

PST12 - An overview of the Iberian aquatic and wetland vegetation

Molina, J.A.^a

^aDepartamento de Biología Vegetal II, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid, Spain

A review of the aquatic and marsh vegetation in the Iberian Peninsula is here presented. The following nine main vegetation types are recognized. Aquatic vegetation including (1) free-submerged plant communities even occasionally anchored to the bottom and (2) rooted plant communities. (3) Soft-water amphibious vegetation constituted by isoetid and other soft-water plants occurring in high-mountain and lowland freshwater bodies. (4) Spring vegetation including plant communities growing in springs and spring-brooks in open habitats or under forests. (5) Helophytic vegetation encompassing tall reed-swamps, tall sedge vegetation, tall herb vegetation on alluvial soils, and water-margin vegetation dominated by low dicots or monocots. (6) Mire and fen vegetation comprising low sedge vegetation of transition mires, calcareous fens and flushes, lowland Atlantic mire vegetation, pioneer peat-moss vegetation on oligo-dystrophic soils, and pioneer basophilous communities in the alpine belt. (7) Peat-forming vegetation of ombrotrophic mires and wet heaths which is restricted to the rainier north-western quadrat of the Iberian Peninsula. (8) Mediterranean and Atlantic ephemeral amphibious vegetation gathering ephemeral isoetid vegetation, vegetation of dwarf pioneer plants, grass vegetation, calcicolous vegetation, late-growth vegetation, and vegetation of low perennial herbs. Finally, (9) the vegetation of annual nitrophilous wetland herbs completes this overview.