

**Cork oak forests in the NW Iberian Peninsula:
phytosociological reassessment and new proposals**

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3 **Cork oak forests in the NW Iberian Peninsula: phytosociological**
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5 **reassessment and new proposals**
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4 *Cork oak forests in the NW Iberian Peninsula: phytosociological reassessment and new*
5 *proposals*
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9 Abstract

10 The phytocenotic variability of the cork oak forests present in the
11 northwesternmost Iberian Peninsula was studied through the analysis of a data set
12 of 145 new and 39 previously published relevés. The results allowed the
13 recognition of four associations: 1) *Arenario montanae-Quercetum suberis* ass.
14 nova: thermo-temperate xerophytic forests of the Navia River valley (Galice /
15 Asturias boundary); 2) *Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum suberis* *stat. nov.*: thermo-
16 (meso-)temperate forests with oceanic influence of the Galician-Portuguese and
17 Inland Galician territories; 3) *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis*:
18 forests of the mesomediterranean territories of the Sil valley and Lower Bierzo,
19 more thermic and less oceanic than the aforementioned communities; 4) *Junipero*
20 *lagunae-Quercetum suberis*: mesomediterranean forests of areas of dry
21 ombroclimate in the NE Portugal. Based on these results, a new interpretation is
22 suggested for the Portuguese cork oak forests that have been considered as
23 belonging to the typical subassociation of *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum*
24 *suberis*. The first two associations are part of the phytocenotic transition between
25 the northernmost Mediterranean cork oak forests of the Iberian Peninsula and
26 those present at the SW end of France. The new associations increase the
27 knowledge of the phytosociological variability of habitat type 9330 of Annex I of
28 CD92/43/EEC in the EU.
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40 Keywords

41 habitat type 9330; mediterranean vegetation; N Portugal; NW Spain; ordination
42 analysis; *Quercus suber*; sclerophyllous forests; syntaxonomy
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47 **Introduction**

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49 The cork oak (*Quercus suber* L.) is an evergreen silicicolous tree that is distributed
50 throughout the western Mediterranean basin, including the islands of Sicily, Corsica,
51 Sardinia, Majorca and Minorca, the Atlantic coastal areas of the SW of Europe and
52 North Africa (inset of Figure 1). In the Iberian Peninsula this species occupies large
53 areas in the interior of Portugal and south-central Spain, but in the rest of its range it
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3 grows near the coast. It becomes scarcer towards the N, but appears discontinuously
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5 along the Cantabrian Sea coastal areas, reaching SW France (Aquitaine). Most of these
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7 territories have high annual average temperatures (13°-18°C), average annual rainfall
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9 between 600-1,000 mm and slight summer drought (Eriksson et al. 2017).

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12 The cork oak forms forests as the dominant species and mixed forests with
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14 broad-leaved (*Quercus* sp. pl.) or conifer species (*Pinus pinaster*), but since ancient
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16 times these forests were managed to favour livestock, obtain wood, firewood, cork and
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18 coal, and to grow cereals. In the SW of the Iberian Peninsula, this management
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20 produced a particular agro-silvicultural-pastoral ecosystem, with the structure of an
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22 open woodland, called *montado* (in Portugal) or *dehesa* (in Spain). In contrast, the
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24 management of these forests in the N of the Iberian Peninsula has been less intense
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26 (without livestock and cereal crops), so their structure is more closed. Here, the cork
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28 oak forests form a mosaic with forests of *Quercus faginea*, *Q. pyrenaica*, *Q. robur* and
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30 *Q. rotundifolia*, in which the cork oak can appear with variable abundance (Aronson et
31
32 al. 2009).

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35 All these types of barely managed cork oak forests were included in the habitat
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37 type “9330 *Quercus suber* forests” of the Annex I of CD 92/43/EEC (“Habitats
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39 Directive”) as habitats requiring specific management measures to guarantee the long-
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41 term maintenance and preservation of their composition, structure, function and
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43 geographic variability. However, although there is abundant information on the cork
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45 oak forests of the Iberian Peninsula in general, knowledge about those of the NW corner
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47 (and the rest of the Cantabrian region) is scarce, which difficult the preservation of these
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49 ecosystems in accordance with the Habitats Directive.

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52 The authors that carried out phytosociological studies on the cork oak forests of
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54 the NW of the Iberian Peninsula included them in different syntaxa. Table 1 presents
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3 these proposals in chronological order, indicating which are considered valid according
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5 to the International Code of Phytosociological Nomenclature (Weber & al. 2000).
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7 At the time of the present study, the valid communities of forests with cork oak
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9 from the NW Iberian end were:
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13 • *Rusco aculeati-Quercetum roboris* subass. *quercetosum suberis* (Amigo & al.
14
15 1998): Galician-Portuguese and Inner Galician climatophilous forests of
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17 *Quercus robur*, in which cork oak and other thermophilous species (*Arbutus*
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19 *unedo*, *Osyris alba*, *Daphne gnidium*, *Carex distachya*) appear. According to
20
21 these authors, the cork oak's cover varies widely, becoming dominant in some
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23 cases.
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27 • *Genisto hystricis-Quercetum rotundifoliae* subass. *quercetosum suberis* (Fuente
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29 & Morla 1986): mesomediterranean silicicolous forests of *Quercus rotundifolia*
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31 with presence of cork oak. As in the previous subassociation, it can dominate the
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33 community. They were described in the area where the Xares, Bibeí and Sil
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35 rivers converge, in the Ourense province, but later studies (Izco et al. 1990,
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37 Penas et al. 1995, González de Paz 2012) extended their eastern range to the
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39 Cabrera River basin (W León province).
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43 • *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum suberis*
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45 (Rivas-Martínez 1987): humid-subhumid mesomediterranean cork oak forests of
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47 the Sil (Bercian-Valdeorrese sector) and river Navia valleys.
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51 • *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum fagineae*
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53 (Aguiar et al. 2003): subhumid mesomediterranean cork oak forests of the N of
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55 Portugal (Lusitan-Duriensean Sector), distinguishable from the previous ones by
56
57 the presence of *Quercus faginea*, *Epipactis tremolsii*, *Asparagus acutifolius* and
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59 *Pistacia terebinthus*.
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- *Junipero lagunae-Quercetum suberis* (Rivas-Martínez et al. 2002): cork oak forests with juniper (*Juniperus oxycedrus* subsp. *lagunae*) from areas with mesomediterranean dry climate, in the NE of Portugal (Lusitan-Duriensean Sector).

Rivas-Martínez (1987) described the *Physospermo-Quercetum suberis* association based on a single relevé which provided a poor description of its variability. Despite this lack of information, several authors during the subsequent 25 years (Díaz & Fernández-Prieto 1994, Díaz & Vázquez 2004; Mayor & Fernández 2007, Díaz 2010) assumed that the cork oak forests of the middle Navia Valley (SW of Asturias/NW Galice), the lower River Sil Valley and the Bierzo trench (León province) belonged to this association. Even considering the information provided in some recent studies (Aguiar et al. 2003, Romero Rodríguez & Romero Cuenca 2004, González de Paz 2012), the knowledge of the floristic composition of these forests remains incomplete. The maps of the study of Agrillo et al. (2018), which included 1032 relevés of European cork oak forests, showed this shortage of data in the NW of the Iberian Peninsula. This area lies between the zones occupied by two of the floristic groups defined by these authors (Group 1: Western Iberian Peninsula, and Group 2: Cantabrian and Aquitanian regions), but most of it is devoid of samples. The transitional character of this area, which is between these floristic groups and between the Mediterranean and Eurosiberian biogeographic regions, suggests that it is floristically complex, and that much more information is needed to describe the cork oak forests present there.

The objectives of this study were to fill this gap in the knowledge on the floristic variation and the ecology of the cork oak forests in the NW of the Iberian Peninsula, and to clarify its phytosociological classification.

Material and methods

Study area

The study area includes Galice, the western end of the Principality of Asturias and the northwestern sector of Castile & León (León province) in Spain, and the districts of Viana do Castelo, Braga, Vila Real, Bragança, Viseu and Guarda in Portugal (Figure 1).

Most of the studied territory belongs to the Cantabrian-Atlantic Sub-province (European Atlantic Province, Eurosiberian Region) (Rodríguez-Gutián & Ramil-Rego 2008), while the extreme SE territories belong to the Carpetan-Leonese Sub-province (Mediterranean-Ibero-Atlantic Province, Mediterranean Region) (Costa et al. 1999; Rivas-Martínez 2011). Figure 1 shows the area of study, the biogeographical sectors that compose the sub-provinces, and the main geographic features cited in the text.

The substrate is mostly siliceous rock. Metamorphic rocks (schists, shales, quartzites) prevail in the east, and granitic in the west. Most of the middle and lower Sil (El Bierzo trench and Valdeorras valley) and Tâmega basins are covered by detritic, clay-rich, Cenozoic sediments.

According to the Worldwide Bioclimatic Classification System of Rivas-Martínez (2011), the Temperate and Mediterranean macrobioclimates are present in this area. The first of them in two variants: typical and submediterranean (without and up to two consecutive months of summer drought, respectively; see Figure 2a).

Macrobioclimates are further subdivided in isobioclimates by combining continentality type (Figure 2b), thermotypic horizon (temperature variations caused by attitude, Figure 2c) and ombritic type (Figure 2d). The annual oscillation of temperature is small, so that the climate of this area is classified in the Hyperoceanic and Oceanic continentality types (Figure 2b). Continentality and Mediterranean character increase inland, especially along the enclosed valleys of central-southern Galice and the Douro basin,

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3 and consequently the SE area has the most markedly mediterranean and continental
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5 climate. As to the thermotypic belts, the dominant in areas of Temperate
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7 macrobioclimate are mesotemperate and thermotemperate, and in areas of
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9 Mediterranean macrobioclimate, the mesomediterranean (Figure 2c). The most
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11 extensive ombric types are Humid and Hyperhumid (Figure 2d), although towards the
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13 SE quadrant and especially in the Sil valley, the subhumid type becomes dominant.
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16 17 18 **Data collection**

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20 Throughout the 2008-2019 period, we used aerial photography (Spain: SIGPAC,
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22 <http://sigpac.magrama.es/feqa/visor/>; Portugal: SNIG,
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24 <http://mapas.dgterritorio.pt/viewer/index.html>) to locate forests dominated (cover index
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26 4 or 5) by cork oak, where we collected relevés (145 in total) following the method of
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28 the sigmatist phytosociological school of Zürich-Montpellier (Braun-Blanquet 1979).
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30 Information on altitude, slope, exposure and lithology at each site was also collected.
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34 A second group of relevés come from previous studies (Fuente & Morla 1986;
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36 Rivas-Martínez 1987; Romero Rodríguez & Romero Cuenca 1996; Amigo & al. 1998;
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38 Aguiar et al. 2003), which included unpublished doctoral theses (Pulgar 1999; Honrado
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40 2003; Monteiro-Henriques 2010). From these studies, we selected 39 relevés in which
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42 *Q. suber* was the dominant tree in the canopy, i.e. it had cover indexes equal or greater
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44 than 3.
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50 51 **Multivariate analysis**

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53 For the statistical treatment, vascular plant taxa that were not determined at least at
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55 species level were excluded. The floristic data were arranged in a matrix with 364 taxa
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57 and 184 relevés. As a first step we transformed the original cover-abundance categories
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59 into a numerical scale ranging from 1 to 9 (van der Maarel 1979).
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3 In the second step, the species of small influence on the ordination results were
4 identified by means of the following procedure. A matrix of binomial distances
5 (Anderson & Millar 2004) among relevés was calculated using the transformed cover
6 data (such a matrix will be the basis for the ordination analysis in the third step). Each
7 species was excluded in turn, i.e. with replacement, and new distance matrices were
8 calculated for the reduced data sets. To estimate the effect that excluding the species
9 had on the distance matrix, Mantel correlations between the original and the reduced
10 matrices were calculated (using mantel function in the R package vegan). Lower
11 correlation coefficients showed larger modifications in the distances among relevés,
12 therefore, the correlation coefficients measured the influence of each species. The
13 species were sorted from less to most influential and the procedure of elimination was
14 repeated, this time without replacement, and a new set of Mantel correlations were
15 calculated to measure the effect of the progressive elimination of species. The results
16 showed that deleting the species present in three or less relevés did not produce relevant
17 changes in the structure of the distance matrix (Mantel $r^2 > 0.9624$), so we kept all
18 species present in 4 or more relevés for the following analysis (174). A scatterplot of the
19 values in the complete and reduced distance matrices showed no outlying points. This
20 showed that that the composition of the relevés was not strongly modified.

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44 In the third step, a multidimensional scaling analysis was applied to the matrix
45 of distances among relevés estimated with the selected subset of species and binomial
46 distance. The procedure was run 50 times using random initial configurations and the
47 configuration with minimal stress was retained. The procedure arrived to a stable
48 configuration for $K = 5$ axes.

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56 Finally, we identified the species associated to each axis of the ordination (or
57 their combinations) by randomization. For each species, its position on the ordination
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3 axes was estimated as the weighted mean of the scores of the relevés with presence of
4 the species. The transformed cover values were the weights. Then the rows of the
5 species abundance matrix were randomly reordered to destroy the relationships between
6 samples and species and the weighted means were estimated again. The randomization
7 was repeated 9999 times and the means sorted. The order of the original position in the
8 sorted vector shows the signification of the association of the species with the axis. If
9 the order were 5, for example, then the probability of finding that species by chance in
10 that position or further to the left was $p = 0.0005$. The same reasoning, but for the right
11 tail of the distribution, was applied to orders such as 9995. We set the significance
12 threshold at the 5% tails distributions. The value of the weighted mean was used to plot
13 the species on the ordination diagrams.
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28 All these calculations were done with the R language (R Core Team 2018), and
29 functions `mantel` `metaMDS` and `vegdist` in the R package `vegan` (Oksanen et al. 2018).
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34 **Results and discussion**

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37 Figure 1 shows the location of the 184 relevés. The symbols differentiate the plant
38 communities (acronyms following Table 2) and the origin of the relevés. Appendix I
39 (Supplemental Material) contains detailed phytosociological tables corresponding to the
40 described plant communities. Table 3 summarizes the floristic differences found among
41 the communities described in this work.
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50 ***Ordination results***

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53 The ordination analysis reached a stable solution for five axes. However, we only could
54 interpret the ecological meaning of the first two, so the following discussion refers to
55 these. The results are represented in the graphs of Figure 3. Graph 3a represents the
56 ordination of the relevés and graphs 3c-e the positions of the weighted averages of the
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3 species associated to axes 1 or 2. We distributed the species among the three graphs to
4 avoid overcrowding. The species with significant association to axis 1 were plotted in
5 graph c, those associated to axis 2 in graph d, and those associated to both axes in graph
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10 e. To facilitate the presentation of the results we have divided the ordination diagram
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12 into four areas containing the relevés representing the combinations of ecological and
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14 biogeographical situations described below. Annex I lists the acronyms used, the
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16 phytosociological adscription of each species and the coefficients of association with
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18 axes 1 and 2.
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22 Axis 2 ordered the relevés along the geographic axis N-S. Figure 3a shows the
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24 correlation between latitude (UTM Y coordinate) and the ordinate on axis 2 ($r^2 = 0.49$).
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26 The relevés from the Navia River valley, the northernmost ones (identified in the
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28 diagram as Group 1) were placed at the positive end of the axis and, at the negative end,
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30 the NE Portuguese (Lusitan-Duriensean) relevés, the southernmost ones (Group 4). The
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32 relevés from the valleys of the rivers flowing into the Atlantic Ocean (Group 2) and
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34 those from the lower part of the Sil River and the Bierzo trench (Group 3) occupied an
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36 intermediate position.
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41 There were two groups of species associated with axis 2. The taxa in the positive
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43 side are common in silicolous deciduous forests of the class *Quercus-Fagetea* (order
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45 *Quercetalia roboris*), and in their substitution communities (scrubs of the class *Calluno-*
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47 *Ulicetea* and herbaceous formations of the classes *Molinio-Arrhenatheretea* and
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49 *Trifolio-Geranietea*). The species *Anthoxanthum amarum*, *Asplenium billoti*, *Avenella*
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51 *flexuosa*, *Corylus avellana*, *Linaria triornithophora*, *Lamium maculatum*, *Scrophularia*
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53 *scorodonia*, *Hieracium umbellatum* and *Ulex gallii* appeared only or mostly in the
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55 relevés of Group 1 (Navia Valley), as shows their position on the graph (Figure 3d).
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3 A large group of taxa from the Bercian-Valdeorrese and Lusitan-Duriensean
4 relevés (Group 3 and 4) were associated to the negative side of axis 2. Most of them
5 were typical of sclerophyllous forests and of the shrubby and herbaceous formations
6 that substitute them, ascribed to the classes *Quercetea ilicis*, *Stellarietea mediae* and
7 *Stipo giganteae-Agrostietea castellanae*. All of them can appear in both groups except
8 for *Sanguisorba verrucosa*, which appears only in Group 4 (Lusitan-Duriensean
9 relevés).

