

# *Silybum marianum*

## Habitus and growth type

Plant height [m]: **0.91**  
Life span: **Annual, Biennial or short-lived**  
Life form: **Hemicryptophyte, Therophyte**  
Spinescence: **spinescent**

## Leaf

Specific leaf area [mm<sup>2</sup>/mg]: **13.33**

## Flower

Flowering period: **May-August**

## Fruit, seed and dispersal

Seed mass [mg]: **23.48**  
Dispersal mode: **Myrmecochory, Anthropochory**  
Dispersal distance class: **3, 7**

## Trophic mode

Parasitism and mycoheterotrophy: **autotroph**  
Carnivory: **non-carnivorous**  
Symbiotic nitrogen fixation: **no nitrogen-fixing symbionts**

## Taxon origin

Origin in Europe: **Native**

## Ecology

### Environmental relationships

Substrate humidity relationship: **Dry**  
Substrate reaction relationship: **Alkaline**  
Nutrient relationship: **Eutrophic**  
Salinity relationship: **Slightly saline or brackish**  
Ellenberg-type indicator values  
Light indicator value: **8.2**  
Temperature indicator value: **8.5**  
Moisture indicator value: **3.7**  
Reaction indicator value: **7.2**  
Nutrient indicator value: **7**  
Salinity indicator value: **0.6**  
Disturbance indicator values

Disturbance frequency: **1.27**  
Disturbance frequency (herb layer): **1.76**  
Disturbance severity: **0.81**  
Disturbance severity (herb layer): **0.78**  
Mowing frequency: **0.39**  
Grazing pressure: **0.23**  
Soil disturbance: **0.42**

## Habitat and sociology

### Syntaxon

Diagnostic species of phytosociological classes: [QF \(ART\) Artemisietea vulgaris](#)

### EUNIS habitat

Diagnostic species of EUNIS habitats: [V33 Dry Mediterranean land with unpalatable non-vernal herbaceous vegetation](#)

Constant species of EUNIS habitats: [V33 Dry Mediterranean land with unpalatable non-vernal herbaceous vegetation](#)

Dominant species of EUNIS habitats: [V33 Dry Mediterranean land with unpalatable non-vernal herbaceous vegetation](#)

### Broad habitat

Occurrence in broad habitats: **Scrub, Sparsely vegetated (incl. rock and scree), Synanthropic**

## Distribution

Continentality amplitude: 7