



# **Current status of *Vitis Vinifera* *Sylvestris* in Albania**

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**Increasing the efficiency of conservation of wild grapevine genetic resources in Europe (InWiGrape project)**

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# Current status of *Vitis Vinifera Sylvestris* in Albania

- WG represent one of the most ancient and disseminated species in Albania
- WG grows spontaneously in the riverbanks, forests accompanied by ash-tree, oak, cornel, wild apple , wild pear, mulberry etc
- It is often called :“Larushk”, “Grape of Bird”

# Current status of *Vitis Vinifera* *Sylvestris* in Albania

- The exploration of *V.vinifera Sylvestris* germplasm started in 2003 with the organized missions under the Project “Exploration, Collection and Conservation of Wild Fruit Genetic Resources” financed by MES ( Ministry of Education and Science).
- After that, there were undertaken other missions of exploration under the Project “Identification, conservation and characterization of *Vitis vinifera* ssp *sylvestris* germplasm in the Region of South East Europe” financed by SEED-Net.

# Summarize of the results from bibliography

**The results of the studies and projects have shown that:**

- The state of WG is currently threatened due to habitat loss and strong human influences.
- Large quantities of the WG in Albania were identified as lianas climbing on the trees near the river of Osum, Shkumbin, Vjosa, Mat, Drin.

# Summarize of the results from bibliography

- From 17 localities investigated, there are found 97 plants and most of them are lianas climbing on the trees.
- All the plants ( lianas) found are fixed by GPS. All of the sites are not situated in protected areas and therefore, *Vitis vinifera sylvestris* is even more endangered in these unprotected localities.

# Summarize of the results from bibliography

- An ampelographic and ampelometric study was carried out during 2009-2013 in three wild grapevine populations, located in three river basins.
- Plants of the wild grapevine populations belonging to Shkreli, Drini, and Mati Valleys, were compared by means of flower, bunch berry and mature leaf characters.

# Current status of *Vitis Vinifera Sylvestris* in Albania

- Up to now, there are only 24 individuals in our Field Collection
- The need for conservation, for distribution maps of our territory in mode to aid in the protection of WG is urgent.



**Thank you**