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19 Axis 1 showed no relationship with any of the available environmental
20 variables, but the set of taxa associated with it (exclusively or combined with axis 2)
21 revealed the existence of a gradient from mesophytic-hygrophytic (negative side) to
22 xerophytic-heliophytic (positive side) conditions. The taxa defining this gradient
23 changed depending on the position on axis 1. At the top of the diagram (Group 1 and 2),
24 the gradient was defined by nemoral species (*Polystichum setiferum*), tree species
25 common in broad-leaved mesophilous forests (*Castanea sativa*) or even in hygrophytic
26 formations (*Fraxinus angustifolia*, *Danthonia decumbens*), which were associated to the
27 negative side of the axis. Taxa common in heliophilous forests (*Quercus pyrenaica*, *Q.*
28 *robur*) or open environments, such as scrubland (*Asphodelus lusitanicus*, *Cirsium*
29 *filipendulum*, *Erica arborea*, *Pseudarrhenatherum longifolium*) or mantle vegetation
30 (*Arbutus unedo*, *Frangula alnus*, *Pyrus cordata*) were associated to the positive side.
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Towards the central-lower part of the diagram (Group 3), the gradient is defined in the
negative part by nemoral taxa (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Hieracium laevigatum*) and
taxa frequent in mantle vegetation associated with deciduous forests (*Origanum virens*,
Rosa micrantha) or common in places with high environmental humidity (*Avenula*
sulcata, *Carex muricata*, *Luzula campestris*); in the central and positive side, by
characteristic taxa of xero-thermophilous forests (*Quercus rotundifolia*, *Genista falcata*,

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3 *Cistus salviifolius*, *Ruscus aculeatus*) or open rocky environments (*Anarrhinum*
4 *duriminum*). At the bottom of the diagram (Group 4), *Bryonia dioica*, *Galium mollugo*
5 or *Senecio lividus* might be considered the mesophilous taxa, although there were few
6 relevés in the negative side of the axis; on the contrary, many thermophilous taxa
7 adapted to summer drought, were associated to the positive side (*Asparagus acutifolius*,
8 *Centaurea langei*, *Cistus populifolius*, *Halimium viscosum*, *Lavandula pedunculata*,
9 *Lotus carpetanus*, *Quercus faginea*, *Silene coutinhoi*, *Thymus mastichina*). These
10 species are frequent in the relevés from the Lusitan-Duriensean sector, the driest and
11 most continental zone of the study area.
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25 ***Phytosociological setting***

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28 The groups of relevés discussed above were associated to different ecological
29 conditions, had different geographic distributions, and had a set of exclusively or
30 strongly associated species. In our opinion, this justifies the grouping of the studied
31 relevés in the following syntaxa.
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- 38 • Temperate (submediterranean) Navian cork oak forests (*Arenario montanae-*
39 *Quercetum suberis* ass. nova, Am-Qs)
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44 These cork oak forests are located in the middle stretch of the Navia River valley, a
45 zone of less than 150 km², in the northernmost part of the study area (Figure 1; table 3:
46 column 1; Supplemental Material: Appendix I, table 1). It is one of the most oceanic
47 and humid sectors of the study area and includes lowlands (100-500 m) in the
48 thermotemperate and mesotemperate thermotypic horizons. The forests grow on stony
49 slopes and well insolated rocky ridges, which gives them a strong edafo-xerophilous
50 character (Figure 4a). They are quite isolated, as they are over 50 km apart from their
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3 nearest neighbors. In concordance with their northern location and bioclimatic
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5 conditions, species characteristic of class *Quercetea ilicis* are scarce in these forests
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7 (*Cistus salviifolius*, *Daphne gnidium*, *Phyllirea angustifolia*, *Pistacia terebinthus* and
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9 *Quercus rotundifolia*, which were present in the other studied cork oak forests, did not
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11 appear in these), and many species of *Quercetalia roboris* and *Daboecion cantabricae*
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13 are present.
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17 These forests were included in the association *Physospermo cornubiensis-*
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19 *Quercetum suberis* (Díaz & Fernández-Prieto 1994; Díaz & Vázquez 2004; Díaz 2010,
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21 2014) but we consider that their floristic composition and ecology justify their
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23 consideration as a different association (see table 3: columns 1 and 5a-c). Therefore, we
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25 propose the name *Arenario montanae-Quercetum suberis* *ass. nova hoc loco* (holotypus:
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27 Appendix I: table 1, rel. 16, Supplemental Material). It is characterized by the presence
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29 of nemoral plants such as *Avenella flexuosa*, *Corylus avellana* or *Dryopteris dilatata*,
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31 never present in the other studied cork oak forests, and the absence of *Anarrhinum*
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33 *duriminum*, *Aristolochia paucinervis*, *Avenula sulcata*, *Carlina corymbosa*, *Cistus*
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35 *psilosepalus*, *C. salviifolius*, *Daphne gnidium*, *Erica scoparia*, *Genista falcata*, *G.*
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37 *triacanthos*, *Margotia gummifera* and *Thapsia villosa*.
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- 43 • Temperate (submediterranean) Galician-Portuguese and Inner Galician cork oak
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45 forests (*Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum suberis* *stat. nov.*, *Hh-Qs*)
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49 Cork oak forests present in the basins of the rivers that flow into the Atlantic Ocean
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51 (Galician-Portuguese and Inland Galician sectors). At the W end of its distribution they
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53 rarely exceed 350 m of altitude due to the oceanicity of the climate, but they reach 650
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55 m of altitude at its eastern end, favored by the decrease in summer precipitation. These
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57 territories belong to the thermotemperate (rarely mesotemperate) thermotypic horizon.
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3 These forests grow on stony and percolating soils on sunny slopes, or in stony ridges in
4
5 shady ones (Figure 4b). Species of the class *Quercetea ilicis* (*Arbutus unedo*, *Asplenium*
6
7 *onopteris*, *Daphne gnidium*, *Osyris alba*, *Rubia peregrina*, *Ruscus aculeatus*) are
8
9 frequent.

10
11
12 Previous studies considered these cork oak forests as the most thermophilous
13
14 form of the Galician-Portuguese oak forests and included them in the *Rusco aculeati-*
15
16 *Quercetum roboris* subass. *quercetosum suberis* described by Amigo et al. (1998).
17
18 Based on our results, we propose to consider them an independent association, which
19
20 we call *Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum suberis* (Amigo, Izco, Guitián & Romero) *stat.*
21
22 *nov.* Since it is a change of rank, from subassociation to association, the *holotypus* of
23
24 the old subassociation (rel. 19 of table 3 in Amigo et al. 1998: Lazaroa 19, page 92s,
25
26 reproduced below) remains as the *holotypus* of the new *Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum*
27
28 *suberis* (art. 27d of ICPN):
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33 Site: ES: Pontevedra, Vila de Cruces, Merza, altitude: 250 m, slope: 20°, exposition: S.
34 Tree cover: 100%, plot area: 80 m². Number of taxa: 21. 3 *Quercus suber*, 2 *Quercus*
35 *robur*, 2 *Arbutus unedo*, 1 *Laurus nobilis*, 2 *Brachypodium rupestre*, 2 *Hedera*
36 *hibernica*, 2 *Rubia peregrina*, 2 *Ruscus aculeatus*, 1 *Dioscorea communis*, 1 *Holcus*
37 *mollis*, 1 *Osyris alba*, 1 *Physospermum cornubiense*, 1 *Pteridium aquilinum*, 1
38 *Pseudarrhenatherum longifolium*, 1 *Teucrium scorodonia*, + *Asplenium onopteris*, +
39 *Arenaria montana*, + *Asphodelus lusitanicus*, + *Carex distachya*, + *Polypodium vulgare*,
40 + *Simethis mattiazii*.
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43

44 They are distinguished from the oak forests by the dominance of *Quercus suber*
45
46 and by the more constant presence and abundance of other species of the class
47
48 *Quercetea ilicis* (*Arbutus unedo*, *Daphne gnidium*, *Osyris alba*, *Rubia peregrina*,
49
50 *Ruscus aculeatus*, *Carex distachya* and *C. depressa*). Thermophilous species frequent in
51
52 previous seral stages, such as *Anarrhinum duriminum*, *Cistus salviifolius*, *Erica*
53
54 *scoparia*, *Genista falcata*, *G. triacanthos*, *Lavandula pedunculata* or *Ulex minor*, and
55
56 heliophylous herbaceous species or forest-gap species that are rare or absent in
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thermophilous oak forests, i.e. *Dactylis hispanica*, *Margotia gummifera* or *Thapsia villosa* are common in these ones (see Supplemental Material: Appendix I, table 2).

In accordance to the description of this new syntaxon, we interpreted the relevés assigned by Amigo et al. (1998), Pulgar (1999) and Honrado (2003) to the *Rusco aculeati-Quercetum roboris* subass. *quercetosum suberis* (*Ra-Qr qs* in figures 1 and 3) as belonging to this new association, because *Quercus suber* dominates their cover and their floristic compositions agree with that established for the association *Hedero-Quercetum suberis* (see table 3: columns 3 and 4).

- Mediterranean Bercian-Valdeorrese typical cork oak forests (*Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum suberis*, *Pc-Qs qs*)

Cork oak forests present in the mesomediterranean areas of the Bercian-Valdeorrese sector and in scattered sites along the lower stretch of the River Sil Valley, up to the surroundings of the city of Ourense (Inner Galician sector) (Figure 1). The *holotypus* of the association *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* was described in this area (Lor River, Quiroga, Lugo province, 310 m).

Species of the class *Quercetea ilicis*, such as *Pistacia terebinthus*, *Phyllirea angustifolia* or *Quercus rotundifolia* (with low coerture), are usually present in these forests. The relevés of this association can be divided into two sets, although we do not consider them worth of specific phytosociological range (see Supplemental Material: Appendix I, table 3). The forests in the first, and larger, set grow on gentle slopes or plain areas, on relatively deep soils often developed from tertiary or early quaternary sediments. They are characterized by the abundance of *Hedera hibernica* and the frequent presence of species of *Quercetalia roboris* (*Viola riviniana*, *Hypericum pulchrum*, *Physospermum cornubiense*, and others), *Prunetalia spinosae* (*Cornus*

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3 *sanguinea*, *Ligustrum vulgare*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Rosa corymbifera*, *R. micrantha*, *R.*
4
5 *sempervirens*), and shrubs of Atlantic distribution common in substitution communities
6
7 (*Ulex europaeus*, *U. minor*, *Cytisus striatus*). These species give a mesophytic character
8
9 to these forests (cf. table 3: columns 5a-c; Figure 4c). Most of the relevés in Group 3
10
11 belonged to this set (Figure 3b: "mesophytic pole"). The forests in the second set have a
12
13 more xerophytic character and appear in the eastern zone of the Bercian-Valdeorrese
14
15 sector, associated with increased continentality and summer drought (Figure 4d). There
16
17 are less hemicriptophytes and lianas, and more abundance of shrubs from their
18
19 substitution stages (*Cistus ladanifer*, *C. populifolius*, *Erica aragonensis*, *Genista*
20
21 *hystrix*). These relevés form the extension to the right ("xerophytic pole") of Group 3 in
22
23 Figure 3.
24
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29 We considered that the relevés ascribed to the *Genisto hystricis-Quercetum*
30
31 *rotundifoliae* subass. *quercetosum suberis* (*Gh-Qr qs* in Figure 1) and included in this
32
33 work, fitted better into the *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass.
34
35 *quercetosum suberis* than into the Bercian-Valdeorrese silicicolous holm-oak forests, in
36
37 view of the clear dominance of cork oak and the presence of certain nemoral taxa (see
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39 table 3: column 4b).
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- 43 • Mediterranean Lusitan-Duriensean subhumid cork oak forests (*Physospermo*
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45 *cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subas. *quercetosum fagineae*, *Pc-Qs qf*)
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48
49 Cork oak forests from the Tâmega River valley and other tributaries of the
50
51 Duero River in NE Portugal (Lusitan-Duriensean territories), almost 80 km apart from
52
53 those in the Bercian-Valdeorrese sector. They are distributed in territories of
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55 mesomediterranean thermotypic horizon and humid-subhumid ombic type, on deep
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57 soils (Figure 4e).
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3 Aguiar et al. (2003) considered *Quercus faginea* subsp. *faginea*, *Epipactis*
4 *tremolsii*, *Pistacia terebinthus* and *Asparagus acutifolius* as the characteristic species of
5 this subassociation. However, our data showed that, except for *Quercus faginea*, these
6 species may appear in the typical subassociation in the Bercian-Valdeorrese sector (see
7 table 3, columns 6a and 6b in this paper, and Appendix I, table 4 in Supplemental
8 Material). However, there are some Mediterranean species in these Lusitan-Duriensean
9 forests that do not appear in the Bercian-Valdeorrese sector, such as *Arabis stenocarpa*,
10 *Olea europaea* var. *sylvestris*, *Quercus x welwitschii*, *Paeonia broteri*, *Cytisus*
11 *grandiflorus*, *Lotus carpetanus*, *Silene coutinhoi*, *Halimium viscosum*, *Thapsia nitida*,
12 *Euphorbia characias*, *E. oxyphylla* or *Viburnum tinus*. In view of the currently available
13 information, we believe that these species should be the subassociation differentials, not
14 those originally proposed. Therefore, all humid-subhumid Lusitan-Duriensean cork oak
15 forests should be included in the subass. *quercetosum fagineae*, even if *Quercus faginea*
16 were absent (see table 3: columns 6a-b). The bioclimatic and geographic continuity
17 between the Portuguese and Galician sections of the Támega River valley suggests that
18 this subassociation could reach the lowlands of the Monterrey Valley (Ourense
19 province, Galice), although we do not know of any published relevés confirming this
20 supposition.

