

Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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**Eastern Greece
4 – 12 May 2007**

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Report by Ivan Nethercoat and Robin & Rachel Hamilton

Special thanks to Star Command and 'Gubby'

Illustrations: field cricket by Maureen Gibson, photo of giant peacock moth by Ivan Nethercoat, all others by Rob Hume.

Front cover: bee-eaters

As with all Honeyguide holidays, £25 of the price of the holiday was put towards a conservation project by way of a contribution to the wildlife that we enjoyed. The conservation contribution this year of £25 per person towards WWF Greece's Dadia Project was supplemented by an additional donation from one group member and gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, leading to a total of £441. This brings the total conservation contributions from all Honeyguide holidays since 1991 to £48,013 at the end of September 2007. A thank-you letter from WWF Greece is the final page of the holiday report – not on this web version of the report.

Some of the photos that Ivan Nethercoat took on this & the 2006 holiday are in a gallery on Honeyguide's website: see <http://www.honeyguide.co.uk/greece.htm>

Itinerary and highlights

Friday 4/5/07 – Eastbound

We all gathered at Heathrow ready for the afternoon Olympic Airways flight from London Heathrow at 12.20 hrs, due to arrive in Athens 17.55 hrs (Greek time). Everything was going well until we heard that the flight had been cancelled! However, it was soon sorted out, people got to know one another, did a few crossword puzzles and Sudoku, and we had a slight detour (via Belgrade), followed by an overnight stay at a hotel overlooking a charming cove on the coast near Athens. We left for Alexandroupolis early the following morning, enjoying a magical, misty sunrise over the Aegean.

Saturday 5/5/07 – Arrival at the Centre and the road to Dadia.

We were welcomed at Alexandroupolis Airport by clouds of house martins, flying in and out of their nests on the airport buildings. Minibus formalities were soon completed and we set off, up the Evros valley, for the _ hour drive to Dadia. The bird sightings on that first trip were a pretty good aperitif: crested larks, rollers, hooded crows and two Levant sparrowhawks as well as jays, jackdaws and magpies. So, arriving at Dadia at 07.45, we were ready for breakfast and time to relax. The peace and tranquillity of the centre, with its multitude of swallows nesting under the eaves, was a welcome change from airports, and the breakfasts here are exceptional with the best yogurt and honey in Greece. Opening the French windows of our comfortable rooms we could hear cuckoo and hoopoe calling and nightingales singing from the woods behind.

It was a lovely morning, with thin hazy cloud, so while we were still awake we decided to take a stroll down the road to the village. In previous years this has been a walk that takes in some of the local fields and farmland on the other side of the village. This year however, perhaps due to the fine weather, the enthusiasm of the group or just the delight of suddenly being in such a great place, we managed about 300 yards in two hours and never even reached the village.

The lack of distance was a reflection, too, of 13 pairs of keen eyes, especially among the botanists propelled into a whole new world of plants. The rocky hillside was painted with the subtle shades of the Mediterranean – downy grey leaves and soft-coloured flowers. There were three cistuses, irises, thymes and sedums, a grey-leaved, downy St John's wort – *Hypericum cerastoides*, a weird looking purple loosestrife – *Lysimachia atropurpurea* – and, in crevices on the rocks, charming tufts of a tiny, white-flowered sandwort. This at first appeared to be the previously recorded *Minuartia setacea* but at the WWF office back at the centre, they were keen to let us browse through the Greek Red Data Book of endangered plant species and it was clear that we had been looking at the rare Thracian endemic *Minuartia greuteriana* whose stronghold is identified as the rocky hillside between the Ecocentre and Dadia village, exactly where we had been looking.

Birds too were a delight, with migrating bee-eaters welcoming us to the area, red-rumped swallows posing on wires in perfect light and a pair of red-backed shrikes feasting on the insect population. There were white wagtails and goldfinches to watch and Alan found us a black-eared wheatear. A black stork wheeled over the trees and we caught sight of two Syrian woodpeckers, then heard them drumming on a dead elm nearby. Raptors abounded: sparrowhawk, common buzzard, honey buzzard, a pale-phase booted eagle and a short-toed eagle. A black vulture flew over very low, bearing a wing-tag, followed by an Egyptian vulture and then another black. All this was set to a background of constant nightingale and cicada song from all around.

We were charmed by an extraordinarily frilly preying mantis: *Empusa fasciata* on a grass stem but, by mid-day, the sun was



growing very strong so we left the cicadas, the Camberwell beauties, the wall browns, the red admirals and the clouded yellows to make the most of it while a spur-thighed tortoise headed for some shade and we ambled back to the centre for a light lunch followed by a chance to catch up on some sleep.

We enjoyed our evening meal in the taverna in the centre of the village, owned by Mr Panagotis. He was pleased to see the group back, remembering us from last year when we no doubt made a substantial difference to his week's takings.

Sunday 6/5/07 – An introduction to the Evros Delta

The nightingales and turtle doves welcomed us to another delicious Greek breakfast and then we took the short drive back down the main road towards the delta, with hoodies in the fields, buzzards perched on fence posts and crested larks flying across the road in front of us. Looking to the right at some village traffic lights we could see a pair of white storks on their nest. Yesterday we drove relentlessly past several rollers perched on telegraph wires. Despite the reassurance that we would see them better later it must have been a little frustrating to be on a main road where stopping is difficult. So our first stop this morning was to try and give everyone a good view of this spectacular, enigmatic and often elusive bird. The small village of Doriskos is now by-passed by the main road but the old road loops through the village and provides a safe stopping point. The soldiers on duty at the nearby army establishment were a little suspicious of our telescopes but we reassured them that we were not about to steal their secrets and really were there just to see the birds on the wires.

Right on cue, as we arrived in the safety of the small road, the rollers appeared on the wires around us. These magnificent birds look stunning when seen well and today the light was good and the telescopes provided excellent views for all. Butterflies were flying too and we had a good view of a Glanville fritillary on the beautifully coloured narrow-leaved crimson clover *Trifolium angustifolium*.

We stayed on the old road as it looped back to the main road in a few kilometres. Keen eyes looking over low hills and farmland are always a good combination and so it was that the first convenient stopping place soon turned up a few goodies. A pair of goshawks marked our arrival and slowly glided out of view while on a distant hillside a troop of white storks were marching in line abreast across a field, hoping to disturb insects and reptiles. A hobby glided overhead and the scratchy song of corn buntings replaced the nightingales to provide a background sound now rarely heard in the UK. On the road verge, we startled a spectacularly large centipede, *Scolopendra sinuata*. As we watched storks gathering to follow the plough in the field beside the road we had a nice telescope view of a corn bunting, and Humphrey found a newly emerged dragonfly *Libellula depressa* drying its wings. A sparrowhawk and a hobby flew overhead together, giving a rare opportunity to contrast the two.

We admired the roadside plants: the magnificent stands of perfoliate alexanders *Smyrniium perfoliatum* and especially a beautiful clump of pale bugloss *Echium italicum*. Just as we were about to rejoin the main road we were stopped again, this time by a lesser spotted eagle patrolling the hillside ahead. A scan of the surrounding bushes also allowed us good views of our first black-headed buntings of the week and both red-backed and lesser grey shrikes, then we enjoyed another goshawk fly-over.

