B).

• *Berberidaceae*

***Bongardia chrysogonum* (L.) Spach**

+ Division 1: Kritou Tera, by road down to Kataraktis picnic site, slopes SW/above picnic site, in conspicuous bend, abandoned fields, alt. 358 m, 1.4.2016, *R. Hand 7284* (B).

• *Boraginaceae*

***Asperugo procumbens* L.**

Division 1: Episkopi Pafou, in old village, road below main road and big cliff, ruderal site, alt. 155 m, 7.4.2015, *R. Hand 7157* (B).

***Borago officinalis* L.**

Division 1: Androlikou, Androlikou gorge, bottom of gorge by the stream, on alluvial sediments, alt. 160 m, 29.3.2012, *R. Hand* 5950 (B).

Quite common in the area and locally naturalised.

• ***Brassicaceae***

***Alyssum minutum* DC.** – RDB: NT

Division 2: Odou, pass SW Moutti tou Agiou Georgiou, rocky bank of track, alt. 1160 m, 23.3.2005, *R. Hand* 4401 (B).

***Crambe hispanica* L.** – RDB: EN

Division 1: Fasli, road on Akamas ridge, conspicuous group of rocks S of village, in rock crevices, alt. 581 m, 29.3.2015, *R. Hand* 7076 (B).

• ***Campanulaceae***

***Legousia hybrida* (L.) Delarbre**

Division 1: Fyti, S edge of village, young olive grove by road, alt. 652 m, 5.4.2016, *R. Hand* 7298 (B).

Division 3: Agia Varvara, beside E 606 towards Nata, at turn-off to chicken farm, abandoned field, alt. 144 m, 6.4.2015, *R. Hand* 7152 & *C. Makris* (B).

+ Division 7: Lapithos, upper edge of village, in Tunca Sokak, on limestone debris by track, alt. 258 m, 12.4.2014, *R. Hand* 6423 (B).

• ***Caryophyllaceae***

***Silene dichotoma* subsp. *racemosa* (Otth) Hayek** – RDB: EN

Division 3: Fasoula [Pafos], SW of village, valley in serpentine area between an old and an active quarry, lower part, rocky ground, alt. 143 m, 4.4.2015, *R. Hand* 7135 (B).

***Silene papillosa* Boiss.**

Division 3: Fasoula [Pafos], SW of village, valley in serpentine area between an old and an active quarry, upper part, on debris, alt. 160 m, 4.4.2015, *R. Hand* 7138 (B).

• ***Cleomaceae***

***Cleome ornithopodioides* L.**

Division 2: Agioi Vavatsinias, at beginning of track connecting road W of the dam (SW of village) and W end of dam wall, debris on bank, alt. c. 570 m, 18.5.2009, *R. Hand* 5523 (B). – *ibid.*, 28.9.2010, *R. Hand* 5754 (B).

• **Convolvulaceae**

***Convolvulus dorycnium* L.**

Division 3: Timi, at tower W of village, rocky bank, alt. 60 m, 30.3.2012, *R. Hand* 5959 (B).

Quite rare in the W of Cyprus but already documented from that area since the 19th century (see Meikle 1985).

• **Cyperaceae**

***Carex egorovae* A. Mol. & al.**

+ Division 7: Charkeia, SW, Argaki tis Glistras, wet ground by spring with artificial pool, alt. 245 m, 2.6.2013, *R. Hand* 6162 & K. Kefalas (B).

***Isolepis cernua* (Vahl) Roem. & Schult.** – RDB: EN

Division 3: Asomatos, SE of the village, edge of the salt lake, flooded track, alt. 0 m, 30.4.1997, *R. Hand* 1209 (B). – *ibid.*, 9.6.2011, *R. Hand* S-275 & G. Hadjikyriakou (B-seedbank).

• **Euphorbiaceae**

***Euphorbia valerianifolia* Lam.**

Division 1: Episkopi Pafou, Ezousa valley, a bit above old aqueduct, field, alt. 202 m, 6.4.2015, *R. Hand* 7148 & C. Makris (B). – Kritou Tera, by road down to Kataraktis picnic site, slopes SW/above picnic site, in conspicuous bend, abandoned fields, alt. 358 m, 1.4.2016, *R. Hand* 7283 (B).

