

Improvement of evaluation of the extinction risks of the French wild orchids using citizen science's shared data

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Almost ten years after the first French national orchid Redlist 2009' publication, a new extinction risk assessment has been carried out using citizen science data shared through the Orchisauvage Website-based project. Observers have shared in real time about 400 000 records since the launch of the project, 4 years ago, almost the same amount than the ones accumulated during the 30 years prior 2009.

In comparison with the previous assessment, the distribution obtained in this new one is slightly less dense but the quality of the information is higher thanks to a –in real time- validation process. It appears that many indicators show an increase: the distribution in altitude has extended for most species, as well as the today known range of the blooming periods, or the extent of occurrence. This may result from a better knowledge, or a consequence of the extension of the species distributions, mostly for Mediterranean species, or the decrease of others, due to threats.

Evolution of the risk extinction level using IUCN categories and criteria guidelines is therefore proposed for some species. The strengths and the consequences of using shared citizen's data are presented and discussed.