As is usual with new roads, the main road provides a more direct route by cutting the twists and turns off the original route. Below the hills near Loutros this has left a very quiet kilometre or so of the old road, the verges yellow with drifts of spurge. We turned onto this stretch to identify a bird of prey that turned out to be our first long-legged buzzard but, as ever, while we had stopped other things popped up, this time two rollers very close on wires and a very nice male roller 'rolling' in its display flight. Meanwhile Anne checked out some road kill which turned out not to be a fox, as we first thought, but a large dog; it was enough – 'Dead Dog Road' was born and it was our route on to Traianoupolis and the Evros Delta Visitor Centre, to get some local information

and to arrange for permission to visit the restricted military zone near the Turkish border later in the week. It was a useful stop, with interesting and informative displays on the wildlife of the Evros Delta but we were glad to get away ahead of the gathering crowds of cyclists preparing for a race.

So, finally back on the main road after our 'short detour', our journey took us almost back to the airport. We turned off down a nondescript road that soon showed us more of the special nature of this part of the world. The farm track twisted and turned; a marsh harrier appeared, quartering the fields, a pair of red-backed shrikes hunted from some bushes and we watched a black-headed bunting in song. We drove on until eventually the cultivated fields gave way to tamarisk scrub and finally to open shallow water with the sound of frogs and the sight of numerous herons: purple, squacco, little egret, great white egret and, of course, 'our own' familiar grey heron.

This was our picnic stop, among the lagoons, the causeways dotted with familiar saltmarsh plants: annual and perennial glasswort and sea purslane. An hour or so later we were a lot warmer, but very happy with our 'haul' of dragonflies, damselflies, collared pratincoles, bee eaters, little terns, short-toed eagles, marsh harriers, black-headed yellow wagtails, shelducks and coots. Two spoonbills flew over and there were numerous fly-bys of curlew sandpiper. Two or three pairs of avocets were at their nests, we heard the distinctive song of a Cetti's warbler and, across the lagoon, some of the party saw a distant flock of 24 pygmy cormorants.

After lunch we drove around some more of the pools to make the best of the sometimes dazzling light. We were sad to find a European pond terrapin squashed on the track – a chance to have a close look at its characteristics. Penduline tits were exploring the fine branches of the tamarisk, and eagle-eyed Malcolm spotted the only tree frog of the week on a distant bush but allowing fine views through a telescope. A group of shovelers flew over as did a flock of curlew sandpipers, some in dark red breeding plumage; two calandra larks were skulking round one of the salt pans, we heard a quail calling nearby and saw a marsh harrier catching a small bird. Overhead a very brown juvenile peregrine tried hard to look like a lanner while not far behind, a mass of sand martins appeared, having just come in off the sea. Soon the magnificent spectacle of thousands of birds filled the air as they fed over the shallow water.

The track winds its way between the pools and eventually leads to a fine sandy beach, so a quick stop here is always worthwhile, if only for the view. Mediterranean gulls flew past giving their 'posh' call while on the edge of the sea, sanderlings in summer plumage were doing here what we know them well for at home, scuttling along the edge of the waves, with two Kentish plovers and an oystercatcher. In the tamarisk scrub behind the beach, more familiar birds appeared – male whitethroat and whinchat, and a crested lark all perched on the tamarisk looking particularly fine in the strong sun. A very dead dolphin was washed up on the beach, providing a meal for a group of yellow-legged gulls, but for us it was time to head for home. On our way back across the lagoons we added a common sandpiper and a pair of mute swans to our day's tally.

We had our evening meal in the Simos Taverna on the edge of the village, where we were joined by a fantastic mole cricket, attracted to the lights, which allowed itself to be caught and examined by the group.

Monday 7/5/07 – The Sarantametros Canal and circuit of Drana Lagoon.

We woke on Monday to overcast skies and before breakfast it began to rain a little. We heard a chiffchaff, turtle doves and a chaffinch singing and watched two flocks of bee-eaters flying high overhead. As we loaded our equipment into the vehicles though, the sky suddenly cleared and the sunshine was welcomed by a serin song flight among the trees above us.

The Evros Delta is big, big enough to warrant a few trips. So today we set off once again to Dead Dog Road and this time turned down a small track that took us under the main road and into a world of meadows, insects and birds. 100 yards from the main road we stopped at the top of a small rise that offered a view over fields towards the delta. Here we were again able to get close

views of black-headed bunting. Some bee-eaters arrived and went straight to a nearby sand pit where they began to inspect potential nest-sites and were soon joined by a group of red-rumped swallows, some collecting mud for nest building. Two short-toed eagles flew by and one perched on a tree for clear but distant telescope views.

Insects and flowers were also in abundance. We found the caterpillars and tents of yellow-tailed moth on the Christ's Thorn *Paliurus spina-christi* bushes and the botanists in the group enjoyed sorting out some of the meadow flowers (the bright spurge, *Euphorbia seguierana* again, *Trifolium globosum*, with its big fluffy flowers, like little cotton-balls, the brown-headed *T. boissieri*, starry clover *T. stellatum*, disc medick *Medicago orbicularis*, the spiky-flowered grass *Aegilops ovata*, the pink-like *Kholrauschia velutina*, cornflower *Centaurea cyanus* and many, many more). Eventually we had to move on.

A short drive further on we stopped where the track crosses the Sarantametros canal. The canal is flanked with a dense fringe of reeds and the water surface was almost completely obscured by a carpet of the floating water fern, *Azolla*. This was a noisy stop as the marsh frogs were in very good voice but today they were also in competition with 3 great reed warblers, all singing in full view – a wonderful cacophony. Some buildings behind us were home to a colony of Spanish sparrows that fed and collected nesting material from the track, and they also provided perches for a pair of Isabelline wheatears. They delighted us as they flew around various high points giving us excellent views, even of their characteristic long legs. We had some good views of a couple of European pond terrapin in the water and one of Humphrey's sorties with the butterfly net produced a dappled white. Anne found a dead dice snake on the track – probably some predator's mislaid lunch; it gave us an excellent chance to look at its diagnostic markings. As three honey buzzards flew low overhead we decided that our lunch was calling and it was time to find a suitable picnic spot.

The track now followed the canal into the wetter areas of the lagoon. We found a place to stop that gave us good views in all directions. The canal was fringed with reeds and reed mace, with tall stands of hemlock providing a screen for us, and bramble, wild rose and tamarisk bushes gave cover to the birds and attracted butterflies. There were three pygmy cormorants perched at the foot of the reeds; 36 white pelicans flew by and circled above us, giving us excellent views; there were distant marsh harriers hunting over the reedbeds behind us; two purple herons treated us to a fly-past above the bank; we watched a penduline tit struggling with a streamer of nesting material and we heard, and eventually glimpsed, two olivaceous warblers in the tamarisk bushes beside the track. We heard the distinctive call of a water rail and Alan caught sight of it flying along the canal and we had the rare sight (in the UK) of a large flock of turtle doves. Birds were not the only stars: Anne drew our attention to a dice snake swimming across the canal and Sue and Humphrey's skilfully wielded butterfly nets enabled us to identify several species of butterfly, including spotted fritillaries.