- 21 • E) Mediterranean Lusitan-Duriensean dry cork oak forests (*Junipero lagunae-*
22 *Quercetum suberis*, JI-Qs)

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There is another type of cork oak forest in the innermost areas of the Lusitan-Duriensean sector, in the middle valley of the Duero River and its tributaries Tua, Sabor and Côa, where the climate belongs to the dry ombritic type and mesomediterranean thermotypic horizon (Figure 4f). It is characterized by the presence of *Juniperus*

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3 *lagunae*, and Rivas-Martínez et al. (2002) included these forests in the association
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5 *Junipero lagunae-Quercetum suberis* (table 3: column 7). The available information
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7 (Rivas-Martínez et al. 2002, Aguiar et al. 2003) suggests that the association does not
8
9 extend outside Portugal.
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12 Figure 5 shows a floristic key to differentiate these communities.
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14 15 16 ***Phytosociological implications of the description of new associations*** 17

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19 The interpretation and naming of some subassociations in the *Rusco aculeati-*
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21 *Quercetum roboris* and *Genisto hystricis-Quercetum rotundifoliae* associations are
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23 affected by the new associations proposed. Since only the relevés 15 and 19 (*holotypus*
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25 of *Rusco aculeati-Quercetum roboris* subass. *quercetosum suberis*) in table 3 of Amigo
26
27 et al. (1998) have been transferred to the association *Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum*
28
29 *suberis*, it is necessary to typify a new subassociation to include the most thermophilous
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31 common-oak forests present in the Galician-Portuguese and Inner Galician sectors. To
32
33 this purpose, we propose the subassociation *arbutetosum unedonis* *subass. nova* and we
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35 designate as *holotypus* the rel. 11, tab. 3 in Amigo et al. (1998), which we reproduce
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37 here:
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42 Site: ES: Pontevedra, Vila de Cruces, Merza, altitude: 250 m, slope: 25°, exposition:
43 NW, tree cover: 100, plot area: 160 m², number of taxa: 19. 4 *Quercus robur*, 3 *Arbutus*
44 *unedo*, 1 *Ilex aquifolium*, + *Castanea sativa*, + *Laurus nobilis*, r *Quercus suber*, 3
45 *Hedera hibernica* (sub. *H. helix*), 2 *Ruscus aculeatus*, 1 *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, 1
46 *Brachypodium rupestre*, 1 *Holcus mollis*, 1 *Lonicera periclymenum*, 1 *Pteridium*
47 *aquilinum*, + *Luzula forsteri*, + *Polypodium* gr. *vulgare*, + *Rubia peragrina*, + *Teucrium*
48 *scorodonia*, r *Erica arborea*, r *Stellaria holostea*.
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53 This subassociation differs from the *violetosum riviniana* (typical) in the
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55 presence of some species of *Quercetea ilicis* (*Arbutus unedo*, *Rubia peregrina*, *Osyris*
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57 *alba*, *Quercus suber*) and thermophilous species frequent in previous serial stages
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59 (*Cistus psilosepalus* or *Cytisus multiflorus*). These floristic differences were synthesized
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3 in columns 2a and 2b of Table 3, elaborated from 95 published relevés (not included in
4 the database used in this work). It differs from the new *Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum*
5 *suberis* in the presence of more species of class *Querco-Fagetea* (*Ilex aquifolium*,
6 *Crepis lampanoides*, *Euphorbia amygdaloides*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Blechnum*
7 *spicant* or *Anemone trifolia* subsp. *albida*) and of the Atlantic heaths of the alliance
8 *Daboecion cantabricae* which substitute the *Querco-Fagetea* forests.
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17 The association *Genisto hystricis-Quercetum rotundifoliae* contacts with the
18 most xerophilous Bercian-Valdeorrese cork oak forests through mixed forests
19 dominated by the holm oak. Fuente & Morla (1986) proposed the *Genisto hystricis-*
20 *Quercetum rotundifoliae* subass. *quercetosum suberis* to include these mixed forests.
21 Our opinion is that to confer subassociation range to these forests is excessive since: a)
22 they were defined as ecotones between associations of the same class that belong to the
23 same biogeographic unit and grow in similar climates and soils, therefore these forests
24 do not meet any of the requisites required for subassociation rank (Izco 2004); b) they
25 have only a single differential species (*Quercus suber*). Therefore, we regarded them as
26 a “variant with *Quercus suber*” of those holm oak forests. Column 4b in Table 3
27 synthesizes the composition of a selection of published relevés (not included in the
28 database used in this work) corresponding to this variant.
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46 ***Adscription of new cork oak associations to upper units.***

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49 The *Physospermo-Quercetum suberis* and *Junipero-Quercetum suberis* associations are
50 distributed in territories of Mediterranean macroclimate and contain many species of the
51 *Quercetea ilicis* and *Cisto-Lavanduletea* classes. Following the criteria of Rivas-
52 Martínez (2011) and Costa et al. (2012), they should be included in the suballiance
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3 *Quercenion broteroi*, which comprises Ibero-Atlantic marcescent or sclerophyllous
4 forests dominated by *Quercus broteroi*, *Q. canariensis*, *Q. alpestris* or *Q. suber*.
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8 However, the two new associations (*Arenario-Quercetum suberis* and *Hedero-*
9 *Quercetum suberis*) are distributed in Eurosiberian territories of Temperate
10 submediterranean climate (Rodríguez-Gutián & Ramil-Rego 2007, Honrado 2003;
11 Figure 2) and are related to the Cantabrian-Aquitania group of cork oak forests of
12 Agrillo et al. (2018), which are characterized by the presence of *Ulex europaeus*, *Erica*
13 *cinerea*, *Quercus robur*, *Cytisus scoparius*, *Pinus pinaster*, *Lonicera periclymenum*,
14 *Daboecia cantabrica*, *Halimium alyssoides*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Teucrium scorodonia*, or
15 *Castanea sativa*. Being the most northwestern Iberian cork oak forests, they would be
16 part of the transitional communities between the Mediterranean cork oak forests of the
17 Bercian-Valdeorrese and Lusitan-Duriensean sectors, and the Aquitanian forests.
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31 Despite the existence of affinities with the Cantabrian-Aquitania cork-oak
32 forests, we consider appropriate to integrate the two communities in the Iberian
33 suballiance *Quercenion broteroi* rather than in the littoral Aquitanian thermo-atlantic
34 suballiance. The reason is that the Aquitanian cork oak forests, *Pino pinastri-Quercetum*
35 *suberis* (Gehu 1969) Vanden Berghen 1970, have been included in the suballiance
36 *Querco ilicis-Pinenion maritimi* Géhu & Géhu-Franck ex Géhu 2004 (alliance *Quercion*
37 *ilicis*, order *Quercetalia ilicis*), belonging to class *Quercetea ilicis* (Vanden Berghen
38 1970; Bardat et al. 2004; Lafon et al. 2015; MNHN 2003-2019), because of the
39 presence of characteristic species of this class (*Arbutus unedo*, *Phillyrea angustifolia*,
40 *Rubia peregrina*, *Ruscus aculeatus* or *Quercus suber*). However, the new associations
41 have more species of *Quercetea ilicis* (*Carex depressa*, *C. distachya*, *Daphne gnidium*
42 and *Osyris alba*) than the Aquitanian cork oak forests, and other taxa that are either
43 endemic to the W of the Peninsula or shared between the Iberian peninsula and NW
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Africa, or even shared with the Mediterranean part of France but all of them absent in Aquitaine: *Anarrhinum duriminum*, *Cistus psilosepalus*, *Cytisus striatus*, *Genista triacanthos*, *Linaria triornithophora*, *Margotia gummifera*, *Omphalodes nitida*.

The following syntaxonomic scheme includes the plant communities mentioned in the text:

Syntaxonomical scheme

Cl. QUERCETEA ILICIS Br.-Bl. ex A. & O. Bolòs 1950

Or. QUERCETALIA ILICIS Br.-Bl. ex Molinier 1934

All. Quercion ilicis Br.-Bl. ex Molinier 1934

Suball. Querco ilicis-Pinenion maritimi Géhu & Géhu-Franck ex Géhu 2004

Ass. *Pino pinastri-Quercetum suberis* (Gehu 1969) Vanden Berghen 1970

All. Quercion broteroi Br.-Bl., P.Silva & Rozeira 1956 *corr.* Rivas-Martínez 1972

Suball. Quercenion broteroi Rivas-Martínez 1987

Ass. *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* Rivas-Martínez 1987

subass. *quercetosum suberis* Rivas-Martínez 1987 [*holotypus*: Rivas-Martínez in Mapa Series Veg. España: 163. 1987]

subass. *quercetosum fagineae* Aguiar, Costa, Capelo, Amado, Honrado, Espírito Santo & Lousã 2003 [*holotypus*: Aguiar & al. in Silva Lusit. 11(1): 101, Quadro 1, inv. 6. 2003]

Ass. *Junipero lagunae-Quercetum suberis* Rivas-Martínez, Aguiar, Cantó & Ladero 2002

Ass. *Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum suberis* (Amigo, Izco, Guitián & Romero)

stat. nov. [= *Rusco aculeati-Quercetum roboris* Br.-Bl., P.Silva & Rozeira 1956 subass. *quercetosum suberis* Amigo, Izco, Guitián & Romero 1998 *p.p. min.*]

Ass. *Arenario montanae-Quercetum suberis* ass. nova

Suball. Paeonio broteri-Quercenion rotundifoliae Rivas-Martínez 1987

Ass. *Genisto hystricis-Quercetum rotundifoliae* P.Silva 1970

Quercus suber variant

Cl. QUERCO-FAGETEA SYLVATICAE Br.-Bl. & Vlieger 1937

Or. QUERCETALIA ROBORIS Tüxen 1931

All. Quercion pyrenaicae Rivas Goday ex Rivas-Martínez 1964

Suball. Quercenion pyrenaicae (Rivas Goday ex Rivas-Martínez 1965)

RivasMartínez 1975

Ass. *Rusco aculeati-Quercetum roboris* Br.-Bl., P.Silva & Rozeira 1956

subass. *violetosum riviniana* Br.-Bl., P. Silva & Rozeira 1956 [lectotypus: Br.-Bl., P. Silva & Rozeira in Agron. Lusit. 18: unnumbered page, Table 1, rel. 822. 1956. *Lectum* Amigo & al. 1998 (Lazaroa 19: 91)]

subass. *arbutetosum unedonis* (Amigo, Izco, Guitián & Romero) M.Rodríguez, Amigo, Real & Romero-Franco subass. nova [= *Rusco aculeati-Quercetum roboris* Br.-Bl., P.Silva & Rozeira 1956 subass. *quercetosum suberis* Amigo, Izco, Guitián & Romero 1998 *p.p. max.*]

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The new data collected in this study improved the knowledge of the distribution, ecology and floristic composition of the cork oak forests in the NW Iberian territories, where prior information was scarce, and allowed us to describe one new phytosociological association and to promote a subassociation of cork oak forests within the Eurosiberian Region to association rank. These forests develop in submediterranean temperate macrobioclimatic environments of high oceanicity, under humid-subhumid ombritic types and, mainly, within the thermotemperate thermotypic horizon. In the case of the forests in the Navia River valley, it is an association with a high degree of endemism (sensu Izco 2009), as a result of its extraordinarily reduced distribution area.

The description of two new associations increased our knowledge of the floristic and phytocoenological variability of the habitat type “9330 *Quercus suber* forests” (Annex I of DC 92/43/EEC) at the W end of its range. This new knowledge must be incorporated into the forest resources management and natural heritage conservation policies, with the objective of preserving/improving the floristic and structural peculiarities and ecological functions (conservation status *sensu* CD 92/43/CEE) of this type of habitat in the European Union (Agrillo et al. 2018).

To complete the knowledge about the plant communities dominated by the cork oak existing in the north of the Iberian Peninsula, more research is needed in the Cantabrian territories where the presence of this species has been reported, such as La Liébana-Cantabria (Guerra Velasco 2015) and Zarautz-Guipuzkoa (Lizaur & Salaberria 1986). Such research should help to understand the expected floristic transition from the studied area to SW France (see Bensettiti et al. 2001, Lafon et al. 2015, Romeyer & Lafon 2015).

Nomenclature

Taxonomic nomenclature followed the proposals of Flora Iberica (Castroviejo 1986-2009, Aedo 2009-2019) and Flora Europaea (Tutin et al. 1964-1980) except in these cases:

- *Avenella flexuosa* (L.) Drejer, Fl. Excurs. Hafn.: 32 (1838)
- *Brachypodium rupestre* (Host) Roem. & Schult., Syst. Veg. 2: 736 (1817)
- *Dioscorea communis* (L.) Caddick & Wilkin, Taxon 51: 112 (2002)
- *Genista florida* subsp. *polygalaephylla* (Brot.) P.Cout. Fl. Portugal: 319 (1913)
- *Festuca elegans* Boiss. subsp. *merinoi* (Pau) Fuente & Ortúñez, Folia Geobot. Phytotax. 36: 402 (2001)
- *Juniperus oxycedrus* L. subsp. *lagunae* (Pau ex C.Vicioso) Rivas-Mart., Itinera Geobot. 15(2): 702 (2002)
- *Melica minuta* L., Mantissa 32 (1767)
- *Picris hieracioides* L. subsp. *longifolia* (Boiss. & Reut.) P.D.Sell, Bot. J. Linn. Soc. 71: 248 (1976)
- *Quercus rotundifolia* Lam., Encycl. 1: 723 (1785)

Ivy specimens determined by previous authors as *Hedera helix* were regarded as *H. hibernica* (G.Kirchn.) Bean, in accordance to Sahuquillo & al. (2001).

The names of infraspecific taxa were indicated in abbreviated form (e.g.: *Daucus carota* subsp. *carota* var. *maritimus* = *D. maritimus*) to save space in text and tables.

In the phytosociological discussions (syntaxonomic scheme and phytosociological assignment of taxa), we followed the proposals of Rivas-Martínez (2011), except for some specific cases in which we followed those of Costa et al. (2012) and Mucina et al. (2016).

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Annex I.

Acronyms, phytosociological adscription and coefficients of association of each taxon with axes 1 and 2.

Taxa are ordered by their corresponding acronym.

