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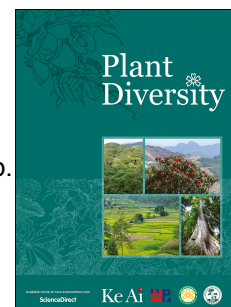
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Iran Supports A Great Share of Biodiversity And Floristic Endemism For *Fritillaria* spp. (Liliaceae) A Review

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Abstract

Iran supports a great share of exotic and/or endemic plant genera and species. The genus *Fritillaria* (Liliaceae) is a precious part of this botanical richness with 19 species, of which 10 are endemic to the country. However, signs are mounting that the country is truly at a crossroads when it comes to preservation of this national wealth. In this regard, an effective conservation strategy should thoroughly consider the classification of *Fritillaria*, as conservation practices are compromised by knowledge gaps in systematics and taxonomy. As published studies on *Fritillaria* in Iran have been sporadic and limited in scope, the aim of this review is to provide information necessary to help bridge these information gaps. Our objective is to facilitate increased understanding of the geographic, taxonomic, cytogenetic and phylogenetic status of Iranian *Fritillaria*, which is vital to meeting the goal of sustainable conservation of the genus in Iran and neighboring areas.

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