The main lagoon at Drana was a little disappointing, as many of the birds had moved on to other areas. However, there was still plenty to enjoy: a small group of grey plovers, two little terns, a small group of Mediterranean gulls, four oystercatchers and a few little stints. A great white egret flew over and settled and two Sandwich terns and three common terns fished and settled on the mud and the posts in the water. A nice fly past of gull-billed terns was a pleasant surprise. Six of the summer-plumage curlew sandpipers that frequent this area eventually appeared along with three of the more familiar ringed plovers and a Kentish plover. We marvelled at the number of common toads around the bases of the bushes in the mud at the edge of the water and there were painted lady butterflies to be seen on the track. Continuing on around this huge area of water proved a little uneventful except for a redshank, a dunlin, two turnstones and a tawny pipit that went up in front of us and at the last stage we stumbled upon a spectacular flock of bee-eaters feeding among the tamarisk, close beside the track. They posed for photographs and delighted us for some time: ample reward for a rather bumpy journey.

Our 'short cut' back to the main road took us down a new track and again proved a pleasant surprise: we heard a quail calling and watched a flock of thirty or more pratincoles overhead.

Then Helen spotted a pair of stone-curlews very close among the grass beside the track. They lurked cryptically among the plants, pretending not to be there and we watched them through binoculars and telescopes for a long time – a real treat.

We ended an eventful day in some lovely countryside, with another excellent meal at Taverna Simos.

Tuesday 8/5/07 – A local day

It was fine and sunny as we assembled for our walk and a hobby, a booted eagle, a short-toed eagle and a buzzard all appeared before we left the Centre. Our plan was to make a slightly more determined attempt to make it to the village of Dadia and on to a delightful track that leads through fields, across a small stream and down to the main road, to take us to the Diavolorema river.

We stopped to watch an olivaceous warbler on the edge of the village, singing and carrying nesting material and we admired a fine plant of salsify *Tragopogon porifolius*, probably escaped from the prolific vegetable garden beside the road. Other gardens in the village yielded both tree sparrow and Spanish sparrow and we noticed the profusion of mulberry trees, a reflection of the active local silk industry. The silver-leaved lime, *Tilia tomentosa* made a very striking garden plant, here well within its natural range. Just as we were leaving the village, a short-toed eagle flew over again, this time clearly carrying a snake, dangling from its talons.

Once out of the village Anne's sharp eyes found perhaps the cutest animal of the trip in the form of a tiny Hermann's tortoise, about 2 inches across. It was much photographed and then safely returned to the security of the long grass. We watched both red-backed and woodchat shrikes posing nicely for us on trees and heard a golden oriole down in the valley. Our attention was drawn to a beautiful bank covered in wild jasmine *Jasminum fruticans*, disappointingly scentless, but the Mediterranean sweet briar *Rosa glutinosa* in the hedge behind made up for it. The hedgerows and banks were full of wild flowers and butterflies to enjoy, perhaps crowned by the excellent view of a southern white admiral in a meadow beside a tiny stream. In a pool where the stream crossed our path, we found a smooth newt, pond-skaters and whirligig beetles and a little further on we had a brief but excellent view of a male golden oriole and a spectacular song display by a black-headed bunting, which was much photographed. The whole walk was again set to the backdrop of the song of nightingales, interspersed with the mellow calls of passing bee-eaters high overhead.

The track took us to the bottom of the hill and as we left it and turned on to the back road from Dadia to Loutros, Humphrey triumphantly found us an Oberthur's grizzled skipper. Here we took a right turn leading us towards the river, passing on the roadside a much excavated bank with evidence of an active European souslik colony and also a poplar tree that was host to a fine plant of mistletoe – forming a tighter, denser ball than we normally see in Britain and with smaller, wider and more leathery leaves. (The mistletoe recorded in this part of Greece does not conform to this description and, in any case, parasitises pine so this plant, for the moment, remains a mystery). A welcome surprise awaited the group as we arrived at the riverside – Ivan and Robin had spirited a minibus down from the Centre - so the long hot climb back could be avoided. We

settled down in the shade of some trees, with a rather large green lizard in the tree above us, and watched a huge flock of goats enjoying a leisurely drink at the ford. We ate our lunch – watched over by two very low-flying lesser spotted eagles, one of which wheeled obligingly round and round, clearly showing the 'double comma' markings under the wings.

We drove back to the centre for a cool beer in the heat of the afternoon and a chance to relax after a couple of busy days. As we sat under the shade of the



pine trees at the bar and listened to a firecrest and a greenfinch singing, a giant peacock moth, the size of a small bird, flew by and settled on a small pine tree. It allowed us to approach close enough to take photographs, and stayed there till nightfall.

After we had had a chance to recuperate, some of the group decided to take a late afternoon walk along the riverside. The Balkan stream frogs were noisily about their business among the rocks by the bridge and a grey wagtail and a pair of little ringed plovers potted about on the shore. While we examined some more burrows of European sousliks, a black stork flew over. We enjoyed a perfect view of a hoopoe walking ahead of us along the path and then turned our attention to a small group of bee-eaters prospecting nest-sites on the bank opposite.

Before we headed off to the village for another taverna dinner, we had a very interesting illustrated talk from Kostas Pistolas, an ornithologist and forester who worked there for the WWF Black Vulture Project and has been on the project staff for 15 years. He described to us a little of the complexity of managing the huge Dadia Forest Reserve and the issues surrounding its importance for raptors and especially for the black vultures. We used this opportunity for Malcolm to present to Kostas the cheque representing the Honeyguide contribution to the project from whose work we were all so clearly benefiting.

Wednesday 9/5/07 – In the Restricted Zone

The Evros Delta just keeps pulling you back! Unfortunately one of the minibuses had developed a puncture overnight, but a few of us changed the wheel with astonishing speed, and we gratefully handed the flat tyre over to Chrisoula who arranged for it to be repaired while we were out (having first checked that both buses shared the same wheel size!). This time we headed, permits to hand, into the restricted zone along the Evros river, right on the border with Turkey.

The start of the restricted section is particularly interesting as here we see a river in its unrestricted glory – a true flood plain with grazed meadows, acres of scrubby tamarisk, small patches of riverine woodland and reedbeds. We stopped, in glorious sunshine butterfly nets in hand as Helen headed off towards Turkey! We began to see birds straight away: white storks to the right and a large flock of bee-eaters to our left. We spent a little while exploring this especially atmospheric place. The scattered tamarisk bushes were festooned with a beautiful climbing plant, the rather clematis-like, maroon flowered silk-vine, *Periploca graeca*. Elegant poplars lined the riverbank with peaceful cattle grazing in the sunshine. Our reverie was interrupted by the army, suspicious of our telescopes. However, they were happy with our permits and we went on our way down the bumpy road. A little further along we stopped to watch a male Levant sparrowhawk. It perched on a post, then suddenly dropped out of view, only to reappear a moment later carrying a bird, which it sat and plucked and then devoured on a tree right beside the track!