Acronym	Taxon	Phytosociological adscription	Axis 1 coeff.	Axis 2 coeff.	
7	Acapse	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	<i>Quercu-Fagetea</i>	0,026	-
8	Agrcap	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	<i>Molinio caeruleae-Arrhenatheretea elatioris</i>	0,000	0,998
9	Agrcas	<i>Agrostis castellana</i>	<i>Stipo giganteae-Agrostietea castellanae</i>	0,984	-
10	Agrcur	<i>Agrostis curtisii</i>	<i>Calluno vulgaris-Ulicetea minoris</i>	0,038	0,027
11	Anabel	<i>Anarrhinum bellidifolium</i>	<i>Sesamoidion suffruticosae</i>	-	0,999
12	Anadur	<i>Anarrhinum duriminum</i>	<i>Rumici indurati-Dianthion lusitani</i>	0,954	0,006
13	Andint	<i>Andryala integrifolia</i>	<i>Hyparrhenion hirtae</i>	1,000	-
14	Antama	<i>Anthoxanthum amarum</i>	<i>Calystegietalia sepium</i>	0,008	-
15	Antodo	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	<i>Molinio caeruleae-Arrhenatheretea elatioris</i>	0,010	-
16	Arbune	<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	<i>Ericion arboreae</i>	-	0,966
17	Aremon	<i>Arenaria montana</i>	<i>Quercetalia roboris</i>	0,003	0,996
18	Aripau	<i>Aristolochia paucinervis</i>	<i>Populetales albae</i>	1,000	-
19	Aspadi	<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	<i>Androsacetalia vandellii</i>	0,000	-
20	Aspbil	<i>Asplenium billoti</i>	<i>Androsacetalia vandellii</i>	0,004	-
21	Asplu	<i>Asphodelus lusitanicus</i>	<i>Carici piluliferae-Epilobion angustifolii</i>	0,001	0,002
22	Aspacu	<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	<i>Quercetea ilicis</i>	1,000	0,001
23	Aspono	<i>Asplenium onopteris</i>	<i>Quercetalia ilicis</i>	-	1,000
24	Avefle	<i>Avenella flexuosa</i>	<i>Quercetalia roboris</i>	0,000	-
25	Avesul	<i>Avenula sulcata</i>	<i>Calluno vulgaris-Ulicetea minoris</i>	0,962	0,999
26	Belsyl	<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	<i>Poetea bulbosae</i>	0,954	0,998
27	Brarup	<i>Brachypodium rupestre</i>	<i>Potentillo montanae-Brachypodion rupestris</i>	0,000	0,002
28	Brasyl	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	<i>Osmundo regalis-Alnion glutinosae</i>	1,000	1,000
29	Brimax	<i>Briza maxima</i>	<i>Helianthemetalia guttati</i>	1,000	0,983
30	Broste	<i>Bromus sterilis</i>	<i>Aperetalia spica-venti</i>	0,999	-
31	Brydio	<i>Bryonia dioica</i>	<i>Populetales albae</i>	0,998	0,986
32	Calvul	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	<i>Calluno vulgaris-Ulicetea minoris</i>	0,004	-
33	Camlus	<i>Campanula lusitanica</i>	<i>Helianthemetalia guttati</i>	0,986	-
34	Carcor	<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>	<i>Carthametalia lanati</i>	0,995	0,993
35	Cardep	<i>Carex depressa</i>	<i>Quercenion ilicis</i>	-	0,996
36	Cardis	<i>Carex distachya</i>	<i>Quercetalia ilicis</i>	0,999	0,999
37	Carhir	<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	<i>Geranio purpureae-Cardaminetalia hirsutae</i>	0,997	-
38	Carmur	<i>Carex muricata</i>	<i>Epilobietea angustifolii</i>	-	1,000
39	Carpil	<i>Carex pilulifera</i>	<i>Nardetalia strictae</i>	0,000	-
40	Cassat	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	<i>Quercu-Fagetea</i>	0,000	1,000
41	Cencal	<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>	<i>Geranio purpureae-Cardaminetalia hirsutae</i>	1,000	-
42	Cenlan	<i>Centaurea langei</i>	<i>Agrostio castellanae-Stipion giganteae</i>	1,000	0,002
43	Ceplon	<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	<i>Quercu-Fagetea</i>	1,000	-
44	Cirfil	<i>Cirsium filipendulum</i>	<i>Daboecion cantabricae</i>	0,001	0,012
45	Cislad	<i>Cistus ladanifer</i>	<i>Lavanduletalia stoechadis</i>	1,000	0,035
46	Cispop	<i>Cistus populifolius</i>	<i>Lavanduletalia stoechadis</i>	0,999	0,037
47	Cispsi	<i>Cistus psilosepalus</i>	<i>Ericion umbellatae</i>	0,993	-
48	Cissal	<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	<i>Cisto-Lavanduletea stoechadis</i>	1,000	0,959
49	Clivul	<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	<i>Trifolio medii-Geranietea sanguinei</i>	0,995	0,991
50	Conmar	<i>Conopodium marizianum</i>	<i>Rumici indurati-Dianthion lusitani</i>	1,000	-
51	Corave	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	<i>Betulo pendulae-Populetales tremulae</i>	0,026	-
52	Cramon	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	<i>Rhamno catharticii-Prunetea spinosae</i>	-	0,987
53	Crugla	<i>Cruciata glabra</i>	<i>Trifolio medii-Geranietea sanguinei</i>	0,003	0,007
54	Cynech	<i>Cynosurus echinatus</i>	<i>Sisymbrietalia officinalis</i>	1,000	0,000
55	Cytmul	<i>Cytisus multiflorus</i>	<i>Cytisetalia scopario-striati</i>	1,000	-
56	CytSCO	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	<i>Ulici europaei-Cytision striati</i>	1,000	0,000
57	Cytstri	<i>Cytisus striatus</i>	<i>Ulici europaei-Cytision striati</i>	-	1,000
58	Dabcan	<i>Daboecia cantabrica</i>	<i>Daboecion cantabricae</i>	0,000	-
59	Dacglo	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	<i>Molinio caeruleae-Arrhenatheretea elatioris</i>	0,000	0,007
60	Dachis	<i>Dactylis hispanica</i>	<i>Lygeo sparti-Stipetea tenacissimae</i>	1,000	1,000
61	Dandec	<i>Danthonia decumbens</i>	<i>Nardetalia strictae</i>	0,000	0,980
62	Dapgni	<i>Daphne gnidium</i>	<i>Quercetea ilicis</i>	1,000	-
63	Digpur	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	<i>Carici piluliferae-Epilobion angustifolii</i>	0,043	-
64	Diovol	<i>Dioscorea communis</i>	<i>Quercu-Fagetea</i>	1,000	-
65	Dryaff	<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>	<i>Quercu-Fagetea sylvaticae</i>	0,000	-
66	Epitre	<i>Epipactis tremolsii</i>	<i>Aceri granatensis-Quercion fagineae</i>	1,000	-
67	Eriarb	<i>Erica arborea</i>	<i>Ericion arboreae</i>	-	0,997
68	Ericin	<i>Erica cinerea</i>	<i>Calluno vulgaris-Ulicetea minoris</i>	0,046	1,000
69	Fraaln	<i>Frangula alnus</i>	<i>Salici purpureae-Populetea nigrae</i>	0,000	0,012
70	Fraang	<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	<i>Fraxino angustifoliae-Ulmenion minoris</i>	0,019	0,981
71	Galapa	<i>Galium aparine</i>	<i>Galio aparines-Urticetea maioris</i>	-	1,000
72	Galmol	<i>Galium mollugo</i>	<i>Trifolio medii-Geranietea sanguinei</i>	1,000	0,971
73	Genfal	<i>Genista falcata</i>	<i>Quercion pyrenaicae</i>	1,000	0,994
74	Genpol	<i>Genista polygalaephylla</i>	<i>Genistion floridae</i>	--	0,995
75	Gerluc	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	<i>Geranio-Anthriscion caucalidis</i>	1,000	-
76	Gerpur	<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	<i>Geranio purpureae-Cardaminetalia hirsutae</i>	1,000	0,999

Acronym	Taxon	Phytosociological adscription	Axis 1 coeff.	Axis 2 coeff.
Glapro	<i>Glandora prostrata</i>	<i>Calluno vulgaris-Ulicetea minoris</i>	0,000	-
Halvis	<i>Halimium viscosum</i>	<i>Cisto-Lavanduletea stoechadis</i>	1,000	0,000
Hedhib	<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	<i>Quercetalia roboris</i>	0,000	-
Helsto	<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i>	<i>Helichryso stoechadis-Santolinetalia squarrosae</i>	0,998	-
Hielae	<i>Hieracium laevigatum</i>	<i>Quercion roboris</i>	-	0,999
Hieumb	<i>Hieracium umbellatum</i>	<i>Quercetalia roboris</i>	0,000	-
Holmol	<i>Holcus mollis</i>	<i>Quercetalia roboris</i>	0,000	-
Hyppul	<i>Hypericum pulchrum</i>	<i>Quercetalia roboris</i>	0,000	-
Hyprad	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	<i>Plantaginetalia majoris</i>	1,000	0,000
Junlag	<i>Juniperus lagunae</i>	<i>Quercetalia ilicis</i>	1,000	0,000
Lacvim	<i>Lactuca viminea</i>	<i>Andryaetalia ragusinae</i>	0,990	0,992
Lammac	<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	<i>Galio aparines-Urticetea maioris</i>	0,002	-
Launob	<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	<i>Arbuto unedonis-Laurion nobilis</i>	0,000	-
Lavped	<i>Lavandula pedunculata</i>	<i>Cistion laurifolii</i>	1,000	0,002
Lintri	<i>Linaria triornithophora</i>	<i>Linarion triornithophorae</i>	0,000	-
Lonetr	<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	<i>Quercetea ilicis</i>	0,998	-
Lonhis	<i>Lonicera hispanica</i>	<i>Lonicero periclymeni-Rubenion ulmifolii</i>	0,004	1,000
Lotcar	<i>Lotus carpetanus</i>	<i>Cistion laurifolii</i>	1,000	0,000
Lotcor	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	<i>Molinio caeruleae-Arrhenatheretea elatioris</i>	0,994	1,000
Luzcam	<i>Luzula campestris</i>	<i>Brometalia erecti</i>	-	0,999
Nartri	<i>Narcissus triandrus</i>	without adscription	0,980	0,041
Ompnit	<i>Omphalodes nitida</i>	<i>Linarion triornithophorae</i>	0,008	-
Ororap	<i>Orobanche rapum-genistae</i>	<i>Cytisetalia scopario-striati</i>	0,961	-
Orvir	<i>Origanum virens</i>	<i>Origanion virentis</i>	0,994	0,991
Osyalb	<i>Osyris alba</i>	<i>Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni</i>	1,000	-
Phiang	<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	<i>Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni</i>	1,000	-
Phycor	<i>Physospermum cornubiense</i>	<i>Quercion pyrenaicae</i>	0,000	0,007
Piclon	<i>Picris longifolia</i>	<i>Artemisietea vulgaris</i>	0,003	-
Pimvil	<i>Pimpinella villosa</i>	<i>Malcolmietalia</i>	1,000	-
Pister	<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	<i>Pistacio lentisci-Rhamnetalia alaterni</i>	1,000	-
Polcam	<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	<i>Polypodium cambrici</i>	-	0,014
Polset	<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	<i>Populetales albae</i>	0,000	0,997
Polyvu	<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	<i>Quercu-Fagetea</i>	0,000	-
Potmon	<i>Potentilla montana</i>	<i>Potentillo montanae-Brachypodium rupestris</i>	0,000	0,011
Pruavi	<i>Prunus avium</i>	<i>Fagetalia sylvaticae</i>	0,001	1,000
Pselon	<i>Pseudarrhenatherum longifolium</i>	<i>Daboecion cantabricae</i>	0,000	0,000
Pteaqu	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	<i>Cytisetalia scopario-striati</i>	0,000	0,008
Ptecan	<i>Pterospartum cantabricum</i>	<i>Daboecion cantabricae</i>	-	0,999
Pulodo	<i>Pulicaria odora</i>	<i>Quercetea ilicis</i>	-	0,971
Pyrcoar	<i>Pyrus cordata</i>	<i>Franguloalni-Pyrion cordatae</i>	0,001	0,001
Quefag	<i>Quercus faginea</i>	<i>Aceri granatensis-Quercion fagineae</i>	1,000	0,000
Quepyr	<i>Quercus pyrenaica</i>	<i>Quercion pyrenaicae</i>	0,000	0,000
Querob	<i>Quercus robur</i>	<i>Quercu-Fagetea</i>	0,000	0,000
Quebal	<i>Quercus rotundifolia</i>	<i>Quercetalia ilicis</i>	1,000	0,994
Quesub	<i>Quercus suber</i>	<i>Quercetalia ilicis</i>	0,020	1,000
Ranoli	<i>Ranunculus ollissiponensis</i>	<i>Trifolio-Geranietea sanguinei</i>	1,000	0,029
Rosarv	<i>Rosa arvensis</i>	<i>Quercu-Fagetea sylvaticae</i>	-	0,995
Rosdes	<i>Rosa deseglisei</i>	<i>Rosenion carioti-pouzinii</i>	0,998	-
Rosmic	<i>Rosa micrantha</i>	<i>Pruno spinosae-Rubion ulmifolii</i>	0,976	1,000
Rubper	<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	<i>Quercetea ilicis</i>	1,000	-
Rumace	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	<i>Molinio caeruleae-Arrhenatheretea elatioris</i>	0,014	-
Rusacu	<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	<i>Quercetalia ilicis</i>	1,000	0,004
Sanmin	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	<i>Festuco valesiacae-Brometea erecti</i>	-	0,997
Sanver	<i>Sanguisorba verrucosa</i>	<i>Stipo giganteae-Agrostietea castellanae</i>	1,000	-
Sersco	<i>Scrophularia scorodonia</i>	<i>Osmundo regalis-Alnion glutinosae</i>	0,006	-
Sedalb	<i>Sedum album</i>	<i>Alyso alyssoidis-Sedion albi</i>	0,977	-
Sedfor	<i>Sedum forsterianum</i>	<i>Stipo giganteae-Agrostietea castellanae</i>	1,000	-
Sedhir	<i>Sedum hirsutum</i>	<i>Phagnalo saxatilis-Rumicetalia indurati</i>	0,986	0,003
Senliv	<i>Senecio lividus</i>	<i>Sisymbrietalia officinalis</i>	1,000	0,997
Silcou	<i>Silene coutinhoi</i>	<i>Linarion triornithophorae</i>	1,000	0,000
Sillat	<i>Silene latifolia</i>	<i>Trifolio medii-Geranietea sanguinei</i>	0,979	-
Silvul	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	<i>Artemisietea vulgaris</i>	-	0,979
Simmat	<i>Simethis mattiazii</i>	<i>Calluno vulgaris-Ulicetea minoris</i>	0,001	0,001
Stehol	<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	<i>Quercu-Fagetea sylvaticae</i>	0,000	0,009
Stemed	<i>Stellaria media</i>	<i>Stellarietea mediae</i>	0,980	-
Teusco	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	<i>Quercetalia roboris</i>	0,000	-
Thavil	<i>Thapsia villosa</i>	<i>Stipo giganteae-Agrostietea castellanae</i>	1,000	-
Thymas	<i>Thymus mastichina</i>	<i>Helichryso stoechadis-Santolinetalia squarrosae</i>	0,999	0,000
Torlep	<i>Torilis leptophylla</i>	<i>Geranio purpureae-Cardaminetalia hirsutae</i>	1,000	-
Uleaur	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	<i>Ulici europaei-Cytision striati</i>	0,000	-
Ulegal	<i>Ulex gallii</i>	<i>Daboecion cantabricae</i>	0,016	-
Ulemin	<i>Ulex minor</i>	<i>Calluno vulgaris-Ulicetea minoris</i>	0,000	-
Vicang	<i>Vicia angustifolia</i>	<i>Stellarietea mediae</i>	1,000	0,013
Vioriv	<i>Viola riviniana</i>	<i>Quercetalia roboris</i>	0,000	-

Acronym	Taxon	Phytosociological adscription	Axis 1 coeff.	Axis 2 coeff.
Vitvin	<i>Vitis vinifera</i>	without adscription	0,048	0,990

