

Heliotropium curassavicum

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Lamiales	Boraginaceae

Common name seaside heliotrope (English), seashore heliotrope (English), salt heliotrope (English), quail plant (English), eyebright (English)

Synonym

Similar species

Summary

Heliotropium curassavicum occurs in dense monospecific stands and colonizes disturbed habitats. A stand comprises of two levels of populations: one of individuals that have developed from seed and a second one, vegetatively developed from shoots and buds from individuals. The reproductive ability of *H. curassavicum* to shift from vegetative to sexual reproduction and vice versa (correlated to temperature, moisture content of the soil and level of disturbance and openness of the disturbed habitat) may be important factor in determining its ability to colonize disturbed habitats.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

Notes

Three subspecies are listed as direct children: *Heliotropium curassavicum* var. *curassavicum* L. (salt heliotrope); *Heliotropium curassavicum* var. *obovatum* DC. (seaside heliotrope) and *Heliotropium curassavicum* var. *oculatum* (Heller) I.M. Johnston (seaside heliotrope) (ITIS, 2010)

Uses

Medicines: folklore (USDA-ARS, 2010)

Reproduction

Heliotropium curassavicum occurs in dense monospecific stands. A stand comprises of two levels of populations: one of individuals that have developed from seed and a second one, vegetatively developed from shoots and buds from individuals (Hegazy 1994). Hegazy (1994) reports that once a habitat is colonized seed germination could be inhibited in the closed areas and the stand is sustained by vegetative reproduction. Hegazy (1994) found that reproductive ability of *H. curassavicum* to shift from vegetative to sexual reproduction and vice versa is correlated to temperature, moisture content of the soil and level of disturbance and openness of the disturbed habitat.

General Impacts

Heliotropium curassavicum occurs in dense monospecific stands. A stand comprises of two levels of populations: one of individuals that have developed from seed and a second one, vegetatively developed from shoots and buds from individuals (Hegazy 1994). Hegazy (1994) reports that once a habitat is colonized seed germination could be inhibited in the closed areas and the stand is sustained by vegetative reproduction. Hegazy (1994) found that reproductive ability of *H. curassavicum* to shift from vegetative to sexual reproduction and vice versa is correlated to temperature, moisture content of the soil and level of disturbance and openness of the disturbed habitat may be important factor in determining its ability to colonize disturbed habitats.



GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: *Heliotropium curassavicum*

Principal source:

Compiler: IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:

Publication date: 2010-06-08

ALIEN RANGE

[1] ANGUILLA
[1] GREECE
[1] MOROCCO

[1] EGYPT
[1] INDIA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

10 references found for *Heliotropium curassavicum*

Management information

[IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group \(ISSG\), 2010. A Compilation of Information Sources for Conservation Managers.](#)

Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.

General information

Babalonas, D., 1977. 2: American plants species imported into Greece *Cenchrus pauciflorus* new record and *Heliotropium curassavicum* new record. *Annales Musei Goulandris*.(3). 1977. 19-22.

Summary: *C. pauciflorus* (L.) Benth. (Gramineae), a North American species, is recorded for the first time in Greece, from W Thrace. *H. curassavicum* [Boraginaceae], a widespread American coastal species, is recorded for Greece in west Thrace far north of the previously known locality in Attica.

Dobignard, Alain, 1997. New observations on the flora of Morocco. 3. *Candollea*. 52(1). 1997. 119-157.

Hegazy, Ahmad K., 1994. Trade-off between sexual and vegetative reproduction of the weedy *Heliotropium curassavicum*. *Journal of Arid Environments*. 27(3). 1994. 209-220.

[Integrated Taxonomic Information System \(ITIS\), 2010. *Heliotropium curassavicum* L.](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=31635 [Accessed 26 July 2010]

Miranda de Melo, Jose Iranildo; Semir, Joao, 2008. Taxonomy of the genus *Heliotropium* L. (Heliotropiaceae) in Brazil. *Acta Botanica Brasiliica*. 22(3). JUL-SEP 2008. 754-770.

Swain, P. K.; Rao, N. Rama; Pattanaik, Chiranjibi, 2009. Mangrove forest cover of Visakhapatnam coast is under threat. *Current Science* (Bangalore). 97(8). OCT 25 2009. 1112-1113.

[USDA, ARS, 2010. Taxon: *Heliotropium curassavicum* L. National Genetic Resources Program. Germplasm Resources Information Network - \(GRIN\) \[Online Database\]. National Germplasm Resources Laboratory, Beltsville, Maryland.](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/html/taxon.pl?18822> [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[USDA, NRCS, 2010. *Heliotropium curassavicum* L. salt heliotrope. The PLANTS Database \(<http://plants.usda.gov>, 3 September 2010\). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=HECU3> [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[Varnham, K 2006. Non-native species in UK Overseas Territories: a review JNCC Report No. 372](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.caymanbiodiversity.com/wp-content/uploads/2007/10/jncc372_web.pdf [Accessed 9 April 2010]