We drove on. Seven white pelicans glided by, then a black kite. Among the salt pans on our right, we stopped for some excellent views of three spur-winged plovers, the first of several that we saw; one of them was apparently sitting on eggs. We saw the spectacle of thirty glossy ibises, first flying past, then coming down to feed beside a pool, accompanied by three spoonbills. A variety of waders: wood sandpipers, curlew sandpipers, a greenshank, two whimbrels, two spotted redshanks and four avocets flew up from the lagoon and Barry caught a glimpse of a pair of penduline tits flitting about in the tamarisk.

Eleni Makrigianni, our contact at the visitor centre earlier in the week, had arranged for a couple of boats to take us to see more of the delta at close quarters. We arrived at the little jetty at the end of the roadway in good time and while we were waiting for the boats, we watched a flock of black terns flying elegantly around and fishing in the canal in front of us.

It was a perfect day and the two boats took us out across the main channel and into narrow canals flanked by tall reedbeds. As we explored these several marsh harriers hunted over the reedbeds, black-headed wagtails perched on the fishermen's hut beside the water and we startled a purple

heron which then obligingly flew alongside the boats. The boatmen took us on a big circuit around some islands and out towards the open sea. The shallow water was calm and home to 250 or more flamingos. Numerous common, little and sandwich terns, cormorants and oystercatchers were all feeding or resting in the shallow water or on old partly sunken trees. The boatmen took us close and then allowed us to drift in even closer giving superb views in a wonderful atmosphere. We saw more terns on the way back: a mixed party of whiskered terns (below) and white-winged black terns and some big flocks of sand martins; but the surprise bird of the day was seen above the reeds beside the canal in a protracted and spectacular scrap with a marsh harrier – not a male harrier but a short-eared owl! Having seen off the harrier it just circled over our boats with the sun providing a wonderful backlight.



We had a late lunch back on dry land, and we watched another boatman catching a zander in a large, square net suspended from a long counterweighted pole. On the lagoon nearby, there was a large flock of curlew sandpipers with a few little stints and Kentish plovers, scuttling about on the mud and at the edge of the water.

A few hundred yards from the end of the road is one of the best-placed tavernas in the area. It is surmounted by a watchtower with amazing panoramic views of the whole delta. Swallows were feeding young in their nests in the outbuildings and we sat in the shade of the veranda where we ate wonderful fresh figs and drank delicious Greek coffee. Three white pelicans flew by as we set off back, and we stopped to see a pair of ruddy shelducks, a couple of pratincoles and three glossy ibises. The big flock of glossy ibises made its appearance again and the Levant sparrow hawk also reappeared, in the same place, posing on a post and then flying alongside the minibus.

It was time to revisit the Panagotis taverna tonight for another delicious meal of varied and local dishes, freshly and cheerfully prepared by the family in the tiny kitchen.

Thursday 10/5/07 – The Vulture Feeding Station and the Radio Mast and high, craggy rocks at Kapsalo

Thursday morning was fine and sunny again. We were greeted by the sound of a girl bunting singing from a tree close to the centre and Humphrey showed us two moths that he had found beneath the outside light during the night: a cream-spot tiger and a pine hawk moth.



Some of us were keen to take home some of the honey that we had been enjoying for breakfast.

Fortunately, the centre manager Chrisoula, has a beekeeper in her family, and provided several jars of the most delicious honey for us.

The Dadia Forest is a well known site for birds of prey, and vultures

in particular. This morning our transport was provided by the centre and took us the short distance up to the hide overlooking the vulture feeding station. The hide gives amazing views over the mountains as well as over the bare hilltop opposite where the vultures are fed. There were at least 20 vultures feeding on a large carcass: black, griffon and Egyptian vultures together, allowed nice comparisons, both in terms of size and behaviour. There was a buzzard there too which waited at a respectful distance until the larger birds had eaten their fill as did the nearby ravens, looking diminutive in comparison. Before we left, a short-toed eagle flew over as well, a lovely view of a supremely elegant bird. Around the hide, we had a chance to explore the woodland flora. There was a mixed canopy of pine trees - both black pine, *Pinus nigra* ssp *nigra* and Calabrian pine, *P. halapensis* ssp *brutia*, and oaks – Turkey oak, *Quercus cerris*, downy oak, *Q. pubescens* and the local species, *Q. frainetto*. There is a sparse understory with prickly juniper, *Juniperus oxycedrus*, the eastern strawberry tree *Arbutus andrachne*, and tree heath, *Erica arborea* together with two species of cistus – flowering beautifully in the clearings – as well as the very local *C. laurifolius*, not yet in flower. We also found in full flower the mystery plant of earlier Honeyguide visits which turned out to be the umbellifer *Ferulago sylvatica*.

We were driven back from the hide and then transferred to our own vehicles for the short drive to the radio mast at Kapsalo. The road winds up through wonderful woodland and some of the best roadside verges. At the top of the road we were greeted by clouded Apollo butterflies and superb views across the national park with several black vultures cruising overhead. We found a rocky slope with the best of the views for our picnic spot and we were serenaded by a male ortolan bunting, a blue rock thrush and a black-eared wheatear with some entertainment from a raven flying by, harassed by a kestrel.

After lunch we set off for a quiet amble down the road to look at the wonderful wayside flowers and trees. The Montpellier maple was already in fruit and dripping with crimson cascades, looking spectacular against the blue sky and set off well by the panicles of white flowers on the manna ash. We lingered over the irises and wild tulips and enjoyed seeing our familiar cornflowers growing charmingly out of rock crevices. The Italian catchfly *Silene italica* and its relative, the dark red subspecies of the red catchfly *Lychnis viscaria* ssp *atropurpurea* were both in perfect flower but a lady orchid was very definitely past her best. Orange-tip butterflies were plentiful, feeding on the tall thistles and knapweeds. In the shade at the bottom of the bank, Ivan found us a real treasure – magnificent crimson blooms of wild peony, *Paeonia peregrina*.

We scrambled out on to a rocky crag with a panoramic view of the mountains. There were a dozen black and half a dozen griffon vultures on the cliff opposite and we balanced the telescopes on the rocks for a good view for the more intrepid. For everyone, an ortolan bunting performed beautifully and a peregrine perched in full view on nearby rocks.

We climbed aboard the minibuses and drove on down the hill for some distance, down into a more sheltered and humid microclimate. The flora changed dramatically under a regime of coppiced hazel and we came to an abrupt halt at the sight of a stand of white orchids. We almost demolished some elegant plants of the more sombre mammose orchid *Ophrys mammosa* when we stopped and then discovered that the white orchids were in fact the species of helleborine that we recognised from the Red Data Book, *Cephalanthera epipactoides* (rather like the sword-leaved helleborine but with much smaller leaves and larger bracts and flowers). Then, to round off the orchid-fest, we found a red helleborine as well!

While we were admiring and photographing this spectacle, we found a beautiful specimen of the Balkan green lizard – with a wonderful blue throat - which also allowed itself to be photographed. Unfortunately for a very large glass lizard, lingering to be looked at was not a matter of choice – it had met an untimely death perhaps by a vehicle or, more likely, by one of the short-toed eagles we had seen earlier. It did, however, give us a chance to look properly at this elusive animal and at much closer range than we would normally expect. We had one more stop on the way home – to photograph the enormous storks' nest in Provatonas, shared by a colony of both house and Spanish sparrows.