• **Fabaceae**

***Medicago praecox* DC.**

Division 3: Pyrgos, Argaki tou Pyrgou, 800 m SW of Ornithas, open lava slopes, alt. c. 120 m, 25.3.2005, *R. Hand* 4426 (B).

***Securigera cretica* (L.) Lassen** [Syn.: *Coronilla cretica* L.] – RDB: EN

+ Division 1: Episkopi Pafou, at main track descending from village to river, c. 1 km below village centre, banks and orchard, limestone, alt. 165 m, 7.4.2015, *R. Hand* 7156 (B).

Known from various locations in the Ezousa valley, its only distribution area in Cyprus (Christodoulou & Makris in Tsintides & al. 2007; C. Makris, pers. comm.), but so far not documented from the W side of the river.

***Trigonella berythea* Boiss. & T. I. Blanche**

Division 1: Akoursos, S of road and gorge ESE village, on rocky terraces, alt. 460 m, 28.3.2012, *R. Hand* 5940 (B).

***Vicia johannis* Tamamsh.**

+ Division 2: Pano Panagia, Moni Chrysorrogiatissas, road bank opposite entrance, limestone debris, alt. 820 m, 3.4.2016, *R. Hand 7289* (B).

According to A. Kyrtzis (ARI, Lefkosia; pers. comm.) already known from Cyprus but no details have been published so far. Determination and taxonomy follow Tison & de Foucault (2014); for further details and literature sources see also Birch & al. (1985). *V. johannis* is known to occur in several countries neighbouring Cyprus (Birch & al. 1985).

• ***Gentianaceae***

***Centaurium maritimum* (L.) Fritsch** – RDB: EN

Division 1: Loutra tis Afroditis, WNW Pyrgos tis Rigenas, by main track above, rocky serpentine slope, alt. 300 m, 5.4.2015, *R. Hand 7143* (B). – *ibid.*, WSW Pyrgos tis Rigenas, slope on W side of Akamas ridge track, openings in phrygana, alt. 320 m, 5.4.2015, *R. Hand 7145* (B). – Neo Chorio, ridge next to/below Koutsaggas view point, at the track down to Lara, grassy slope, alt. 311 m, 3.4.2015, *R. Hand 7127* (B).

• ***Geraniaceae***

***Erodium botrys* (Cav.) Bertol.** – RDB: NT

+ Division 1: Lysos, Proseuchi area, on track, pillow lava, alt. 619 m, 4.4.2016, *R. Hand 7296* & C. S. Christodoulou (B).

This population has been known for a few years (C. S. Christodoulou, pers. comm.) but the species has not been documented for division 1 yet.

• ***Lamiaceae***

***Phlomis lunariifolia* Sm.**

Division 1: Lasa, towards Fyti, slope below isolated house between the two villages, rocky slope with fenced area, maquis, alt. 616 m, 5.4.2016, *R. Hand 7300* (B).

The species is not rare in parts of division 1 but the mentioned locality is documented here because of the new altitudinal limit. Published records refer to sites not higher than 325 m above sea-level (Hand & al. 2011).

***Sideritis perfoliata* L.**

Division 1: Kritou Tera, on road to Agia Aikaterini, c. 350 m ESE village, in conspicuous bend at stream crossing, maquis on old terraces, alt. 425 m, 14.6.2011, *R. Hand 5835* (B).

Division 2: Agios Ioannis, SW slope of mountain SE of the village, phrygana on abandoned vineyards, alt. c. 800 m, 4.5.1999, *R. Hand 3065* (B). – Agios Nikolaos, slope E (above) of the village, at the start of the track to Omodos, former vineyards, alt. c. 900 m, 14.5.1999, *R. Hand 3236* (B).

Division 3: Amargeti, by the road down to Agia Marina, NNE turn-off, on road bank, alt. 435 m, 9.6.2011, *R. Hand* 5799 (B).

• **Poaceae**

***Avellinia festucoides* (Link) Valdéz & H. Scholz** [Syn.: *A. michelii* (Savi) Parl.]

Division 2: Limnitis, opposite Petra tou Limniti, slope towards sea, openings in phrygana, mixed limestone igneous bedrocks, alt. 94 m, 1.4.2015, *R. Hand* 7098, *K. Kefalas, C. Makris & A. Paradisis* (B).

