

*Caracterización de la vegetación psammófila de un complejo dunar amenazado en la provincia de Málaga*

**Characterization of the psammophilous vegetation of a threat dune complex in the province of Malaga**

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Authors: Gómez-Zotano, J., Olmedo-Cobo, J.A., Román, F., Vizoso Paz, M.T.

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It is performed the biogeographical and phytosociological characterization of one of the last and more unknown remains of an ancient Mediterranean dune complex (Matas Verdes) located in Estepona (Málaga). The results that have been obtained through fieldwork, the main methodological procedure, are as follows: a) chorological mapping to 1:2.500 scale; b) floristic inventories of the location; c) proposal for ecosystem conservation. The done study evidences the floristic diversity and the existence of plant communities that match a complete scheme of zonation in six bands parallel to the sea, which infers own characteristics Atlantic dune systems. The ecosystem is unprotected and subject to sharp deterioration processes resulting from both its location in the heart of the Costa del Sol and of its emplacement next to beach. It is concluded that it is imperative to take urgent and extraordinary measures for their conservation.

**Key words:** dune vegetation; spatial distribution; fitogeography; Matas Verdes; Malaga.