Mr Panagotis welcomed us again at his taverna for supper and gave Ruth a chance to practise her language skills in asking successfully for a take-away meal for one of the party feeling a little under the weather.

Friday 11/5/07 The Loutros Hills and back to Dadia by the back road

We woke early to a fine and sunny morning, only to find that there was no water in any of the taps at the Centre. It emerged that the whole of the Dadia area was cut off as 'they' had decided to replace the mains water pipes – without letting anyone know! We were directed to where a stream, straight off the mountain, had been tapped, and some of us had a very refreshing morning wash! The Centre very competently managed to produce breakfast without much delay and we set off for our final day and a chance to explore a new area.

Encouraged by Kostas from the WWF we were on the lookout for some 'new' plants. Recent surveys in the forest park had discovered new localities for some very rare plants and he was keen that we should see them – not least to check that they were still to be found.

Our first destination though was the area above Traianoupolis, where the Loutros Hills, a very attractive limestone outcrop, provide a wonderful viewpoint over the delta towards the sea and across into Turkey. So once again, we set off down the main road and then up to the village of Loutros. A majestic stand of Oriental plane *Platanus orientalis*, alongside a little river, identified our parking place and we watched a hoopoe calling, characteristically bowing in time with its 'hoo-poo-poo' calls. We climbed up through an abandoned quarry, full of flowers and insects, and several tortoises – both Hermann's and spur-thighed - up onto the uncultivated limestone grassland and scrub. A cirl bunting greeted us, singing from the top of a holly oak *Quercus coccifera* bush that was dense and stunted by grazing. The botanists had an enjoyable time with new species of thymes and spurges, trefoils and grasses, and the grassy slopes were alive with butterflies.

Kostas's botanical colleague Giorgos Koriakis, based in Thessaloniki, had e-mailed us (in Greek!) with some information about some newly discovered botanical sites in the forest that he was keen for us to visit, and some of the special plants he hoped we would be able to find there.

So we set off from the Loutros Hill on the smaller road that winds through the heart of the park and back to Dadia. This is a beautiful route taking us through wooded hills and valleys, with magnificent vistas opening up and constant changes of scenery. Sooner than we had expected, the walkie-talkie radio that we use between the minibuses, sprang into life asking the lead bus to turn around; sharp-eyed Helen had once again seen what she thought we were looking for – a medium sized tree covered in white flowers, looking, from a distance, rather like an apple tree. Sure enough and much to our delight, here it was, right by the roadside, one of Europe's rarest plants. *Eriolobus trilobatus*, is related to the apple, but with larger, more showy flowers, attractive three-lobed leaves reminiscent of wild service tree and a later flowering season. For us, it was at its best and looked absolutely spectacular against the blue sky. It is an internationally rare plant, still found in parts of in the Middle East but with only very few sites in Europe: southeastern Bulgaria and here in eastern Greece. Understandably, they are very proud of this tiny population at two sites in the Dadia forest.

We found a grassy clearing for lunch, with a spectacular view. It was very hot and the birds were quiet apart from a pair of woodlarks feeding on the roadside and a short-toed eagle soaring over the valley in front of us. A stroll around soon brought us some more wonderful wild peonies, and an extensive patch of birthwort scrambling through the grasses in the shade of some terebinth bushes, little clumps of pinks and alliums and a lovely deep yellow cinquefoil. The oak tree we had been using for shade, which was the local subspecies of our familiar sessile oak, *Quercus petraea*, turned out to be the host to a fine plant of the mistletoe relative, *Loranthus europaeus*. Peter nobly scaled the lower branches to retrieve a little piece for the group to look at.

A few kilometres further on, there as promised was an area of 'blue' rocks by the roadside. The

geological significance of these rocks had been explained to us as their being rich in copper but there may have been some linguistic confusion and it seems likely that they may be Serpentine in nature. In any event, they clearly carry a high concentration of one or more heavy metals which make them toxic to many plant species. Stepping out into the area was a magical journey into a special place with a unique atmosphere. The rock here is flaky and dark blue-green in colour with sparse but colourful vegetation struggling in the toxic environment and shallow soil. But here was the plant we were hoping to see, only known from a very restricted area and in flower for Honeyguide – a beautiful pale lemon yellow golden drop, the endemic *Onosma kittanae*. There were milkworts and sedums there to, evidence of earlier fritillary flowers, peacock anemones, clumps of a little yellow, silver-leaved alyssum, and much more. This area demands more exploration but time was running out and it was time to continue on our way back to Dadia. There was just one more stop on the way home; a very large Hermann's tortoise was jaywalking dangerously in our path. Rachel carried it to the side of the road but somehow failed to notice the torrent which it emitted to register its objection to being handled, but which caused peals of mirth in the minibuses. After a brief detour to the Silk Shop in the village it was time to get back to the centre for a last drink in the bar, packing and preparing for our last meal in the village. We had saved the Simos Taverna for the last evening and had put in a special order for their very special moussaka – quite delicious!

It was a beautiful clear evening as we walked back from the taverna and Saturn was high in the night sky. We set up the telescopes to have a look at it, the rings showing clearly in an unusually clear atmosphere. Then, to our great surprise, through the silence, we heard the unmistakable 'churring' of a nightjar.

Saturday 12/5/07 Homeward bound

We had a 5 am start from the Centre and drove to Alexandroupolis as dawn was breaking. The airport is a small and relaxed place and all the formalities were sorted very quickly. We just managed to get our last genuine Greek coffee before we were in the air and off to Athens for the connecting flight to London - the end of a lovely week in great company.

Highlights of the week

Alan	telescope view of two red-rumped swallows
Anne	the short-eared owl encounter with the marsh harrier and black-headed buntings
Barry	the stone-curlews
Helen	the profusion of species on the first morning's short walk, the Levant sparrow hawk and Rachel rescuing a jaywalking tortoise
Humphrey	the ibises, recognising the special qualities that made them sacred to the ancient Egyptians
Malcolm	the glossy ibises and the short-eared owl
Peter	the short-eared owl
Ruth	the spur-winged plovers and the Montpelier maple in fruit
Sue	the short-eared owl and <i>really green</i> hairstreak
Sallie	the short-eared owl, Malcolm enjoying the glossy ibises and Ruth's spoonbills
Ivan	the blue rock with its unique vegetation
Rachel	the short-eared owl and the <i>Eriolobus</i> tree
Robin	the short-eared owl and the spur-winged plovers



Systematic lists

Birds

English and scientific names and stature based on *The Birds of Greece* (Handrinos & Akriotis 1997) except under Bonelli's Warbler which is now considered, following a taxonomic review, to be the distinct species Eastern Bonelli's Warbler *Phylloscopus orientalis* respectively. Status refers to Greece as a whole.