+ Division 5: Athalassa, S of nursery, waysides, alt. 188 m, 2.4.2015, *R. Hand* 7113 & *G. Hadjikyriakou* (B).

***Crithopsis delileana* (Schult.) Roshev.** – RDB: VU

Division 4: Protaras, Fanos area, on track from chapel Agioi Saranta to antenna, trodden ground, alt. 175 m, 3.4.2014, *R. Hand* 6365 (B).

***Gaudiniopsis macra* (M. Bieb.) Eig** – RDB: LC

Division 2: Lythrodontas, by track to Machairas, at bridge crossing stream, debris on banks, alt. 555 m, 31.5.2013, *R. Hand* S-476a (B-seedbank). – Pano Platres, at new road to Foini connecting P. P. and the Foini – Kato Platres road, between road bifurcation and small chapel, debris on waste place S of the road, alt. c. 1050 m, 20.5.2009, *R. Hand* 5535 & *Y. Christofides* (B).

***Hordeum marinum* Huds.**

+ Division 1: Polis, W edge of eucalypt forest by the coast, field margin near beach, alt. 2 m, 1.4.2016, *R. Hand* 7286 (B).

***Poa pelasgis* H. Scholz**

+ Division 6: Kokkinotrimithia, area N of the stadium, phrygana with kafkalla, alt. 226 m, 2.4.2015, *R. Hand* 7118 & *G. Hadjikyriakou* (B).

***Sclerochloa dura* (L.) P. Beauv.** – RDB: VU

Division 1: Peristerona, Peristerona gorge, upper part below view point at EOKA memorial, on track connecting 2 small asphalted roads, trodden ground, alt. 313 m, 26.3.2015, *R. Hand* 7060 (B).

• **Polygonaceae**

***Persicaria lanigera* (R. Br.) Soják** [Syn.: *Polygonum lanigerum* R. Br.]

+ Division 1: Acheleia, lower Ezousa valley, dry artificial pools in river bed, N side of stream, alt. 11 m, 4.4.2015, *R. Hand* 7140 (B).

Rumex bucephalophorus* L. subsp. *bucephalophorus [Syn.: *R. bucephalophorus* subsp. *graecus* (Steinh.) Rech. f.]

Division 2: Pomos, Livadi valley, from c. 300 m below the dam to the middle part of the dam open *Pinus brutia* forest, alt. c. 100–150 m, 18.5.1999, *R. Hand* 3296 (B). – ibid., Livadi valley, c. 400 m below dam, debris on bank, alt. 129 m, 27.3.2015, *R. Hand* 7069 (B).

• ***Potamogetonaceae***

***Potamogeton nodosus* Poir.**

Division 1: Tala, in Mavrokolympo brook c. 200 m above Baths of Adonis, slow flowing section of the brook, alt. c. 350 m, 16.4.1999, *R. Hand* 2837 (B).

• ***Rubiaceae***

***Galium parisiense* L.** – RDB: LC

Division 2: Sykopetra, at the pass to Palaichori, where district border Lemesos-Lefkosia crosses the road, bank of road, alt. c. 1050 m, 13.5.2009, *R. Hand* 5494 (B).

• ***Valerianaceae***

***Valerianella echinata* (L.) DC.**

Division 7: Armenomonastiro, Kremmos tis Keryneias, among rocks above cliff, alt. 632 m, 12.4.2014, *R. Hand* 6417 (B).

• ***Xanthorrhoeaceae***

***Asphodelus tenuifolius* Cav.** – RDB: VU

Division 2: Kato Pyrgos, at medieval observation tower, both sides of steps and near base, fine debris, alt. 25 m, 24.3.2012, *R. Hand* 5918 (B). – Limnitis, hill NE conspicuous bend towards Loutros, small limestone cliff, alt. 140 m, 2.4.2012, *R. Hand* 5979 (B). – Loutros, steep track connecting village and road, c. 800 m WSW Vouni palace, debris along track, igneous rocks, alt. 160 m, 2.4.2012, *R. Hand* 5982 (B).

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