Project Update: July 2016

Until July 25, within the framework of the project, the 60% of designated area of Yerevan floristic region has been studied.

The monitoring and distribution studies has been carried out for 3 types of endangered and critically endangered plant populations of Papilionaceae species (*Medicago astroites, Astragalus holophyllus, Sphaerophysa salsula*) that are included in the Red Book of Armenia and in the IUCN list.

Fieldwork results:

- ✓ Has been done monitoring of mentioned 3 plant populations, also has been gathered plant samples and seeds, herbariums for further research.
- ✓ Were found 6 new locations of *Medicago astroites* and 3 new locations for *Sphaerophysa salsula*. Distribution of these two plants has been specified.

The works are still underway.

New localities of *Medicago astroites (Trigonella astroides) Fisch. et C. A. Mey*.
Monitors Vahagn Hakobyan, Astgik Papikyan, Ani Poghosyan

1) 14 Gyurjyan Str., Yerevan 0056, Republic of Armenia, near the Scientific and Production Center “Armbiotechnology” NAS RA

Table 1

Coordinates	N 40° 11' 18" E 44° 33' 14"
Alt. m	1270m
Area ha	1
Target plants	> 1000
Plant estimate	Fruiting
Water on site	Dry
Sunlight	>95% sun
Trampling	Some
Insect damage	No
New development	Yes

Adjacent plants within a radius of 10m

Table 2

Chardinia orientalis (L.) O. Kuntze
Onobrychis hajastana Grossh.
Medicago minima (L.) Bartalini
Medicago rigidula (L.) Desr.
Alhagi pseudalhagi (Bieb.) Desv.
Quercus macranthera F. et M. ex Hohen
Cerasus incana (Pall.) Spach

Desert vegetation, grazing traces can be observed. The area is surrounded by anthropogenic barriers which protect the nearby intercity highway. Large number of target plants grow especially in free spaces.

In the places where the percentage of the plants and the shade is high, plants grow poorly or not at all. Taking into account the surrounding urban area, plant has no opportunity for further spreading and occupying new surfaces there. There is a risk that this area can be privatized and then will be rebuilt.

2) On a way to Narek village, village Kaghtsrashen, Ararat region

Table 3

Coordinates	N 39° 59' 10'' E 44° 38' 17''
Alt.m	989m
Area ha	0,5
Target plants	>1000
Plant estimate	Senescent
Water on site	Dry
Sunlight	>95% sun
Trampling	Most
Insect damage	Yes
New development	Yes

Adjacent plants within a radius of 10m

Table 4

Euphorbia glareosa Pall.
Lepidium vesicarium L.
Capparis spinosa L.
Hordeum murinum L.
Artemisia vulgaris L.
Sedum hispanicum L
Taeniatherum crinitum (Schreb.) Nevski
Glaucium grandiflorum Boiss. et Huet
Zygophyllum fabago L.

For this species, it is well known point, on the roadsides. A fairly large number can meet with a lot of fruits and numerous seeds. Does not tolerate the competition. It is one of the first plants that grow where the soil was subjected to anthropogenic factors, but over time, along with the growth of secondary vegetation this species are forced out. This fact is seen in all types of habitats. Adjacent plants are widespread species, sometimes weeds and other plants that have aggressive nature.

3) Kaghtsrashen-Narek road, Ararat region

Table 5

Coordinates	N 39° 59' 39'' E 44° 39' 02''
Alt. m	1022m
Area ha	0,5 hectare
Target plants	>1000
Plant estimate	Senescent
Water on site	Dry
Sunlight	>95% sun
Trampling	Most
Insect damage	No
New development	Yes

Adjacent plants within a radius of 10m, See table 4

4) The slope of mountain, before reaching village Narek, Ararat region

Table 6

Coordinates	N 40° 01' 25'' E 44° 41' 06''
Alt. m	1106m
Area ha	0,5
Target plants	>1000
Plant estimate	Senescent
Water on site	dry
Sunlight	>95% sun
Trampling	Most
Insect damage	No
New development	Yes

