

# Project partner: Hortus Botanicus Karalitanus of the University of Cagliari

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## Island

SARDINIA

## Species name (Family)

*Ribes sardoum* Martelli (Grossulariaceae)

## Common name

Ribes di Sardegna (Italian name), Sardinian currant (English name).

## Plant description

- *Ribes sardoum* is a small woody shrub (0.8-2.0 m tall), with alternate leaves and a hairy, glandular leaf stalk. Small and inconspicuous greenish-yellow flowers that are solitary with short stalks. The mature fruit is a red ovate berry, containing ca. 3 seeds per fruit with linear underdeveloped embryo.
- *R. sardoum* flowers from April to the beginning of June, while fruits develop from late July to October. The pollination of the species is not known, while the seeds are probably dispersed by animals.
- This *taxon* grows in dolomitic limestones at ca. 1160 m a.s.l.. From a bioclimatic point of view, the species can be referred to the Upper Mesomediterranean, Upper Subhumid, Euoceanic Weak.

## Distribution

*R. sardoum* is a relict endemic plant of Central-Eastern Sardinia (Italy). The only population is located in “Prados” (*locus classicus*, Monte Corradi, Oliena, NU) and consists of ca. 80 reproductive plants in a surface area of ca. 700 m<sup>2</sup>.

## Map



## Legal status

*R. sardoum* is listed in the Appendix I of the Bern Convention and in the Annex II of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. The population of *Ribes sardoum* is included in the SCI (Sites of Community Importance) “Supramonte di Oliena, Orgosolo e Urzulei – Su Sercone” (ITB022212).

## Main threats and conservation status

According to the IUCN Threats Classification Scheme (Version 3.2) the main threats in Sardinia are:

- 2.3.1: Nomadic Grazing. This species was affected by uncontrolled livestock grazing.
- 6.1: Recreational Activities. The tourist and recreation activities, in particular hiking, could represent a serious threat to the species.

*R. sardoum* was assessed as Critically Endangered (CR) according to IUCN Red List Categories at global and regional level.

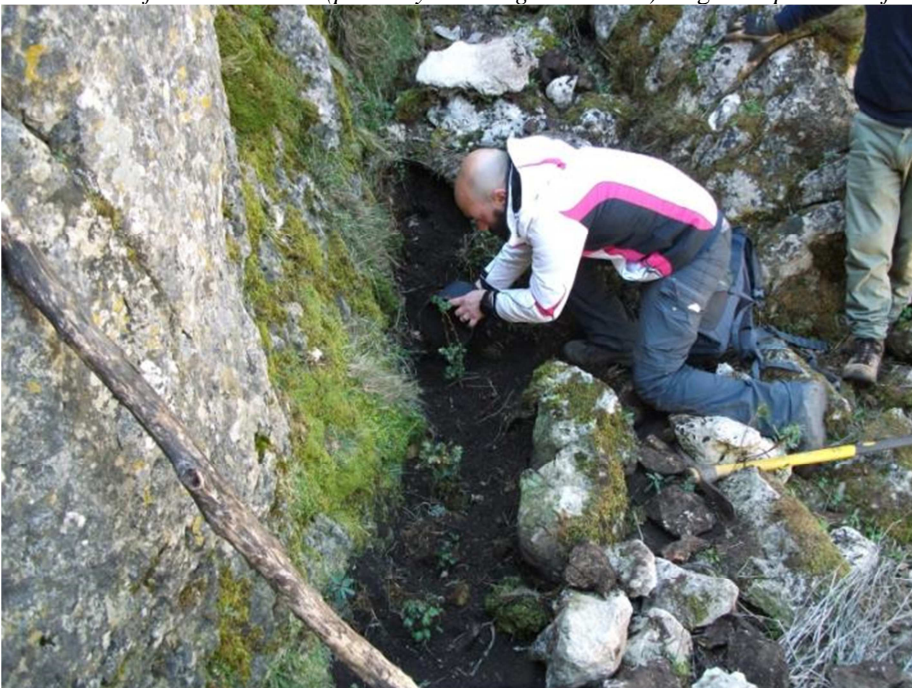
## Conservation actions carried out in the CARE-MEDIFLORA project

A translocation of 23 plants, propagated from seeds, was carried out in March 2017 in a new site close to the historical population. In addition, natural fence protection was built in order to prevent damages caused by grazing and trampling of wild ungulates. Periodic monitoring of the translocated population was started in spring 2017. Monitoring activities measured the survival rate of the introduced individuals. The preliminary results of the monitoring showed an acceptable survival rate of the transplanted individuals. After the end of the project, the monitoring activities will be continued, ensuring the long-term sustainability of the in situ actions.

## Photos



Left: *Fruits of Ribes sardoum* (photo by Gianluigi Bacchetta). Right: *Population of Ribes sardoum* (Photo by Giuseppe Fenu).



*Translocation of Ribes sardoum* (Photo by Giuseppe Fenu).