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4 Iberian cork oak forests.
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6 Table 2. Biogeographical description, acronyms and number of relevés for each studied
7 cork oak forests. P: published relevés; N: new relevés.
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10 Table 3. Synoptic constancy (percentage frequencies) table of the associations of cork
11 oak forest and other related forests present in the study area (“other widespread taxa”
12 present in less than seven columns were not included). Shaded cells: frequency values
13 higher than 50%.
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21 Figure 1. Location of the relevés of cork oak forests included in this study.
22 Geographical, biogeographical and phytosociological information discussed in the text
23 is also included. Source of *Q. suber* distribution:
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26 <http://www.euforgen.org/species/quercus-suber/>
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29 Figure 2. Location of the relevés included in this study and a) macroclimates, b)
30 bioclimates c) thermic types and d) ombritic types of the Worldwide Bioclimatic
31 Classification System of Rivas-Martínez (2011). Relevé symbols as in legend of Figure
32 1. Adapted from Rodríguez-Gutián & Ramil-Rego (2007),
33 <https://www.globalbioclimatics.org/form/maps.htm>, and
34 [http://home.isa.utl.pt/~tmh/aboutme/ Informacao_bioclimatologica.html](http://home.isa.utl.pt/~tmh/aboutme/Informacao_bioclimatologica.html).
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40 Figure 3. a: MDS ordination; b: correlation between the position of the samples samples
41 in axis 2 and latitude of the relevés; c-e: position of the associated taxa with ordination
42 axes 1 and 2. Relevé symbols as in legend of Figure 1.
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46 Figure 4. Images of the different types of cork oak forests studied. a: Navian
47 thermotemperate cork oak forests (*Arenario montanae-Quercetum suberis*) on a sunny
48 quartzitic spur at Tamagordas (Illano, Asturias, Spain); b: Galician-Portuguese and
49 Inner Galician thermotemperate cork oak forests (*Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum*
50 *suberis*) on a gneissic coluvial soil at Erbedeiro (Carballedo, Lugo, Spain); c:
51 mesophilous (luxuriant) aspect of the Bercian-Valdeorrese mesomediterranean cork oak
52 forests (*Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum suberis*) on
53 tertiary sediments at Viloval (O Barco de Valdeorras, Ourense, Spain); d: xerophilous
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3 aspect of the Bercian-Valdeorrese mesomediterranean cork oak forests (*Physospermo*
4 *cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum suberis*) on colluvial quartzitic soil
5 at Cobrana (Congosto, León, Spain); e: Northportuguese mesomediterranean subhumid
6 cork oak forests (*Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum*
7 *fagineae*) on a granitic slope between Rebordelo e Bouçoães (Valpaços, Vila Real,
8 Portugal); f: Notheastern Portuguese mesomediterranean dry cork oak forests (*Junipero*
9 *lagunae-Quercetum suberis*) between Jerusalém and Romeu (Mirandela, Bragança,
10 Portugal).
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18 Figure 5. Floristic key to the studied cork oak forests.
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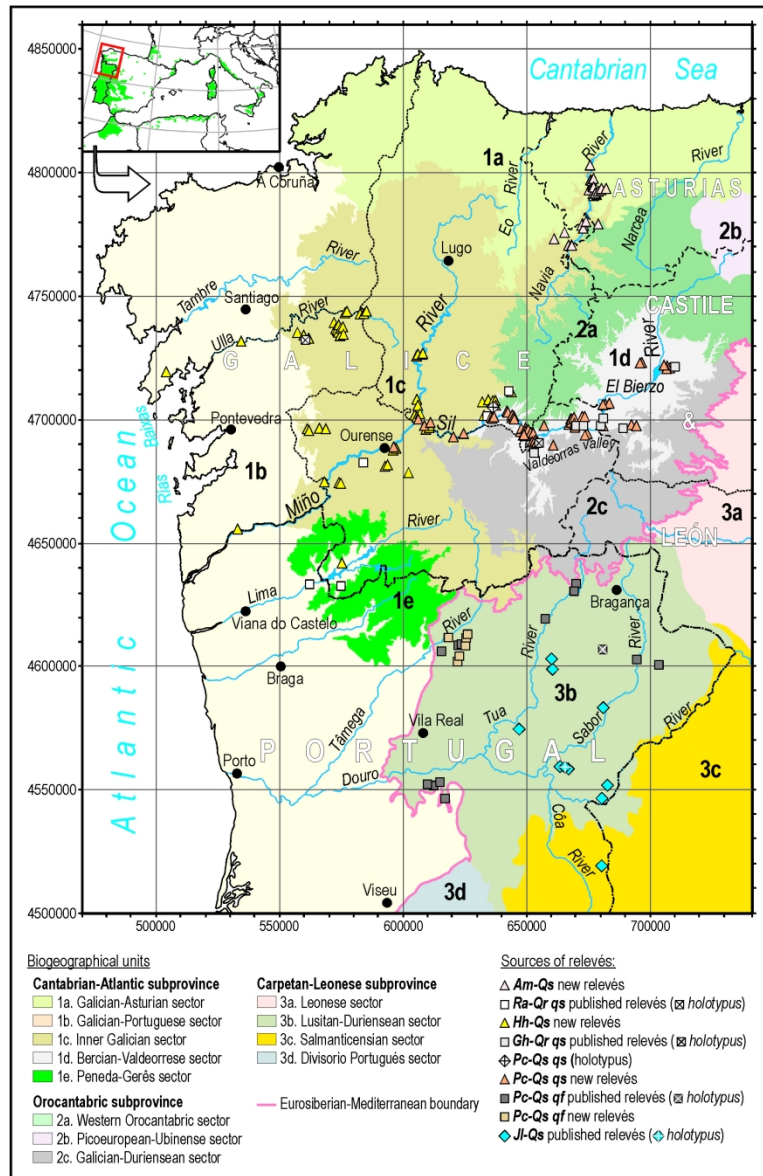


Figure 1. Location of the relevés of cork oak forests included in this study. Geographical, biogeographical and phytosociological information discussed in the text is also included. Source of *Q. suber* distribution: <http://www.euforgen.org/species/quercus-suber/>

187x284mm (300 x 300 DPI)

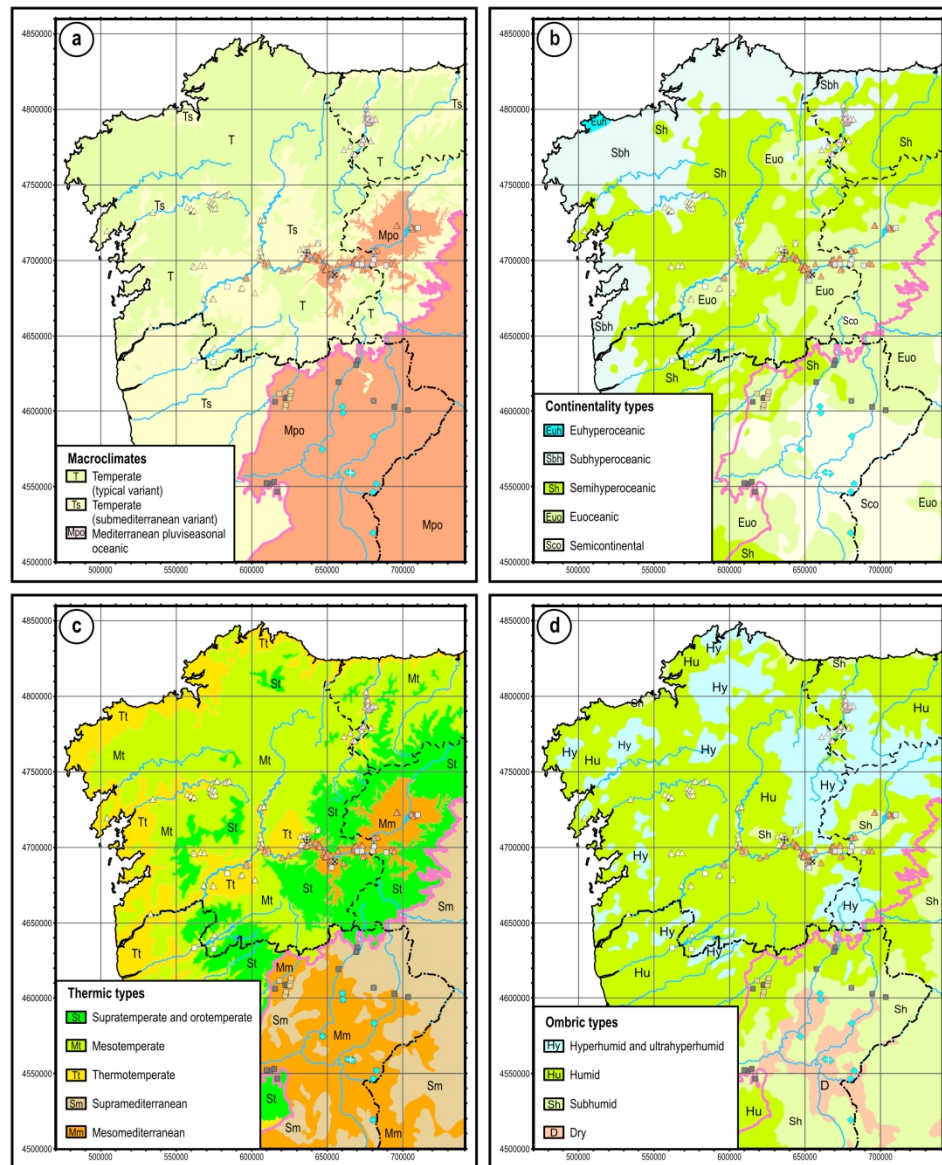


Figure 2. Location of the relevés included in this study and a) macroclimates, b) bioclimates c) thermic types and d) ombric types of the Worldwide Bioclimatic Classification System of Rivas-Martínez (2011). Relevé symbols as in legend of Figure 1. Adapted from Rodríguez-Gutián & Ramil-Rego (2007), <https://www.globalbioclimatics.org/form/maps.htm>, and http://home.isa.utl.pt/~tmh/aboutme/Informacao_bioclimatologica.html.

192x235mm (400 x 400 DPI)

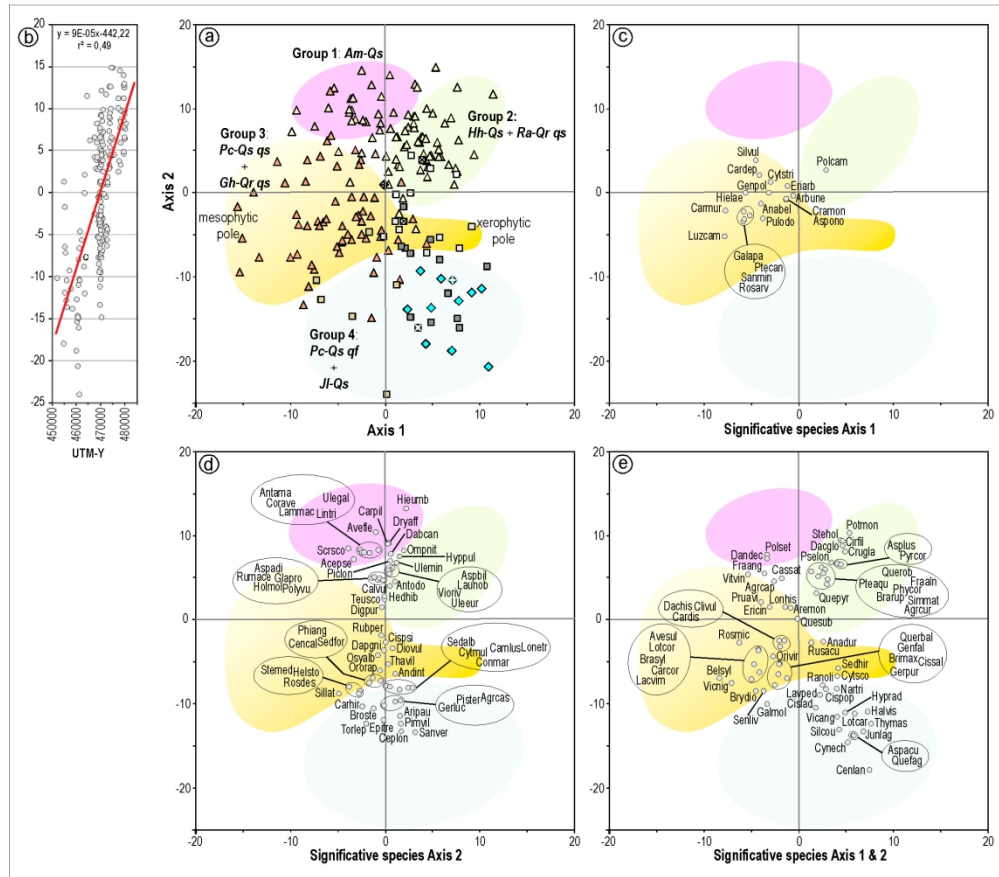


Figure 3. a: MDS ordination; b: correlation between the position of the samples samples in axis 2 and latitude of the relevés; c-e: position of the associated taxa with ordination axes 1 and 2. Relevé symbols as in legend of Figure 1.

196x173mm (300 x 300 DPI)

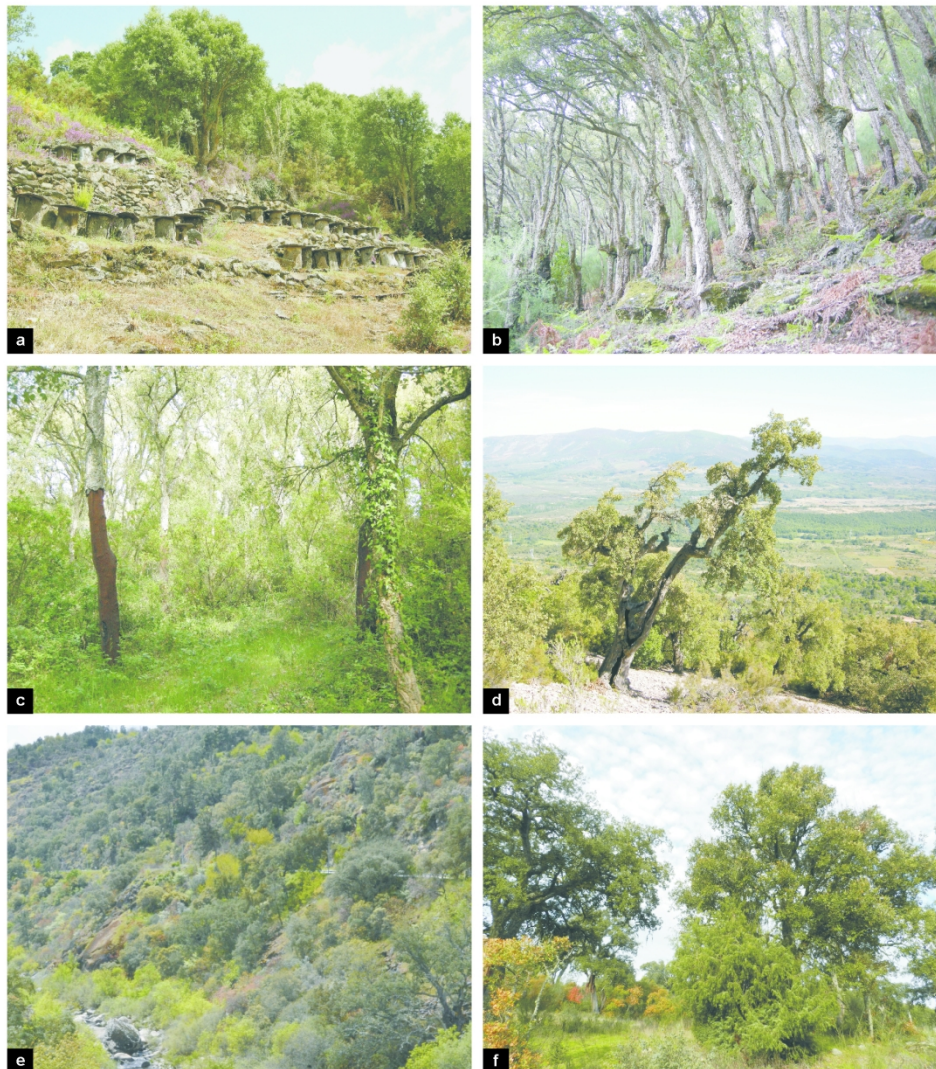


Figure 4. Images of the different types of cork oak forests studied. a: Navian thermotemperate cork oak forests (*Arenario montanae*-*Quercetum suberis*) on a sunny quartzitic spur at Tamagordas (Illano, Asturias, Spain); b: Galician-Portuguese and Inner Galician thermotemperate cork oak forests (*Hedero hibernicae*-*Quercetum suberis*) on a gneissic coluvial soil at Erbedeiro (Carballedo, Lugo, Spain); c: mesophilous (luxuriant) aspect of the Bercian-Valdeorrese mesomediterranean cork oak forests (*Physospermo cornubiensis*-*Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum suberis*) on tertiary sediments at Viloval (O Barco de Valdeorras, Ourense, Spain); d: xerophilous aspect of the Bercian-Valdeorrese mesomediterranean cork oak forests (*Physospermo cornubiensis*-*Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum suberis*) on colluvial quartzitic soil at Cobrana (Congosto, León, Spain); e: Northportuguese mesomediterranean subhumid cork oak forests (*Physospermo cornubiensis*-*Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum fagineae*) on a granitic slope between Rebordelo e Bouçoães (Valpaços, Vila Real, Portugal); f: Northeastern Portuguese mesomediterranean dry cork oak forests (*Junipero lagunae*-*Quercetum suberis*) between Jerusalém and Romeu (Mirandela, Bragança, Portugal).

