

SEED GERMINATION PERFORMANCES OF SEVERAL SPECIES OF THE LIGURIA REGION

MASCARELLO C.¹, SACCO E.¹, ZAPPA E.², SUFFIA G.I.², MARIOTTI M.G.², RUFFONI B.¹

¹ CRA-FSO Ornamental Plants Research Unit - Unità di ricerca per la Floricoltura e Le Specie Ornamentali, Corso Inglesi 508, 18038 Sanremo (IM); ² Giardini Botanici Hanbury, Università di Genova. Corso Montecarlo 43, 18039 Ventimiglia (IM)

Since 2008, following the Memorandum of Agreement between the Genoa University – Hanbury Botanical Garden and the CRA-FSO of Sanremo, the Conservation Laboratory of the Ligurian Germplasm Bank together with the Propagation Department of CRA have a collaboration for the study of the seed germination of ligurian wild species in order to ensure their conservation. The programme includes ligurian species listed in the Annexe II, IV and V of the 43/92/EEC EU Habitat Directive and species that characterize habitat listed in the Annexe I or that play an essential role for biodiversity of the ligurian sites of Natura 2000 network (Scoppola & Spampinato, 2005). Among them, *Crithmum maritimum* L., *Limonium cordatum* (L.) Mill., *Silene otites* (L.) Wibel and *Lagurus ovatus* L. were collected within the frame of the project for conservation and reintroduction of the wild coastal flora financed by Savona District. Forty-one taxa stored in the bank were screened for germination. Seeds of each species were evaluated for weight, shape, size and colour. Seed collection and the subsequent treatments were carried out according to the guide lines suggested by Bacchetta (Bacchetta *et al.*, 2006). This paper reports the endogenous germination potentiality scored at the following base conditions: sow in Petri dish, moisted filter paper, 23±1°C.

Limonium cordatum, *Silene otites*, *Lilium martagon* L., *Limonium avei* (De Notaris) Brullo & Erben, *Moricandia arvensis* (L.) DC. and *Echinops ritro* L. showed germinability higher than 50% and were classified as orthodox. Mean germination times varied from 3 to 31 days.

Scoppola A., Spampinato G. (Ed.), 2005. Atlante delle specie a rischio di estinzione. Versione 1.0. In: Scoppola A., Blasi C. (Ed.), Stato delle conoscenze sulla flora vascolare d'Italia. Palombi Editori. Roma: CD-Rom.

Bacchetta G., Fenu G., Mattana E., Piotto B. & Virevaire M. (a cura di), 2006. Manuale per la raccolta, studio, conservazione e gestione ex situ del germoplasma. APAT (Agenzia per la Protezione dell'Ambiente e per i servizi Tecnici), Manuali e Linee Guida 37, 248 pp. Roma

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