It is evaluated as Endangered in the Red List (Genova 2009, 2015). The populations reported here are numerous (especially that in the Pobiti Kamani locality) and well-conditioned. Considering also the wide distribution of the species in the country (in nine floristic regions), with a lot of localities, and our other observations of different populations of the species: at the Black Sea Coast (the dunes around Nesebar town), Northeast Bulgaria (on limestone slopes near Sindel village), Balkan Range (Eastern – Sinite Kamani Nature Park; above Aithos; above Topolitsa village), Rhodopi Mts (Eastern – around Ivailovgrad; near Belopole village; in the Likana protected area; around Madzarovo town; in Oreshari protected area; Potochnitsa, Potocharka villages, Valchi Dol Nature Reserve; Stari Chal village, etc.), Rhodopi Mts (Central – above Asenovgrad town), Tundzha Hilly Country (in limestone areas near Mramor and Ustrem vilages), in our opinion the threat category is overestimated and needs reevaluation.

**Moraceae**

123. *Broussonetia papyrifera* L.

**Bu** Balkan Range (Eastern): near Zavet Railway Station, NH04, ca. 42.8420°N, 27.0380°E, 12.08.2016, coll. A. Petrova & B. Assyov (SOM 172912).

This is a new species for this floristic region. Scores of plants of different height were observed together, along with another woody alien species – *Catalpa* sp.

**Ranunculaceae**

124. *Adonis annua* L.

**Bu** Tundzha Hilly Country: along the road between Zlatinita and Mamarchevo villages, Yambol district, MG76, 02.05.2015, coll. A. Petrova & I. Gerasimova (SOM 172911).

Confirming the distribution of the species in this floristic region. First reported for Tundzha Hilly Country by Panov (1972) but omitted in the later floristic sources.

**Iridaceae**

125. *Crocus olivieri* J. Gay

**Bu** West Frontier Mts: Mt Vlahina, in open grassy places along the road to Luchishte stone-pit, above Logodazh village, Blagoevgrad district, FM64, 42.012130°N, 22.987777°E, 21.02.2016, coll. A. Petrova, B. Assyov & R. Vassilev (SOM 172792).

This is a new floristic region for this protected species. The observed population is numerous.

**Liliaceae s.l.**

126. *Colchicum doerfleri* Halácsy

**Bu** West Frontier Mts: Mt Vlahina, in open grassy places along the road to Luchishte stone-pit, above Logodazh village, Blagoevgrad district, 42.003397°N, 22.936200°E, FM64, 21.02.2016, coll. A. Petrova, B. Assyov & R. Vassilev (SOM 172792).

This is a Balkan endemic species, with a center of distribution in the Republic of Macedonia, with more than 20 locations (V. Matevski, pers. commun.) found also in the neighboring areas of Albania (Malò & Shuka 2013), Greece (Alexiou 2013) and Bulgaria. The distribution in Bulgaria is limited. The species is evaluated as Endangered in the Red List of Bulgaria (Bancheva 2009, 2015). The observed population is a numerous one and forms patches of different size along the road to the Luchishte stone pit.

**Orchidaceae**

127. *Ophrys mammosa* Desf.

**Bu** Valley of River Struma (Southern): on dry grassy hills along the road from Chuchuligovo to Dolno Spanchevo villages, Blagoevgrad district, FL98, 41.40427°N, 23.36305°E & 41.417565°N, 23.376197°E, etc., 17.04.2015, coll. A. Petrova, I. Gerasimova & R. Vassilev (SOM 172745).

Already reported for this floristic region (Petrova & al. 2007). A very spacious and numerous population, thousands of individuals were observed of this Vulnerable (Petrova 2009) for the country species. We decided to report this locality because data about the distribution of this species in the region of Struma Valley is very limited.

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**Trapaceae**

128. *Trapa natans* L. (Fig. 16).

**Bu** Tundzha Hilly Country: in old fishery ponds E of Nikolaev village, Stara Zagora district, right
next to Zhrebchevo Dam, MH02, 42°37’53.20”N 25°49’17.47”E, 29.08. 2014, Z. Hubenov obs.; 17.07. 2016, coll. A. Petrova (SOM 172773).

This is a remarkable aquatic plant, a tertiary relict. Its fruits are edible, historically used as food (in Europe also). This annual species is known with significant fluctuations in its population’s numbers (Tihomirov 1988). It is considered Near Threatened at European level (Lansdown 2011) and is included in Appendix I of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention), as well as in many national Red Lists and/or Lists of Protected Species of European countries.

Džigurski & al. (2013) pointed out that although it is considered Endangered with its declining populations in many areas of Europe, it has marked an increase in population numbers up to becoming a problematic, even invasive species in some areas, especially outside of its natural range, but also in Europe (they have found out that it is in expansion in Serbia). The distribution and population status of such species deserve to be studied and monitored.

In Bulgaria, it is protected by the Biological Diversity Act and evaluated as Endangered (Peev & Tsoneva 2009, 2015). Its known distribution includes the floristic regions of the Black Sea Coast, Northeast Bulgaria, Danubian Plain, Forebalkan, Balkan Range (Eastern), Rhodopi Mts (Eastern), and Thracian Lowland. Tosheva & Traikov (2010) reported it as new for the Tundzha Hilly Country from the area of Yasna Polyana Dam and thus the species was given for the region in Assyov and Petrova (2012). However, this locality actually lies in the Mt Strandzha floristic region, as it was considered by Peev & Tsoneva (2015). Thus the locality reported here confirmed the presence of the species in the Tundzha Hilly Country floristic region. The observed population was large and numerous, especially abundant at the time of observation in 2014, as it is seen from Fig. 16.

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Asteraceae


*Centaurea pseudoaxillaris* (Fig. 17) is a rare Bulgarian endemic, included in the national Red List as Critically Endangered (Bancheva 2009). Although there are historical data for more than 13 localities in the Thracian Lowland and Tundzha Hilly Country floristic regions (Bancheva & Raimondo 2003), reliable recent data exist for only three localities in Thracian Lowland (Bancheva 2015).

The observed population numbered about 60 individuals, the flowering ones prevailed, and it has a sparse spatial structure. The species was already collected in the vicinities of Ustrem village in 1926 (N. Stoyanov, SOA 12099).

![Fig. 16. *Trapa natans*, fishery ponds next to Zhrebchevo dam, 08.2014 (photo Z. Hubenov).](image-url)