162x182mm (300 x 300 DPI)

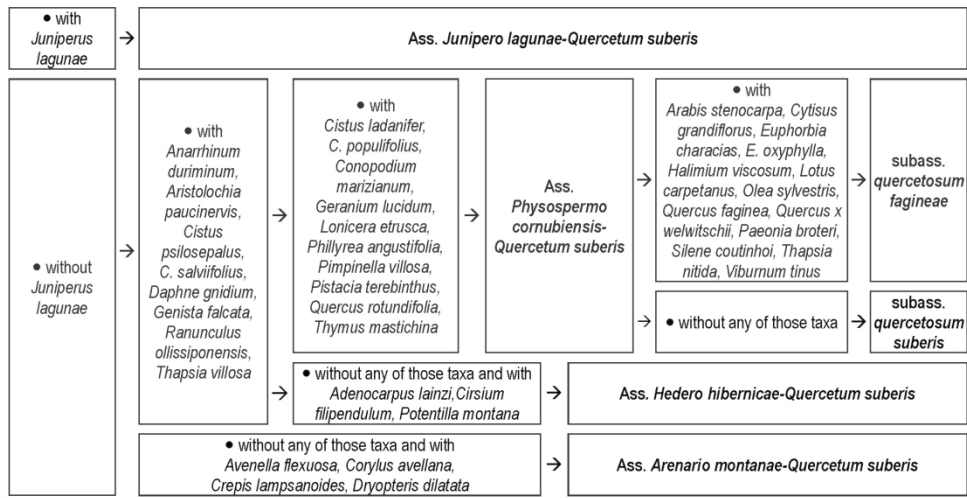


Figure 5. Floristic key to the studied cork oak forests.

181x96mm (300 x 300 DPI)

Table 1. Chronology of the proposals of syntaxonomical classification of the NW Iberian cork oak forests.

Author	Syntaxon name	Territory	ICPN status
Bellot & Casaseca (1953)	<i>Quercetum suberis ulicetosum</i>	Galice	Invalid name (Art. 3c)
Rivas-Martínez (1975)	<i>Lauro nobilis-Quercetum suberis</i>	Galice	Invalid name (Art. 3b)
Díaz & Penas (1984)	<i>Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis</i>	León province	Invalid name (Art. 3o)
Rivas-Martínez et al. (1984)	<i>Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis</i>	Galice & León province	Invalid name (Art. 3o)
Fuente & Morla (1986)	<i>Genisto hystricis-Quercetum rotundifoliae</i> subass. <i>quercetosum suberis</i>	Galice	Valid name
Rivas-Martínez (1987)	<i>Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis</i>	Galice	Valid name
Izco et al. (1990)	<i>Genisto hystricis-Quercetum rotundifoliae</i> subass. <i>quercetosum suberis</i>	Galice	Valid name
Amigo & al. (1998)	<i>Rusco aculeati-Quercetum roboris</i> subass. <i>quercetosum suberis</i>	Galice	Valid name
Aguiar et al. (2003)	<i>Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis</i> subass. <i>quercetosum fagineae</i>	N Portugal	Valid name
Rivas-Martínez et al. (2002)	<i>Junipero lagunae-Quercetum suberis</i>	NE Portugal	Valid name

Table 2. Biogeographical description, acronyms and number of relevés for each studied cork-oak forests. P: published relevés; N: new relevés.

Communities	Acronyms	P	N
Temperate submediterranean Navian cork oak forests	<i>Am-Qs</i>	-	27
Temperate submediterranean Galician-Portuguese and Inner Galician pedunculated oak forests with cork oak	<i>Ra-Qr qs</i>	5	-
Temperate submediterranean Galician-Portuguese and Inner Galician cork oak forests	<i>Hh-Qs</i>	-	54
Mediterranean Bercian-Valdeorrese holm oak forests with cork oak	<i>Gh-Qr qs</i>	9	-
Mediterranean Bercian-Valdeorrese cork oak forests	<i>Pc-Qs qs</i>	1	58
Mediterranean North Portuguese subhumid-humid cork oak forests	<i>Pc-Qs qf</i>	13	6
Mediterranean Northeastern Portuguese dry cork oak forests	<i>Jl-Qs</i>	11	-
Total		39	145

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Table 3. Synoptic constancy (percentage frequencies) table of the associations of cork-oak forest and other related forests present in the study area (“other widespread taxa” present in less than seven columns were not included). Shaded cells: frequency values higher than 50%.

Column	1	2a	2b	3a	3b	4a	4b	5a	5b	5c	6a	6b	7
Number of relevés	27	34	61	7	54	55	14	1	8	58	13	6	11
Taxon richness (average)	29,3	23,0	27,8	19,7	30,2	24,0	24,4	22	21,3	32,6	28,4	44,8	31,9
Exclusive taxa of Navian cork-oak forests (Am-Qs) and Galician-Portuguese common-oak forests (Ra-Qr s.l.)													
<i>Crepis lamsanoides</i>	11,1	11,8	18,0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	14,8	11,8	3,3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Avenella flexuosa</i>	22,2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	11,1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exclusive taxa of Galician-Portuguese common-oak forests (Ra-Qr s.l.)													
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	-	17,6	16,4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Euphorbia dulcis</i>	-	8,8	9,8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Peucedanum lancifolium</i>	-	2,9	8,2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exclusive taxa of Galician-Portuguese common-oak forests (Ra-Qr s.l.) and cork-oak forests (Hh-Qs)													
<i>Adenocarpus lainzi</i>	-	8,8	8,2	14,3	7,4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cirsium filipendulum</i>	-	5,9	6,6	14,3	11,1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	-	14,7	9,8	-	3,7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Anemone albida</i>	-	8,8	14,8	-	1,9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Polygonatum odoratum</i>	-	2,9	13,1	-	1,9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Aquilegia dichroa</i>	-	2,9	11,5	-	1,9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	-	-	3,3	-	5,6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Pulmonaria longifolia</i>	-	-	3,3	-	1,9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Genista triacanthos</i>	-	-	-	-	3,7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exclusive taxa of temperate forests													
<i>Ulex gallii</i>	11,1	23,5	9,8	14,3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	14,8	35,3	6,6	-	7,4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>	25,9	8,8	8,2	-	7,4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Omphalodes nitida</i>	11,1	8,8	24,6	-	3,7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	3,7	14,7	11,5	-	3,7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Veronica officinalis</i>	3,7	14,7	6,6	-	3,7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hieracium umbellatum</i>	11,1	-	3,3	-	3,7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	-	11,8	-	-	1,9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Differential taxa of Bercian-Valdeorrese typical cork-oak forests (Pc-Qs qs) to holm-oak forests (Gh-Qr)													
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	33,3	29,4	26,2	14,3	35,2	-	-	-	-	15,5	-	-	-
<i>Pseudarrhenatherum longifolium</i>	3,7	26,5	26,2	42,9	57,4	-	-	-	-	6,9	-	-	-
<i>Simethis mattiazii</i>	-	29,4	19,7	14,3	38,9	-	-	-	-	10,3	-	-	-
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	48,1	11,8	4,9	-	11,1	-	-	-	-	6,9	-	-	-
<i>Danthonia decumbens</i>	29,6	-	9,8	14,3	1,9	-	-	-	-	3,4	-	-	-
<i>Carex pilulifera</i>	44,4	8,8	1,6	-	22,2	-	-	-	-	3,4	-	-	-
<i>Carex depressa</i>	11,1	-	1,6	-	7,4	-	-	-	-	12,1	-	-	-
<i>Pulicaria odora</i>	-	-	3,3	-	7,4	-	-	-	-	8,6	-	-	-
<i>Hieracium laevigatum</i>	-	-	-	-	3,7	-	-	-	-	13,8	-	-	-
<i>Rosa arvensis</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,1	-	-	-
Taxa absent in northportuguese cork-oak forests (Pc-Qs qf and JI-Qs)													
<i>Erica cinerea</i>	66,7	8,8	9,8	28,6	29,6	21,8	28,6	+	12,5	55,2	-	-	-
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	55,6	14,7	16,4	14,3	63,0	1,8	-	1	25,0	34,5	-	-	-
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	29,6	8,8	14,8	14,3	14,8	9,1	14,3	-	37,5	13,8	-	-	-
<i>Daboecia cantabrica</i>	59,3	5,9	11,5	14,3	37,0	1,8	-	-	12,5	10,3	-	-	-
<i>Frangula alnus</i>	14,8	61,8	62,3	28,6	20,4	1,8	7,1	-	-	3,4	-	-	-
<i>Halimium alyssoides</i>	7,4	5,9	4,9	14,3	1,9	12,7	-	-	50,0	5,2	-	-	-
<i>Silene nutans</i>	22,2	8,8	13,1	28,6	24,1	36,4	21,4	-	25,0	31,0	-	-	-
<i>Quercus robur</i>	44,4	97,1	96,7	71,4	81,5	1,8	-	-	-	12,1	-	-	-
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	3,7	2,9	14,8	-	13,0	12,7	14,3	-	-	3,4	-	-	-
<i>Hypericum pulchrum</i>	22,2	8,8	32,8	14,3	38,9	3,6	-	-	-	10,3	-	-	-
<i>Rosa canina</i>	7,4	2,9	13,1	-	5,6	3,6	14,3	-	-	1,7	-	-	-
<i>Genista polygalaephylla</i>	3,7	-	1,6	-	11,1	5,5	18,2	-	-	24,1	-	-	-
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	55,6	-	-	-	16,7	9,1	42,9	-	-	12,1	-	-	-
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	-	26,5	41,0	-	20,4	3,6	-	-	-	12,1	-	-	-
<i>Agrostis curtisii</i>	-	11,8	11,5	-	20,4	1,8	-	-	-	3,4	-	-	-
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	-	5,9	19,7	-	1,9	1,8	-	-	-	5,2	-	-	-
<i>Melampyrum pratense</i>	-	23,5	13,1	-	1,9	-	-	-	-	1,7	-	-	-
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	-	2,9	6,6	-	5,6	-	-	-	-	3,4	-	-	-
<i>Q. pyrenaica</i> x <i>Q. robur</i>	3,7	2,9	-	-	1,9	-	-	-	-	3,4	-	-	-
<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	18,5	-	-	-	1,9	-	-	-	-	1,7	-	-	-
<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	11,1	-	-	-	5,6	-	-	-	-	3,4	-	-	-
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	7,4	44,1	24,6	-	1,9	1,8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	3,7	5,9	11,5	-	1,9	1,8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Column	1	2a	2b	3a	3b	4a	4b	5a	5b	5c	6a	6b	7
Taxa absent in JI-Qs													
<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	77,8	76,5	75,4	71,4	81,5	21,8	42,9	2	37,5	50,0	53,8	83,3	-
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	74,1	32,4	26,2	14,3	57,4	1,8	28,6	1	-	25,9	7,7	16,7	-
<i>Quercus pyrenaica</i>	51,9	41,2	60,7	71,4	51,9	27,3	21,4	-	25,0	22,4	46,2	83,3	-
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	85,2	73,5	59,0	14,3	50,0	3,6	-	-	12,5	50,0	23,1	33,3	-
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	3,7	5,9	9,8	28,6	11,1	23,6	7,1	-	-	1,7	-	16,7	-
<i>Glandora prostrata</i>	74,1	47,1	60,7	71,4	79,6	10,9	28,6	-	12,5	39,7	-	16,7	-
<i>Prunus avium</i>	63,0	11,8	26,2	-	42,6	7,3	7,1	-	-	77,6	-	33,3	-
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	3,7	2,9	3,3	-	7,4	9,1	28,6	-	25,0	15,5	-	16,7	-
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	37,0	32,4	47,5	-	37,0	3,6	7,1	1	37,5	15,5	7,7	-	-
<i>Physospermum cornubiense</i>	11,1	26,5	36,1	28,6	24,1	-	-	2	-	8,6	7,7	-	-
<i>Holcus mollis</i>	59,3	58,8	49,2	28,6	61,1	5,5	-	-	-	31,0	-	83,3	-
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	3,7	2,9	3,3	14,3	24,1	-	-	-	-	3,4	15,4	-	-
<i>Pyrus cordata</i>	3,7	50,0	39,3	42,9	14,8	1,8	-	-	-	-	7,7	-	-
<i>Anarrhinum bellidifolium</i>	18,5	2,9	-	-	1,9	14,5	21,4	-	-	19,0	7,7	-	-
<i>Linaria triornithophora</i>	40,7	2,9	24,6	-	14,8	-	-	-	-	5,2	7,7	-	-
<i>Primula acaulis</i>	-	2,9	6,6	-	1,9	-	-	-	12,5	1,7	-	16,7	-
Taxa absent in Navian cork-oak forests (Am-Qs)													
<i>Daphne gnidium</i>	-	-	34,4	42,9	57,4	61,8	85,7	1	37,5	84,5	92,3	100	100
<i>Genista falcata</i>	-	-	31,1	-	9,3	32,7	42,9	+	25,0	36,2	38,5	66,7	63,6
<i>Cistus psilosepalus</i>	-	-	11,5	28,6	31,5	3,6	28,6	-	12,5	31,0	30,8	33,3	54,5
<i>Thapsia villosa</i>	-	-	1,6	-	13,0	7,3	7,1	-	-	12,1	38,5	83,3	27,3
<i>Avenula sulcata</i>	-	2,9	3,3	-	3,7	20,0	14,3	-	37,5	20,7	-	16,7	-
<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	-	-	-	-	14,8	23,6	21,4	-	100	50,0	23,1	100	63,6
<i>Aristolochia paucinervis</i>	-	-	1,6	-	1,9	10,9	-	-	-	6,9	15,4	66,7	45,5
<i>Erica scoparia</i>	-	2,9	3,3	-	29,6	7,3	-	-	-	34,5	7,7	16,7	-
<i>Narcissus triandrus</i>	-	5,9	4,9	-	1,9	-	7,1	-	-	1,7	15,4	-	9,1
<i>Anarrhinum durum</i>	-	-	-	-	24,1	-	-	-	-	3,4	38,5	66,7	9,1
<i>Ulex minor</i>	-	17,6	29,5	14,3	27,8	-	-	-	-	6,9	-	-	-
<i>Margotia gummifera</i>	-	-	-	-	5,6	1,8	-	-	-	3,4	-	16,7	-
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>	-	-	-	-	1,9	3,6	-	-	-	17,2	7,7	-	-
Taxa absent in Galician-Portuguese common-oak forests (Ra-Qr s.l.)													
<i>Dactylis hispanica</i>	66,7	-	-	28,6	38,9	23,6	-	-	12,5	79,3	69,2	100	54,5
<i>Lavandula pedunculata</i>	3,7	-	-	14,3	3,7	58,2	57,1	-	75,0	20,7	38,5	66,7	63,6
Differential taxa of mediterranean forests													
<i>Quercus ballota</i>	-	-	-	-	-	100	100	1	62,5	56,9	30,8	33,3	27,3
<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	30,9	-	-	37,5	44,8	69,2	66,7	36,4
<i>Cistus ladanifer</i>	-	-	-	-	-	23,6	21,4	-	37,5	24,1	23,1	16,7	63,6
<i>Cistus populifolius</i>	-	-	-	-	-	3,6	7,1	-	-	10,3	7,7	33,3	45,5
<i>Epipactis tremolsii</i>	-	-	-	-	-	5,5	7,1	-	-	5,2	23,1	16,7	9,1
<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	-	-	-	-	-	30,9	28,6	-	25,0	3,4	23,1	-	18,2
<i>Pimpinella villosa</i>	-	-	-	-	-	7,3	-	-	-	5,2	30,8	16,7	27,3
<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	20,0	21,4	-	12,5	22,4	30,8	-	54,5
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	9,1	-	-	-	3,4	15,4	16,7	9,1
<i>Conopodium marizianum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	5,5	7,1	-	-	5,2	46,2	-	27,3
<i>Bryonia dioica</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1,8	14,3	-	12,5	8,6	-	16,7	-
<i>Thymus mastichina</i>	-	-	-	-	-	32,7	14,3	-	25,0	-	7,7	-	18,2
<i>Cynosurus echinatus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	7,3	-	-	-	5,2	23,1	-	45,5
<i>Halimium viscosum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1,8	-	-	37,5	-	15,4	-	36,4
<i>Paeonia broteri</i>	-	-	-	-	-	10,9	-	-	12,5	-	15,4	-	-
<i>Jasminum fruticans</i>	-	-	-	-	-	5,5	-	-	12,5	-	7,7	-	-
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,7	15,4	-	36,4
<i>Torilis leptophylla</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,9	-	16,7	9,1
Exclusive taxa of Inner Galician and Bercian-Valdeorrese forests													
<i>Erica australis</i>	-	-	-	-	9,3	10,9	14,3	-	25,0	8,6	-	-	-
<i>Arum italicum</i>	-	-	-	-	5,6	1,8	7,1	-	12,5	8,6	-	-	-
<i>Genista hystrix</i>	-	-	-	-	-	27,3	21,4	-	12,5	5,2	-	-	-
<i>Rosa micrantha</i>	-	-	-	-	5,6	3,6	-	-	-	55,2	-	-	-
<i>Festuca merinoi</i>	-	-	-	-	-	40,0	14,3	-	-	3,4	-	-	-
<i>Thymus zygis</i>	-	-	-	-	-	5,5	7,1	-	25,0	-	-	-	-
<i>Cistus laurifolius</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1,8	7,1	-	25,0	-	-	-	-
<i>Halimium umbellatum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	14,5	-	-	37,5	-	-	-	-
Differential taxa of mediterranean forests absent in berciano-Valdeorrese typical cork-oak forests (Pc-Qs qs)													
<i>Lotus carpetanus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	10,9	21,4	-	-	-	53,8	-	9,1
<i>Quercus faginea</i>	-	-	-	-	-	10,9	-	-	-	-	46,2	16,7	100
<i>Sanguisorba verrucosa</i>	-	-	-	-	-	18,2	-	-	-	-	30,8	33,3	9,1
<i>Silene coutinhoi</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1,8	-	-	-	-	53,8	66,7	54,5
<i>Centaurea langei</i>	-	-	-	-	-	5,5	-	-	-	-	7,7	-	27,3
<i>Torilis purpurea</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1,8	-	-	-	-	7,7	-	18,2
<i>Moehringia pentandra</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,1	-	-	-	-	33,3	9,1
Exclusive taxa of northportuguese cork-oak forests (Pc-Qs qf and JI-Qs)													