Little Grebe

Widespread and locally common resident

Several at Anthi lagoons

Cormorant

Fairly widespread and locally common resident, common and widespread winter visitor

Small numbers on the Evros Delta, breeding on Anthi lagoons

Pygmy Cormorant

Scarce and local resident, locally common winter visitor

A flock of 20+ at Anthi lagoons and three on the Sarantametros canal

White Pelican

Scarce and local summer visitor and passage migrant

Group of 20 + circling north of Drana Lagoon

Squacco Heron

Common but local summer visitor, common and widespread passage migrant

Anthi lagoons

Little Egret

Fairly common and widespread resident, common and widespread passage migrant

Evros Delta

Great White Egret

Rare and local resident, widespread and locally common winter visitor

One, Anthi lagoons, Evros Delta on 5 May

Grey Heron

Common and widespread resident

Evros Delta

Purple Heron

Rare and local summer visitor, fairly common passage migrant

Evros Delta

Black Stork

Rare and local summer visitor and passage migrant

Seen daily around Dadia

White Stork

Widespread and locally common summer visitor and passage migrant

Seen most days with a number of occupied nests at Provatonas, but not in Dadia this year where the nest site was now empty. Thermalling flocks of c100 birds from Anthi lagoons

Glossy Ibis

Rare and local summer visitor, fairly common and widespread passage migrant

c 40 in Evros restricted zone

Spoonbill

Rare and local resident

Small numbers over Evros Delta and Anthi lagoons.

Greater Flamingo

Fairly widespread and locally common non-breeding visitor

c250 seen from the boat rip in the restricted zone

Mute Swan

Rare and local resident, locally common winter visitor

Anthi lagoons

Ruddy Shelduck

Scarce and local partial migrant

Two in the eastern (restricted access) part of the Evros Delta

Shelduck

Scarce and local resident, fairly widespread and locally common winter visitor

Small numbers, Evros Delta

Wigeon

Fairly widespread and locally common winter visitor

One, Anthi lagoons

Gadwall

Scarce and local resident, fairly common winter visitor

One, Anthi lagoons

Mallard

Fairly widespread but scarce resident, very common and widespread winter visitor

Garganey



Scarce and local summer visitor, common and widespread passage migrant
1 at the Anthi lagoons.

Shoveler

Fairly widespread and common winter visitor and passage migrant
Anthi lagoons, Evros Delta

Honey Buzzard

Widespread but scarce summer visitor and passage migrant
Seen several around the Ecotourism Centre near Dadia Village

Black Kite

Rare and local resident, scarce winter visitor and passage migrant
One in riverine forest adjacent to the River Evros, in the eastern (restricted access) part of the Evros Delta near Feres

Egyptian Vulture

Fairly widespread and locally fairly common summer visitor and passage migrant
Seen around Dadia village and three at the raptor feeding station, Dadia Forest, Dadia National Park

Griffon Vulture

Fairly common but local resident
at the raptor feeding station, Dadia Forest, Dadia National Park & several on rocks at Kapsalo (the radio mast), Dadia National Park

Black Vulture

Rare and local resident
regular single birds over Dadia village and the edge of Dadia Forest, Dadia National Park 3 at the raptor feeding station, Dadia Forest, Dadia National Park and with griffons on rocks and flying over at Kapsalo (the radio mast), Dadia National Park

Short-toed Eagle

Fairly common and widespread summer visitor
Seen daily

Marsh Harrier

Fairly widespread but scarce resident, common winter visitor and passage migrant
pair over farmland on the edge of the Anthi lagoons and seen regularly around the delta.

Montagu's Harrier

Rare and local summer visitor, fairly common and widespread passage migrant
A female, at Anthi lagoons

Goshawk

Pair seen well on old Doriskos road

Levant Sparrowhawk

Fairly widespread and locally fairly common summer visitor and passage migrant
First seen as we drove from the airport to the centre, later a male perched on a telegraph pole in the eastern (restricted access) part of the Evros Delta near Feres

Buzzard

Common and widespread resident and winter visitor
Seen daily

Long-legged Buzzard

Fairly widespread and locally fairly common partial migrant
one near the national highway, on the western side of the Evros Delta near Traianoupolis

Lesser Spotted Eagle

Fairly widespread and locally fairly common summer visitor and passage migrant
regular over the Dadia area and the Diavolorema River valley

Booted Eagle

Fairly widespread and locally fairly common summer visitor and passage migrant
Seen over Dadia on day 1 only

Kestrel

Common and widespread resident
Seen most days.

Hobby

Fairly common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant
Hunting over fields near Doriskos and in the Dadia area

Peregrine

Widespread but scarce resident and winter visitor
One very pale bird over Anthi lagoons and also at Radio mast

Quail

Heard only, on days to the Delta

Water rail

Heard only, Evros delta calling from the canal

Moorhen

Common and widespread resident

Evros Delta

Coot

Common and widespread resident, very common winter visitor

Evros Delta

Oystercatcher

Scarce and local resident, fairly common winter visitor

Small numbers, Evros Delta and Anthi

Black-winged Stilt

Fairly widespread and locally common summer visitor, common and widespread passage migrant

Anthi lagoons only, small flock of c

Avocet

Fairly widespread and locally fairly common resident and winter visitor

Evros Delta.

Collared Pratincole

Fairly common but local summer visitor, widespread passage migrant

Evros Delta, with 30+ on passage over fields behind Drana.

Little Ringed Plover

Fairly common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant

Pair at Diavolorema

Ringed Plover

Fairly common and widespread passage migrant, rare winter visitor

Anthi lagoons, & Evros Delta.

Kentish Plover

Common and widespread resident

Evros Delta & Anthi lagoons

Grey Plover

Fairly widespread and locally common winter visitor and passage migrant

Evros Delta

Spur-winged Plover

Rare and local summer visitor

in the eastern (restricted access) part of the Evros Delta

Lapwing

Scarce and local resident, common and widespread winter visitor

Anthi lagoons, Evros Delta.

Sanderling

Fairly common and widespread passage migrant, scarce winter visitor

Evros Delta.

Little Stint

Very common and widespread passage migrant, locally common winter visitor

Evros Delta with most in the eastern (restricted access) part of the Evros Delta

Curlew Sandpiper

Widespread and locally common passage migrant

Evros Delta.

Dunlin

Common and widespread winter visitor and passage migrant

Evros Delta on 8 & 10 May; maximum c.18 on 8 May.

Ruff

Very common and widespread passage migrant, scarce winter visitor

Evros Delta

Whimbrel

Widespread but scarce passage migrant

Eastern part of Evros Delta.

Spotted Redshank

Fairly common and widespread passage migrant, scarce winter visitor

Eastern part of Evros Delta

Greenshank

Fairly common and widespread passage migrant, scarce winter visitor

Evros Delta & Anthi.

Wood Sandpiper

Common and widespread passage migrant

Anthi lagoons.

Common Sandpiper

Rare and local summer visitor, fairly common and widespread passage migrant

Evros Delta & Anthi Lagoons.

Turnstone

Fairly common and widespread passage migrant

Drana Lagoon

Mediterranean Gull

Widespread and locally common resident
Evros Delta, esp around Drana

Black-headed Gull

Rare and local resident, very common and widespread winter visitor
A single, Evros Delta on 8 May.

