

Distribución de Centaurea aspera (2n), C. seridis (4n) y su híbrido C. x subdecurrens (3n) a diferentes escalas

(Distribution at different scales of *Centaurea aspera* (2n), *C. seridis* (4n) and their hybrid *C. x subdecurrens* (3n))

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Location: *Biogeografía de Medios Litorales: Dinámicas y conservación* (2014), ISBN 978-84-617-1068-3, pages 409-412

Language: Spanish

Among the mechanisms causing the great diversification of the genus *Centaurea*, polyploidization and hybridization are worth mentioning. In this work, we characterize the distribution at macro, meso and microscales for *C. aspera* subsp. *stenophylla* (2n), *C. seridis* subsp. *maritima* (4n) and their sterile hybrid *C. x subdecurrens* (3n). Macroscale distribution for both parentals has overlapping regions along the Mediterranean fringe in the Iberian Peninsula, which leads to the presence of hybrid complexes in several points of the coast of Comunitat Valenciana and Murcia, as well as inland, along the Vinalopó river valley (Alicante). Frequently, the hybrid is located near the diploid parental, suggesting that the latter is acting as the female parental in the cross pollination process. *Centaurea seridis* occurs on unstable dunes and near paths, while *C. aspera* prefers zones with low shrub cover. On anthropically perturbed dunes, both can coexist, sharing the same microhabitat.

Key words: *Centaurea*; hybridization; polyploid complex; coastal dunes; spatial distribution.