Column	1	2a	2b	3a	3b	4a	4b	5a	5b	5c	6a	6b	7
<i>Euphorbia segetalis</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,4	-	9,1
<i>Q. faginea</i> x <i>Q. pyrenaica</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,4	-	-
<i>Daucus maritimus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,4	-	-
<i>Cytisus grandiflorus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,7	-	-
<i>Draba muralis</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,7	-	-
<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,7	-	-
<i>Euphorbia oxyphylla</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,7	-	-
<i>Thapsia nitida</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33,3	-
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,7	-
<i>Thapsia minor</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,7	-
<i>Echium lusitanicum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,7	-
<i>Juniperus lagunae</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
<i>Anthriscus caucalis</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,2
<i>Retama sphaerocarpa</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,2
<i>Dactylorhiza sulphurea</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,1
Characteristic taxa of class <i>Quercetea ilicis</i>													
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	11,1	8,8	29,5	57,1	66,7	63,6	64,3	2	37,5	81,0	84,6	100	90,9
<i>Erica arborea</i>	92,6	64,7	59,0	57,1	42,6	52,7	64,3	2	25,0	56,9	53,8	66,7	63,6
<i>Asplenium onopteris</i>	70,4	20,6	45,9	57,1	50,0	54,5	28,6	2	37,5	63,8	53,8	83,3	54,5
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	14,8	61,8	70,5	57,1	59,3	52,7	57,1	1	62,5	46,6	76,9	83,3	81,8
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	63,0	-	55,7	71,4	64,8	34,5	57,1	2	62,5	79,3	69,2	100	27,3
<i>Quercus suber</i>	100	-	31,1	100	100	-	100	5	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Osyris alba</i>	7,4	-	14,8	14,3	35,2	23,6	21,4	-	75,0	62,1	53,8	100	54,5
<i>Carex distachya</i>	33,3	-	1,6	14,3	24,1	25,5	7,1	-	-	37,9	46,2	100	36,4
Characteristic taxa of class <i>Querceto-Fagetea</i>													
<i>Arenaria montana</i>	100	26,5	55,7	57,1	72,2	43,6	28,6	1	25,0	65,5	30,8	83,3	54,5
<i>Lonicera hispanica</i>	55,6	94,1	82,0	57,1	74,1	43,6	35,7	1	37,5	75,9	46,2	100	18,2
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	92,6	91,2	86,9	71,4	92,6	38,2	42,9	1	12,5	60,3	46,2	83,3	54,5
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	11,1	14,7	37,7	14,3	40,7	47,3	50,0	-	37,5	50,0	23,1	100	18,2
<i>Dioscorea communis</i>	7,4	14,7	44,3	14,3	33,3	36,4	28,6	-	12,5	34,5	46,2	100	45,5
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	7,4	14,7	16,4	-	1,9	20,0	28,6	-	-	44,8	23,1	83,3	18,2
<i>Luzula forsteri</i>	18,5	5,9	26,2	-	18,5	18,2	7,1	-	-	25,9	38,5	66,7	63,6
<i>Euphorbia hyberna</i>	-	-	1,6	-	-	-	-	-	12,5	-	-	-	-
<i>Chamaeiris foetidissima</i>	-	-	-	-	1,9	-	-	-	-	1,7	-	-	-
<i>Hieracium murorum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1,8	-	-	-	1,7	-	-	-
Other widespread taxa													
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	81,5	88,2	86,9	71,4	77,8	20,0	7,1	2	25,0	27,6	23,1	33,3	9,1
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	25,9	14,7	42,6	42,9	24,1	32,7	42,9	-	12,5	34,5	46,2	83,3	36,4
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	44,4	29,4	26,2	-	40,7	16,4	35,7	+	25,0	32,8	23,1	33,3	18,2
<i>Andryala integrifolia</i>	3,7	2,9	4,9	-	9,3	25,5	21,4	-	25,0	25,9	23,1	16,7	36,4
<i>Cytisus multiflorus</i>	11,1	2,9	11,5	-	7,4	12,7	7,1	-	12,5	29,3	38,5	66,7	72,7
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	14,8	41,2	27,9	-	24,1	41,8	50,0	-	50,0	12,1	61,5	100	90,9
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	40,7	8,8	8,2	-	48,1	1,8	14,3	-	12,5	36,2	7,7	50,0	54,5
<i>Cytisus striatus</i>	48,1	17,6	31,1	42,9	22,2	-	7,1	-	12,5	36,2	7,7	16,7	9,1
<i>Briza maxima</i>	-	5,9	3,3	14,3	9,3	3,6	-	-	12,5	31,0	7,7	16,7	18,2
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	11,1	-	9,8	14,3	11,1	16,4	35,7	-	-	10,3	7,7	16,7	9,1
<i>Jasione montana</i>	33,3	2,9	4,9	-	3,7	18,2	14,3	-	37,5	10,3	15,4	-	18,2
<i>Origanum virens</i>	11,1	-	9,8	-	1,9	7,3	14,3	-	25,0	22,4	23,1	16,7	18,2
<i>Rubus</i> sp.	85,2	100	68,9	57,1	75,9	18,2	14,3	-	25,0	67,2	-	83,3	-
<i>Brachypodium rupestre</i>	51,9	17,6	23,0	57,1	57,4	16,4	-	-	-	19,0	-	33,3	9,1
<i>Hypericum linariifolium</i>	25,9	2,9	4,9	-	3,7	5,5	14,3	-	-	8,6	-	16,7	9,1
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	7,4	8,8	11,5	-	7,4	12,7	14,3	2	-	34,5	-	50,0	-
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	-	2,9	11,5	-	1,9	12,7	14,3	-	-	1,7	46,2	33,3	27,3
<i>Arrhenatherum bulbosum</i>	25,9	5,9	-	-	5,6	5,5	14,3	-	-	3,4	23,1	50,0	-
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	3,7	-	1,6	-	-	9,1	14,3	-	-	46,6	38,5	100	63,6
<i>Pinus pinaster</i>	-	2,9	4,9	-	29,6	1,8	-	-	12,5	19,0	15,4	33,3	-
<i>Sedum forsterianum</i>	7,4	-	-	-	5,6	25,5	14,3	-	-	13,8	30,8	50,0	36,4
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	-	38,2	16,4	14,3	11,1	32,7	28,6	-	-	1,7	-	-	-
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	-	-	3,3	-	-	5,5	7,1	-	12,5	5,2	-	16,7	9,1
<i>Galium aparine</i>	3,7	2,9	1,6	-	3,7	-	14,3	-	12,5	15,5	-	-	-
<i>Vicia angustifolia</i>	-	-	-	-	1,9	-	7,1	-	12,5	22,4	23,1	66,7	18,2

Sources of relevés:

Column 1: *Arenario montanae-Quercetum suberis*, new relevés: synthetic column from Appendix I: table 1 (Supplemental Material). **Column 2a:** *Rusco aculaeti-Quercetum roboris* subass. *violetosum riviniana*: Amigo & Romero (1994): Table 6: rel. 1, 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, and 17; Amigo et al. (1998): Table 2: rel. 1 to 12 and 14 to 16; Braun-Blanquet (1956): Table I: rel. n° 822; Dantas Barreto (1958): Quadro XXIV: rel. 6, 24 and 37; Honrado (2003): Table 11.3.: rel. 1 and 2; Pulgar Sañudo (1999): Table 2: rel. 14 and 18 to 20. **Column 2b:** *Rusco aculeati-Quercetum roboris* subass. *arbutetosum unedonis*: Amigo & Romero (1994): Table 6: rel. 2 to 5, 7 to 9, 13 and 19; Amigo et al. (1998): Table 2: rel. 13; Amigo et al. (1998): Table 3: rel. 1 to 14 and 16 to 18; Dantas Barreto (1958): Quadro XXIV: rel. 5, 25, 31, 32

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2
3 and 36; Honrado (2003): Table 11.3.: rel. 3; Honrado (2003): Table 11.4.: rel. 1 to 4 and 7 to 12; Pulgar (1999): Table 2:
4 rel. 1 to 7, 9 to 13 and 15 to 17; Rivas Goday (1950): Table p. 451-453: rel. 1 to 3. **Column 3a:** *Hedero hibernicae-*
5 *Quercetum suberis*, published relevés (reinterpreted here); Amigo & Romero (1994): Table 6: rel. 18; Amigo et al. (1998):
6 Table 3: rel. 15 and 19; Honrado (2003): Table 11.4.: rel. 5 and 6; Izco et al. (1990): Table IV: rel. 9; Pulgar (1999): Table
7 2: rel. 8. **Column 3b:** *Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum suberis*, new relevés: synthetic column from Appendix I: table 2
8 (Supplemental Material). **Column 4a:** *Genisto hystricis-Quercetum rotundifoliae* typical variant (published relevés):
9 Fuente García & Morla Juaristi (1986): Table 1: rel. 1 to 6; Aguiar (2000): Table 123: rel. 1 to 12; González de Paz (2012):
10 Table 6.113: rel. 11 to 18; Izco et al. (1990): Table IV: rel. 1 to 7 and 10; Ortiz (1997): Table 3: rel. 1 to 12; Romero Buján
11 (1993): Table p. 140: rel. 4; Romero Rodríguez & Romero Cuenca (1996): Table 6: rel. 1 to 6; Romero Rodríguez &
12 Romero Cuenca (2004): Table 6: rel. 1 and 2. **Column 4b:** *Genisto hystricis-Quercetum rotundifoliae Quercus suber*
13 variant (published relevés reinterpreted here); Fuente García & Morla Juaristi (1986): Table 1: rel. 7, 9 and 10; González
14 de Paz (2012): Table 6.113: rel. 1, 2, 4 and 6 to 10; Izco et al. (1990): Table IV: rel. 8; Romero Rodríguez & Romero
15 Cuenca (2004): Table 6: rel. 3 and 4. **Column 5a:** *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* (holotypus ass.); Rivas-
16 Martínez (1987): rel. pag. 163. **Column 5b:** *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum suberis*
17 (published relevés): Fuente García & Morla Juaristi (1986): Table 1: rel. 8 and 11; González de Paz (2012): Tabla 6.113:
18 rel. 3 and 5; Izco et al. (1990): Table IV: rel. 11; Romero Rodríguez & Romero Cuenca (1996): Table 9: rel. 1 to 3.
19 **Column 5c:** *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum suberis* (new relevés): synthetic column
20 from Appendix I: table 3 (Supplemental Material). **Column 6a:** *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass.
21 *quercetosum fagineae* (published relevés): Aguiar et al. (2003): Quadro 1: rel. 1 to 9; Monteiro-Henriques (2010): Table
22 35: rel. 1 to 4. **Column 6b:** *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum fagineae* (new relevés):
23 synthetic column from Appendix I: table 4 (Supplemental Material). **Column 7:** *Juniperus lagunae-Quercetum suberis*
24 (published relevés): Aguiar et al. (2003): Quadro 2: rel. 1 to 10; Rivas-Martínez et al. (2002): rel. page 123.
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Online supplement**Supplemental material – Appendix I****List of tables:****Table 1.** *Arenario montanae-Quercetum suberis* ass. nova**Table 2.** *Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum suberis* stat. novo**Table 3.** *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subas. *quercetosum suberis***Table 4.** *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subas. *quercetosum fagineae*

Acronyms for Lithology: GR: granitic rocks (granitoids, acid gneisses), AMR: acid metamorphic rocks (slates, sandstones, quartzites), BMR: basic metamorphic rocks (amphibolites, eclogites, gabbros, green schists, serpentinites), CS: Cenozoic (Tertiary and Quaternary) detritic sediments.

The last cell of the row labeled "Number of taxa" in each table contains the average value.