Yellow-legged Gull

Very common and widespread resident
Evros Delta

Caspian tern

1 seen in Eastern part of Evros

Gull-billed tern

One at Drana lagoon

Sandwich tern

Rare and local resident, common and widespread winter visitor and passage migrant
Many in Eastern seaward side of Evros

Common Tern

Widespread and locally common summer visitor and passage migrant
Evros Delta.

Little Tern

Widespread and locally common summer visitor and passage migrant
Small numbers, Evros Delta

Whiskered Tern

Rare and local summer visitor, common passage migrant
Anthi lagoons, Evros Delta

Black Tern

Rare and local summer visitor, common passage migrant
Eastern area of Delta

White-winged Black Tern

Common and widespread passage migrant
Eastern area of Delta

Woodpigeon

Heard and seen around Dadia but infrequent

Collared Dove

Common and widespread resident
Seen daily

Turtle Dove

Common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant
Seen daily throughout the holiday with flock of 12 feeding on the track by the canal on Evros

Cuckoo

Fairly widespread but scarce summer visitor, widespread and fairly common passage migrant
Small numbers seen or heard daily throughout the holiday.

Short-eared owl

A beautiful bird seen attacking a marsh harrier and then circling for some time backlit by the sun. Seen from the boats in the restricted area of Evros.

Swift

Very common summer visitor and passage migrant
Seen daily throughout the holiday.

Bee-eater

Widespread and locally common summer visitor and passage migrant
Seen daily throughout the holiday in good numbers

Roller

Scarce and local summer visitor and passage migrant
Seen perched on wires over open scrub and farmland adjacent to Route 95 between Peplos south to the Monastiraki area, particularly around the turning to Doriskos at Akriati

Hoopoe

Fairly common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant
Small numbers seen or heard daily throughout the holiday

Syrian Woodpecker

Fairly common and widespread resident
Seen daily throughout the holiday.

Calandra Lark

Widespread and locally common resident
Evros Delta

Crested Lark

Common and widespread resident

Seen daily throughout the holiday. Common and widespread in open arable farmland and along the national highway.

Skylark

Fairly common but local resident, very common and widespread winter visitor
Evros Delta. Occurs in open brackish and saltmarsh areas.

Sand Martin

Widespread and locally common summer visitor, very common passage migrant
V large flock flew through the Anthi lagoons on May 9, small numbers on the Evros Delta.

Swallow

Very common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant
Seen daily throughout the holiday. Nests at the Ecotourism Centre, Dadia National Park.

Red-rumped Swallow

Widespread and locally common summer visitor
Small numbers seen each day.

House Martin

Common and widespread summer visitor
Seen daily throughout the holiday.

Tawny Pipit

Widespread but scarce summer visitor
Evros Delta, around Drana.

Black-headed Wagtail

Common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant
Numerous on the Evros Delta. All showed the characteristics of the black-headed race, *Motacilla flava feldegg*.

White Wagtail

Fairly widespread but scarce resident, common and widespread winter visitor
Small numbers seen each day including a pair around the Ecotourism Centre, Dadia National Park

Robin

Fairly common and widespread resident, very common winter visitor.
Seen or heard around the Ecotourism Centre, Dadia National Park

Nightingale

Common and widespread summer visitor
Seen or heard daily throughout the holiday,

Whinchat

Scarce and local summer visitor, common passage migrant
Evros delta

Isabelline Wheatear

Rare and local summer visitor
A male in territory and displaying near the Sarantametros Canal bank north of Drana Lagoon, Evros Delta.

Black-eared Wheatear

Common and widespread summer visitor
Seen most days, esp around the centre. This is the eastern race *Oenanthe hispanica melanoleuca* in which males of the black-throated form are spectacular!

Blue Rock Thrush

Fairly common and widespread resident
1 or 2 around rocky outcrops near the radio mast at Kapsalo, Dadia National Park.

Blackbird

Common and widespread resident
Seen daily throughout the holiday.

Mistle Thrush

Fairly common and widespread resident
Only seen on last day around Dadia

Cetti's Warbler

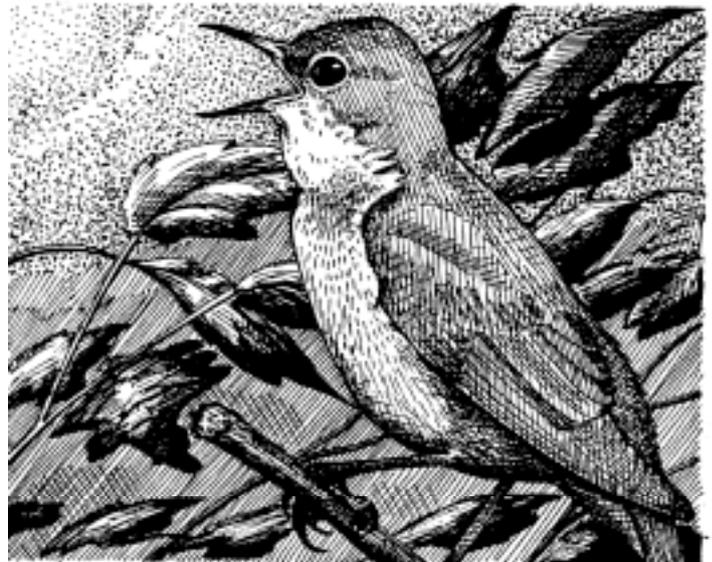
Common and widespread resident
Seen or heard most days

Reed Warbler

Common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant
Seen on each trip to Evros and Anthi

Great Reed Warbler

Common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant
Sarantametros Canal, Evros Delta & in the eastern (restricted access) part of the Evros Delta This large warbler



becomes very visible when singing, as it climbs the reed stems.

Eastern Olivaceous Warbler

Common and widespread summer visitor

Seen daily from day 3.

Sardinian warbler

One female seen, possibly disturbed from nest near Ecotourism centre, Dadia

Whitethroat

Common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant

Seen at the delta and Dadia at the end of the week.

Blackcap

Common and widespread resident

One heard in Dadia Forest near the Ecotourism Centre, Dadia National Park

Eastern Bonelli's Warbler

Fairly widespread and locally fairly common summer visitor and passage migrant

Seen and heard behind the centre and by the roadside en route to Radio mast

Chiffchaff

Fairly common but local summer visitor, common and widespread winter visitor

Heard most days around the centre.

Spotted Flycatcher

Widespread and locally common summer visitor, very common passage migrant

Seen most days around the centre

Pied Flycatcher

Common and widespread passage migrant

1 near the Ecotourism Centre, Dadia National Park on our last day.

Long-tailed Tit

Fairly common and widespread resident

Heard near the Ecotourism Centre, Dadia National Park.

Blue Tit

Very common and widespread resident

Heard around the Ecotourism Centre, Dadia National Park & at Kapsalo, Dadia National

Great Tit

Common and widespread resident

Seen daily throughout the holiday.

Penduline Tit

Fairly widespread and locally common resident

Seen each time we went to Evros, very vocal, esp in tamarisk

Golden Oriole

Fairly common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant

Seen or heard daily throughout the holiday around the centre

Red-backed Shrike

Common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant

Seen daily throughout the holiday,

Lesser Grey Shrike

Fairly widespread but scarce summer visitor and passage migrant

A pair near Doriskos.

