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PHYLLITIS HYBRIDA (MILDE) C. CHRIST.
NEW TO THE ISLAND OF CRES

BERNARDINO CARPENĀ

(I. T. A. S. »Cerletti«, Conegliano)

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The paper gives information about a new locality of the species *Phyllitis hybrida* (Milde) C. Christ, on the island of Cres.

This very interesting north Adriatic endemic fern is found in the southern part of the island, in Smrečje area.

»Rare it is also (*Phyllitis scolopendrium*) in nearby Lussino, where I know it to exist in one or two places not mentioned in Haracic's work, which considers only *Scolopendrium hybridum* Milde, and missing in Cherso, or at any rate not yet found«. Thus stated A. Beguinot on the margin of the work of C. Marchesetti (1930) about the flora of Cres.

In fact, even if the botanic exploration of the island had begun fairly early with a first description by the Abbot Fortis (1771), *Phyllitis hybrida* (Milde) C. Christ. had not yet been found. This in spite of further more systematic studies by Hirc (1913, 1916), Lusina (1922) and Marchesetti (c. w.), with an almost contemporary phytosociological work by Morton (1932—34).

Actually, in nearby Lošinj it was already fairly abundant at that time, as discovered by Reichardt (1863) and described by Milde (1864). This is particularly true in the southern part of the island, although it appears also further north, at the foot of mount Osor.

The last sites discovered by Domac and Devidé (1954) in the rock Grebeni and by Trinajstić and Lovrić (1971) in Krk are at the edges of the distribution area.

As in Lošinj, it is equally abundant in Rab, particularly on the city walls.

It was therefore logical to expect to find it in the southern part of Cres, phytogeographically homogeneous with Rab and Lošinj (in the dominion of *Quercion ilicis*). It is in fact here that I found it on 08. 12. 1982, on the northern wall of a rustic construction, in the hamlet of Smrečje (Fig. 1), in the clefts of the stones of which it is built, in association with *Asplenium trichomanes* (Fig. 2).

The plant I found in this site was the one and only, although I carefully explored the surrounding territory in following periods.

This station, new to the island of Cres, is in a zone at more or less the same distance (3 km ca.) from the sea all round, in a dolina at approx. 50 m o. s. l.

The above data are actually of some interest because, as indeed in the following other stations, the fern is found in clefts of calcareous rock (Osiri); in clefts of dry stone walls (Valdarce); or in masonry constructions (Mali Lošinj docks) and are at all times exposed to northerly cold winds (Bora). However, as opposed to these, the fern is never found in proximity of the sea, exposed to sea-salt.

Martinoli (1853) gave a certain importance to the ecological data regarding the stations in order to explain the origin of this particular north-Adriatic endemic fern.

The caryological study of *Phyllitis hybrida* induced Manton (1950) to suggest, among other considerations, the existence of a new species of *Ceterach* with $n = 36$ as a probable parent of *Phyllitis hybrida*. It was in fact exactly following the chromosomic study of this fern that one arrived at the elegant discovery of modern cytotaxonomy. This happened when Vida (1963) identified *Ceterach javorkeanum*, phenotypically very similar to *C. officinarum*, but with exactly $n = 36$.

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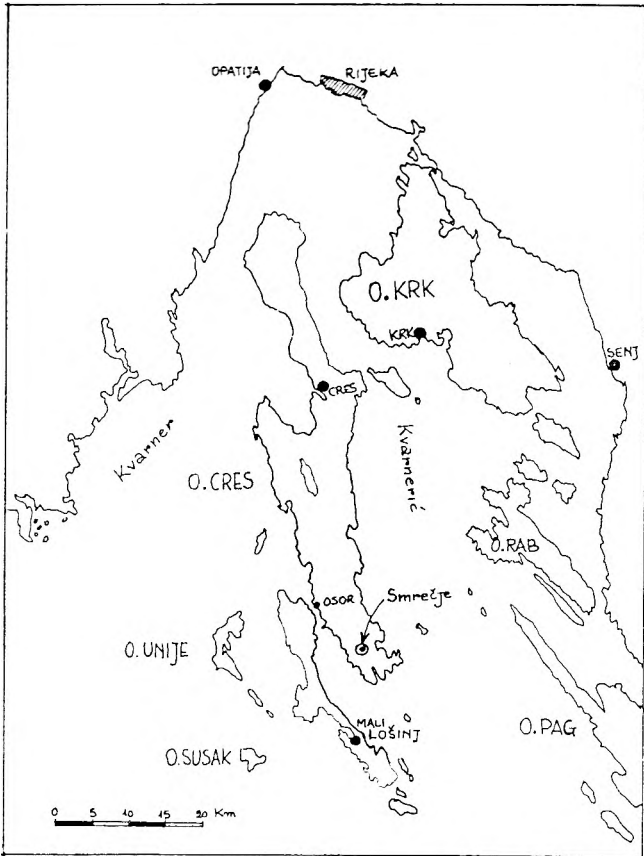


Fig. 1. A New locality of *Phyllitis hybrida* in Smrečje (Island of Cres)



Fig. 2. *Phyllitis hybrida* (Smreĉje, 08. 12. 1982)

SAŽETAK

NOVO NALAZIŠTE VRSTE *PHYLLITIS HYBRIDA* (MILDE) C. CHRIST.
NA OTOKU CRESU

Bernardino Carpenè

(I. T. A. S. »Cerletti« via XXVIII Aprile I-31015 Conegliano)

Članak donosi obavijest o novom nalazištu vrste *Phyllitis hybrida* (Milde) C. Christ. na otoku Cresu.

Zanimljivi sjevernojadranski endem nađen je na južnom dijelu Cresa, na lokalitetu Smrečje, što je prvo nalazište na tom otoku.

Bernardino Carpenè
I. T. A. S. »Cerletti«
via XXVIII Aprile
I-31015 Conegliano