Relevé number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	F
1 <i>Crepis lampsanoides</i>	+	r	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	11,1
2 <i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	+	+	.	.	.	+	11,1
3 <i>Hieracium umbellatum</i>	+	+	11,1
4 Character taxa of class <i>Salici-Populetea</i>																												
5 <i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	.	+	+	2	.	1	.	1	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	+	.	+	1	.	1	+	+	48,1
6 Other taxa																												
7 <i>Rubus</i> sp.	1	1	+	1	+	r	.	2	.	+	3	2	4	.	1	+	2	1	2	r	1	3	3	3	1	+	.	85,2
8 <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	+	3	+	+	+	3	1	.	+	4	.	2	.	4	.	1	2	1	.	1	1	1	4	1	+	+	+	81,5
9 <i>Glandora prostrata</i>	.	.	+	1	2	+	1	+	1	1	1	+	+	1	1	1	.	.	+	1	+	.	.	.	+	+	+	74,1
10 <i>Erica cinerea</i>	.	.	+	1	1	.	3	.	3	+	+	.	.	1	1	1	.	+	+	.	+	r	.	+	+	+	1	66,7
11 <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	.	1	+	2	.	+	.	+	+	+	+	.	+	.	1	1	.	+	+	.	1	+	.	+	+	.	+	66,7
12 <i>Daboecia cantabrica</i>	.	.	+	.	.	.	+	.	1	1	.	1	+	1	1	+	.	1	1	1	1	.	.	+	r	.	+	59,3
13 <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	.	1	.	1	.	.	+	+	.	.	1	.	+	+	+	1	+	.	+	.	.	1	.	1	+	+	+	59,3
14 <i>Asplenium ad.-nigrum</i>	+	.	+	+	.	.	+	1	+	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	+	+	+	+	.	+	+	55,6
15 <i>Brachypodium rupestre</i>	.	1	.	.	+	1	.	.	+	1	.	+	+	.	+	1	.	.	1	1	+	.	+	.	.	.	+	51,9
16 <i>Cytisus striatus</i>	.	.	1	1	.	1	.	+	1	.	.	.	.	.	r	+	.	+	+	.	+	+	+	.	.	r	.	48,1
17 <i>Carex pilulifera</i>	+	.	+	+	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	+	+	.	.	+	+	.	.	+	+	+	44,4
18 <i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	.	+	.	+	.	+	+	+	.	+	r	+	.	.	.	+	+	r	+	44,4
19 <i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	1	.	.	.	+	.	+	+	.	.	.	.	+	.	+	+	.	.	.	.	+	+	.	+	+	.	.	40,7
20 <i>Linaria triornithophora</i>	.	.	+	.	.	+	+	+	+	.	.	40,7
21 <i>Jasione montana</i>	.	+	.	+	+	+	+	+	.	33,3
22 <i>Asplenium billoti</i>	r	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	33,3
23 <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	1	.	3	1	.	.	.	.	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	1	.	.	.	+	29,6
24 <i>Arrhenatherum bulbosum</i>	.	1	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	+	.	.	25,9
25 <i>Danthonia decumbens</i>	+	+	.	+	1	+	29,6
26 <i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	+	.	.	+	+	25,9
27 <i>Hypericum linariifolium</i>	.	.	+	+	+	r	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	25,9
28 <i>Silene nutans</i>	.	.	.	1	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	22,2
29 <i>Anarrhinum bellidifolium</i>	+	.	+	18,5
30 <i>Lamium maculatum</i>	.	r	.	+	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	18,5
31 <i>Rumex acetosa</i>	.	+	.	+	.	r	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	18,5
32 <i>Anthoxanthum amarum</i>	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	11,1
33 <i>Vitis vinifera</i>	.	+	11,1
34 <i>Omphalodes nitida</i>	.	.	+	.	.	+	.	+	11,1
35 <i>Origanum virens</i>	+	.	.	+	+	11,1
36 <i>Silene vulgaris</i>	+	11,1
37 <i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	+	.	.	+	r	11,1

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38 **Taxa of low frequency (present only in 1 or 2 relevés): character taxa of class *Quercu-Fagetea*:** *Dioscorea communis*: + in 5 and + in 16;
39 *Monotropa hypopitys*: + in 26; *Veronica officinalis*: + in 24. **Character taxa of class *Salici-Populetea*:** *Brachypodium sylvaticum*: + in 16 and + in
40 18; *Scrophularia scorodonia*: + in 8. **Other taxa:** *Andryala integrifolia*: 1 in 9; *Briza minor*: 1 in 9; *Calamintha nepeta*: 1 in 11; *Carex divulsa*: + in 6
41 and + in 18; *Carex muricata*: + in 11 and + in 15; *Centranthus calcitrapae*: + in 2; *Coincya monensis*: + in 2; *Epilobium lanceolatum*: + in 11;
42 *Erysimum linifolium*: + in 9; *Eupatorium cannabinum*: r in 6; *Fallopia convolvulus*: r in 2; *Festuca* sp.: 1 in 4; *Galium aparine*: + in 24; *Galium mollugo*:
43 + in 15; *Galium saxatile*: + in 25; *Galium* sp.: + in 10; *Geranium purpureum*: r in 15; *Geranium robertianum*: + in 5; *Halimium alyssoides*: 1 in 5 and +
44 in 9; *Holcus lanatus*: + in 20; *Lavandula pedunculata*: + in 9; *Leucanthemum* sp.: + in 2; *Lotus corniculatus*: + in 4 and + in 9; *Picris longifolia*: + in
45 16; *Plantago lanceolata*: r in 9; *Polypodium cambricum*: 1 in 1; *Prunella vulgaris*: + in 3; *Pseudarrhenatherum longifolium*: 2 in 20; *Rumex acetosella*:
46 + in 27; *Sedum forsterianum*: + in 4 and + in 5; *Sedum hirsutum*: + in 7 and r in 9; *Vicia tetrasperma*: + in 4 and 1 in 5; *Vinca major*: 1 in 16.

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48 **Localities, all relevés from Spain (UTM coordinates square 1x1 km, datum ETRS 89, 29T):**
49 **1:** Lu: A Fonsagrada, between Vilarín de Baxo and Casa da Rebordela (660/4774); **2:** Lu: A Fonsagrada, between A Armila and Chao da Leira
50 (664/4777); **3:** Lu: A Fonsagrada, between A Armila and Chao da Leira (666/4771); **4:** As: Ábias, Riodeporcos (667/4771); **5:** As: Ábias,
51 Riodeporcos, above the village (667/4771); **6:** Lu: Negueira de Muñiz, A Seira (672/4779); **7:** Lu: Negueira de Muñiz, A Seira (672/4779); **8:**
52 Lu: Negueira de Muñiz, Foxo (672/4778); **9:** Lu: Negueira de Muñiz, Entralgo, above the track to Sanformar (673/4781); **10:** Lu: Negueira de
53 Muñiz, Entralgo, above the village (673/4781); **11:** As: Pesoz, Pelorde (674/4794); **12:** As: Illano, Cedemonio (675/4804); **13:** As: Illano, San
54 Esteban de los Buitres (675/4798); **14:** As: Illano, close to the viewpoint of San Esteban de los Buitres (675/4798); **15:** As: Illano, Cernias
55 (676/4796); **16:** As: Illano, Tamagordas (676/4795), **holotypus**; **17:** As: Illano, Vallinas (676/4792); **18:** As: Illano, between San Emiliano and
56 Vallinas (676/4792); **19:** As: Illano, Sarzol (676/4798); **20:** As: Illano, Tamagordas (676/4795); **21:** As: Illano, La Quintana (677/4792); **22:**
57 As: Illano, La Quintana (677/4792); **23:** As: Pola de Allande, San Salvador de Valledor (678/4780); **24:** As: Pola de Allande, Beveraso
58 (678/4793); **25:** As: Pola de Allande, Sufreiral de Boxo (679/4794); **26:** As: Pola de Allande, Sufreiral de Boxo (679/4794); **27:** As: Pola de
59 Allande, Is (681/4794).

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Table 4. *Physospermo cornubiensis-Quercetum suberis* subass. *quercetosum fagineae* (*Quercenion broteroi*, *Quercion broteroi*, *Quercetalia ilicis*, *Quercetea ilicis*)

Relevé number	1	2	3	4	5	6	F
Altitude (m)	500	505	490	595	610	408	r
Slope (°)	22	42	28	20	24	16	e
Exposition	NNE	SE	W	WNW	W	E	q
Lithology	GR	GR	GR	GR	GR	GR	u
Alt. E1 (m)	10	10-18	10-14	10-14	14-18	10-14	e
Cover E1 (%)	85	90	90	90	90	85	n
Cover E2 (%)	30	50	20	45	30	35	c
Cover E3 (%)	70	95	70	80	75	90	y
Plot area (m ²)	400	500	500	400	400	300	
Number of taxa	35	38	57	50	46	43	44,8
E1 (>4,0 m) + E2 (>1,5-4,0 m)							
<i>Quercus suber</i>	5	4	5	5	5	5	100
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	1	2	1	3	2	1	100
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	+	1	+	1	1	2	100
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	1	+	1	1	+	1	100
<i>Quercus pyrenaica</i>	1	1	1	1	.	+	83,3
<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	1	2	.	2	.	1	66,7
<i>Erica arborea</i>	1	.	+	+	+	.	66,7
<i>Cytisus multiflorus</i>	.	.	1	+	1	+	66,7
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	1	.	.	.	1	.	33,3
<i>Prunus avium</i>	1	.	.	.	.	+	33,3
<i>Pinus pinaster</i>	.	.	+	1	.	.	33,3
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	.	.	.	.	2	.	16,7
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	.	.	.	.	1	.	16,7
<i>Cytisus striatus</i>	.	.	.	.	.	1	16,7
Differential taxa to typical subass.							
<i>Silene coutinhoi</i>	+	+	+	+	.	.	66,7
<i>Thapsia nitida</i>	.	+	+	.	.	.	33,3
<i>Moehringia pentandra</i>	.	.	+	+	.	.	33,3
<i>Sanguisorba verrucosa</i>	.	.	.	.	+	+	33,3
<i>Quercus faginea</i>	.	.	1	.	.	.	16,7
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	.	.	.	.	.	+	16,7
<i>Echium lusitanicum</i>	.	.	.	.	.	+	16,7
Differential taxa to <i>Arenario montanae-Quercetum suberis</i> * and <i>Hedero hibernicae-Quercetum suberis</i> **							
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i> *	+	+	1	+	1	+	100
<i>Dactylis hispanica</i> *	+	+	1	1	1	+	100
<i>Daphne gnidium</i> *	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
<i>Thapsia villosa</i> *	+	+	+	1	.	+	83,3
<i>Anarrhinum durimum</i> *	+	1	+	1	.	.	66,7
<i>Aristolochia paucinervis</i> *	.	1	+	.	+	+	66,7
<i>Genista falcata</i> *	.	+	+	1	+	.	66,7
<i>Rosa deseglisei</i> * **	+	1	+	1	.	.	66,7
<i>Quercus rotundifolia</i> * **	.	2	.	1	.	.	33,3
<i>Cistus populifolius</i> * **	.	+	+	.	.	.	33,3
<i>Cistus psilosepalus</i> *	.	.	+	.	+	.	33,3
<i>Cistus ladanifer</i> * **	.	.	+	.	.	.	16,7
<i>Erica scoparia</i> *	.	.	+	.	.	.	16,7
E3 (<1,5 m):							
Character taxa of association and upper units							
<i>Osyris alba</i>	1	2	1	1	+	+	100
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	2	2	1	1	1	1	100
<i>Carex distachya</i>	1	2	2	1	1	+	100
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	3	4	2	2	.	1	83,3
<i>Asplenium onopteris</i>	2	2	1	2	1	.	83,3
Character taxa of class <i>Querco-Fagetea</i>							
<i>Dioscorea communis</i>	1	3	2	1	1	+	100
<i>Lonicera hispanica</i>	1	1	+	+	+	2	100

Relevé number	1	2	3	4	5	6	F
<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	1	4	.	2	1	3	83,3
<i>Holcus mollis</i>	+	+	+	1	.	2	83,3
<i>Arenaria montana</i>	1	+	.	1	+	1	83,3
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	1	+	+	+	+	.	83,3
<i>Luzula forsteri</i>	.	.	1	+	+	+	66,7
Character taxa of class Salici-Populetea							
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	.	1	1	1	1	+	83,3
Other taxa							
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	+	+	1	1	1	+	100
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	.	+	1	1	+	1	83,3
<i>Rubus</i> sp.	.	1	+	1	+	1	83,3
<i>Vicia angustifolia</i>	+	.	+	+	+	.	66,7
<i>Lavandula pedunculata</i>	.	+	+	+	+	.	66,7
<i>Arrhenatherum bulbosum</i>	+	.	+	+	.	.	50,0
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	+	.	+	+	.	.	50,0
<i>Galium mollugo</i>	.	+	+	+	.	.	50,0
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	.	.	+	+	+	.	50,0
<i>Sedum forsterianum</i>	.	.	+	+	+	.	50,0
<i>Silene latifolia</i>	.	.	+	.	+	+	50,0
<i>Senecio lividus</i>	r	.	+	+	.	.	50,0

Taxa of low frequency: character taxa of class Quercu-Fagetea: *Cephalanthera longifolia*: + in 3; *Epipactis tremolsii*: + in 5; *Orobanchis niger*: + in 5; *Polypodium vulgare*: 1 in 4; *Primula acaulis*: r in 5. **Character taxa of class Salici-Populetea:** *Bryonia dioica*: + in 6. **Other taxa:** *Agrostis capillaris*: + in 6; *Aira caryophylla*: + in 3; *Andryala integrifolia*: + in 3; *Asphodelus lusitanicus*: + in 1 and + in 5; *Asplenium trichomanes*: + in 2; *Avenula sulcata*: + in 6; *Brachypodium rupestre*: + in 1 and + in 2; *Briza máxima*: + in 6; *Bromus rigidus*: + in 1; *Cardamine hirsuta*: + in 4; *Carlina vulgaris*: + in 5; *Cerastium glomeratum*: r in 4; *Digitalis purpurea*: + in 4 and + in 6; *Galium papillosum*: + in 3; *Geranium lucidum*: + in 2; *Geranium robertianum*: + in 6; *Geum sylvaticum*: 1 in 5; *Glandora prostrata*: 1 in 6; *Hypericum linariifolium*: + in 3; *Hypochaeris radicata*: 1 in 3 and + in 4; *Lactuca* sp.: + in 6; *Lactuca viminea*: r in 5; *Margotia gummifera*: + in 6; *Origanum virens*: + in 5; *Orobanchis rapum-genistae*: + in 6; *Pimpinella villosa*: + in 4; *Pteridium aquilinum*: + in 3 and 1 in 5; *Ranunculus bulbosus*: 1 in 3; *Rumex acetosa*: r in 5; *Sedum hirsutum*: + in 3; *Thapsia minor*: 1 in 4; *Torilis leptophylla*: + in 3; *Trifolium médium*: + in 5.

Localities, all relevés from Portugal (UTM coordinates, datum ETRS 89, 29T): 1: Vila Real, Chaves, San Pedro de Agostém, road to Loivos, in front to Escariz (625/4613); 2: Vila Real, Chaves, between Quintela de Touse and Loivos (624/4609); 3: Vila Real, Chaves, Seixo (625/4612); 4: Vila Real, Chaves, Vila do Conde, road to Cubas (622/4605); 5: Vila Real, Vila Pouca de Aguiar, Valoura (621/4602); 6: Vila Real, Chaves, Vidago, Quintela de Chaminé (617/4612).