

**Interreg - IPA CBC**  
Bulgaria - Turkey



**PARTNERSHIP**



# New data on the species of Orchidaceae in the Strandzha Natural Park

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# Introduction



The project ORCHIS – Orchids researches, conservation and habitats in Strandzha is implemented in the frame of the Interreg-IPA CBC Bulgaria – Turkey Programme 2014-2020.

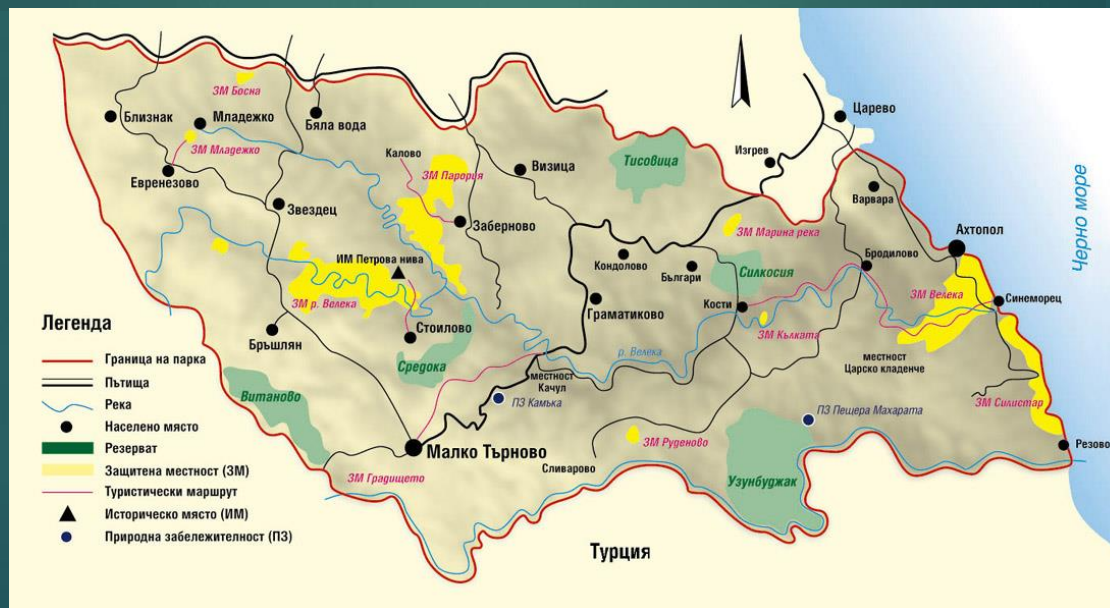
The project envisions development and implementation of joint conservation activities specifically on the orchid species in the protected areas of Strandzha Mts with the help of an innovative concept – using specialized software to aid the determination of species and assess their habitat status.

A large set of field data were collected during 2017. Here we present some of the new for region data.



# Material and methods

During the period April – October 28 day of field studies were undertaken. Different types of habitats were investigated. Special attention was devote to the areas with limestone basal rocks. For the all registered localities geographical and habitat data and data about the population size were collected.



Strandzha Natural Park is the investigated area in Bulgaria

# Results



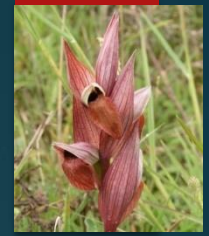
There are literature and herbaria data about 37 species of orchids for the region of Strandzha Mts in Bulgaria. Among them, 18 species are included in the Red Data List of Vascular Plants in Bulgaria; 11 species are protected by the law.

Localities of 24 species were registered in 2017 on the territory of Strandzha Natural Park. Some of them have numerous populations.



*Anacamptis papilionacea* is the most abundant orchid in the Natural Park – more than 48 000 plants were counted (with 145 location's points).

# Results



*Dactylorhiza incarnata* is a new species for the mountain, as well as for the Strandzha floristic region in Bulgaria. This Euro-Siberian floristic element is an endangered in Bulgaria, with very local distribution in the lowlands.



One locality was found in a lowland hay meadow near Bliznak village.



# Results



*Himantoglossum jankae*, a species included in Annex IIb of the Directive 92/43 EEC, was documented for the first time for the area of SCI BG 0001007 Strandzha, with 5 localities.

# Results



All populations of *Anacamptis coriophora* belong to subsp. *fragrans*.

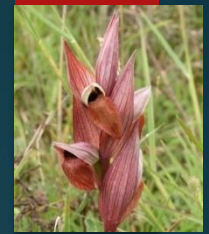


A population with a high percentage of *albiflora* individuals was observed

# Results

The Red List species *Spiranthes spiralis* is known as a species with significant fluctuations. The 2017 was a very successful, both in Bulgaria and Turkey.

In Bulgaria, more than 3000 plants were counted in 44 location points.





# Results



*Serapias vomeracea* is an Endangered species in Bulgaria. It uses to express an annual fluctuation connected with the ability for vegetative propagation.

Surprisingly, it is the second numerous species in the Natural park (at least for 2017), with more than 20 000 shoots in 73 location points.

New localities were found in the inner Strandzha (Strandzha Mt floeistic region).



# Results

New localities of rare and protected species:  
*Anacamptys laxiflora*, *Ophrys apifera*,  
*O. mammosa*, and *O. reicholdii* were found



# Results

Despite the purposive searches, the extremely rare *Orchis provincialis* and *Epipogium aphyllum* were not found in the Bulgarian part.



Also, the registered data for *Epipactis* as well as *Dactylorgiza* species were very limited.



## Conclusion

- A new for Strandzha Mts orchid species was discovered.
- New localities for many rare species were found.
- New data about the distribution and population numbers were collected.
- In general, valuable results for the orchid flora of Stranzha Natural Park were obtained. Some of them, for the rarest species will help the more precise evaluation of their conservation status.

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***THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION!***