Adjacent plants within a radius of 10m, See table 4 + *Onobrychis argyrea*

5) Kaghtsrashen-Dvin road, Ararat region

Table 7

Coordinates	N 39° 59' 26'' E 44° 37' 20''
Alt.m	971m
Area ha	0,5
Target plants	> 500
Plant estimate	Senescent
Water on site	Dry
Sunlight	51-95% sun
Trampling	Most
Insect damage	No
New development	Yes

Adjacent plants within a radius of 10m, See table 4

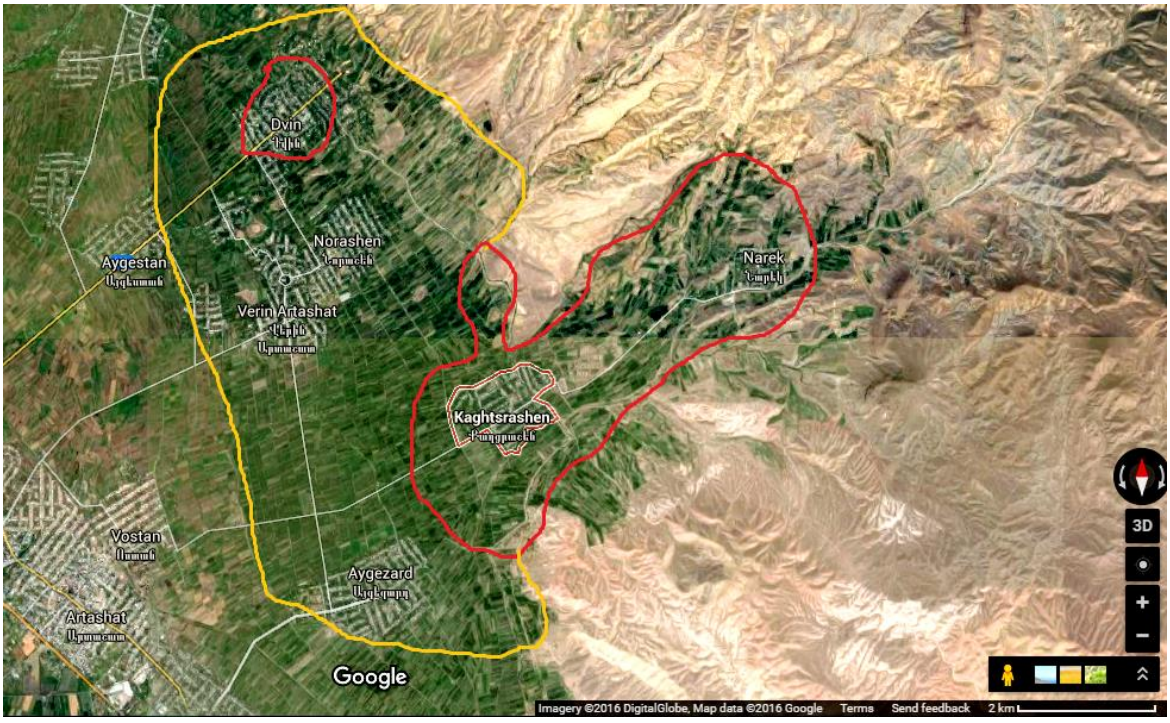
6) Dvin archeological site, village Dvin, Ararat region

Table 8

Coordinates	N 40° 01' 13'', E 44° 34' 37''
Alt. m	> 911m
Area ha	1
Target plants	> 500
Plant estimate	Flowering+Fruiting
Water on site	moist (It is seems like moist but water does not emerge when soil is squeezed)
Sunlight	51-95% sun
Trampling	Most
Insect damage	No
New development	Yes

Adjacent plants within a radius of 10m, See table 4

It is a new point for this species. The area is historical and cultural zone, anthropogenic influence is constant and uncontrollable. There is a risk that over the time the impact on plants will increase, thus, some species can get rid of, including the target plant. Undertaking of conservation actions is highly desirable.



Kaghtsrashen 0737, Armenia

Новый рисунок