Woodchat Shrike

Common and widespread summer visitor

Only seen twice, both near Dadia

Masked Shrike

Scarce and local summer visitor

One flew in front of the bus on the back road to Loutros near Dadia

Jay

Widespread and locally common resident

Seen daily.

Magpie

Common and widespread resident

Seen daily.

Jackdaw

Common and widespread resident

Seen most days.

Hooded Crow

Very common and widespread resident

Seen daily throughout the holiday.

Raven

Fairly common and widespread resident

1-2, Kapsalo, Dadia National Park and at the feeding station.

Starling

Fairly common but local resident, very common and widespread winter visitor
Seen daily throughout the holiday.

House Sparrow

Very common and widespread resident
Seen daily throughout the holiday.

Spanish Sparrow

Widespread and locally very common resident and summer visitor
Seen daily.

Tree Sparrow

Widespread and locally common resident
Single in Dadia village.

Chaffinch

Very common and widespread resident and winter visitor
Seen daily throughout the holiday.

Serín

Fairly common and widespread resident
Seen around Dadia on two occasions

Greenfinch

Common and widespread resident
Only noted once around Dadia.

Goldfinch

Common and widespread resident
Seen daily.

Cirl Bunting

Common and widespread resident
Seen on last three days only.

Ortolan Bunting

Widespread and locally common summer visitor
Seen well at Kapsalo (the radio mast), Dadia National Park on 9 May.

Reed Bunting

Scarce and local resident, common and widespread winter visitor
In the eastern (restricted access) part of the Evros Delta and at Anthi

Black-headed Bunting

Widespread and locally very common summer visitor
Seen daily throughout the holiday. Common and widespread.

Corn Bunting

Very common and widespread resident
Seen daily throughout the holiday.

Total – 141

Mammals

Dead dolphin seen from a distance washed up on beach at Anthi
Noctule bat *Nyctalus noctula* (via Peter's bat detector)

Amphibians & Reptiles

Common Toad *Bufo bufo*

Green Toad *Bufo viridis*

Common tree frog *Hyla arborea* one spied through binoculars while scanning Anthi lagoons

Marsh Frog *Rana ridibunda*

Hermann's Tortoise *Testudo hermanni*

Spur-thighed Tortoise *Testudo graeca*

European Pond Terrapin *Emys orbicularis*

Turkish Gecko *Hemidactylus turcicus* regular visitor to the porch of the Ecotourism centre

Green Lizard *Lacerta viridis*

European Glass Lizard *Ophisaurus apodus*

Unfortunately only v briefly from the van while driving and one very large dead specimen apparently dropped onto the radio mast road.

Grass snake *Natrix natrix*



Butterflies *Many thanks to Humphrey for supplying a list of butterflies and moths*

Swallowtail
Scarce swallowtail
Clouded apollo
Large white
Small white
Bath white:
Dappled white
Orange tip
Clouded yellow
Wood white
Green hairstreak
Small copper
Brown argus
Common blue
Southern white admiral
Camberwell beauty Peacock
Red admiral
Painted lady
Queen of Spain fritillary
Glanville fritillary
Knapweed fritillary
Spotted fritillary
Meadow brown
Small heath
Wall brown Grizzled skipper

Moths

Forester, probably *Cistus foresteri*
Transparent burnet
Giant peacock moth
Oak hooktip
Small grass emerald
Clay triple-lines
Lace border
Mullein wave
Small fanfooted wave
Portland riband wave
Garden carpet
Yellow shell
Grey pine carpet
Common pug (probably)
Common wave
Yellow belle
Pine hawkmoth
Lime hawkmoth
Cream-spot tiger
Tawny shears
Pod lover
Angle shades
Pale shoulder
Silver' Y

Geometrician
Mother Shipton

And two micros:

Pyrausta sp.
China marks sp.

Caterpillars:

Yellow-tail
Lackey
Grass eggar, probably (hoping to rear it!)

Also some non-British and doubtfuls: (named by Humphrey!)

'Speckled' wave
'Thracian white-mark' prominent
'Thracian leaf' prominent '
'Thracian red' carpet
'Mixed blotch' least carpet
'Thracian almost' peacock '
'Nearly pretty' marbled
'Almost beautiful' snout

Dragonflies

Blue-tailed Damselfly *Ischnura elegans*
Evros Delta.
Libellula depressa

Grasshoppers & Crickets

Red-winged Grasshopper *Oedipoda germanica*
Dadia area and the Diavolorema River valley, north of Dadia village,
6 May.

Blue-winged Grasshopper *Oedipoda coerulescens*
Dadia area and the Diavolorema River valley

Egyptian locust

Field Cricket *Gryllus campestris*

Mole cricket *Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa* Dadia, inside Taverna!



Other insects

Violet Carpenter Bee *Xylocarpa violacea*

Rose Chafer *Cetonia aurata*

Oxythyrea funesta

Scarabaeus sp

Dictyoptera - mantids

Empusa fasciata

Neuroptera - lacewings

Ant lion sp

Other invertebrates

Giant centipede *Scolopendra cingulatus*

PLANTS

The list is largely of species seen in flower, and excludes many grasses and similar species

D - Dadia area generally

DA - Agricultural areas close to Dadia in the Diavolorema valley

DF - Dadia Forest

DLK - Kapsalo Radio Mast area and road down to Lefkimi

DP - Back road through Pessani

L - Loutros Hills area generally

E - Evros Delta generally

ED - Drana lagoon

EA - Anthi lagoons

d = dominant

a = abundant

f = frequent

o = occasional

r = rare

I = local/locally

ld = locally dominant

co-d = co-dominant

la = locally abundant

no prefix = one record only

RDB = Greek Red Data Book of Rare and Endangered Plants

Pteridophytes (Ferns and allies)

Water fern *Azolla filliculoides*

d-la: on fresh waterways in the Delta area

E

Rustyback fern *Ceterach officinarum*

l: in shelter of rocks on Blue Rock Hill, Pessani Road

DP

Cheilanthes vellea

l: in shelter of rocks on hill above centre and in the shelter of bushes on Blue Rock Hill, Pessani Road

D, DP

Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*

d: on dry soils around centre and on woodland edges throughout

D, DF

Gymnosperms (Conifers)

Cypress <i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	la: in woodland near Feres	DF
Prickly juniper <i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	f: on alkaline grassland among the hills in forest area	DF
Calabrian pine <i>Pinus halapensis ssp brutia</i>	ld - co-d: in Dadia Forest	DF
Black pine <i>P. nigra ssp nigra</i>	ld - co-d: in Dadia Forest	DF

Dicotyledons

Aceraceae (Maple family)

Field maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	o: in deciduous woodland	D
A maple <i>A. granatense</i>	o: on roadsides and in scrub in hilly areas - usually with <i>A. monspessulanum</i> , <i>Fraxinus ornus</i> etc	D
Montpelier maple <i>A. monspessulanum</i>	f: in scrub and deciduous woodland throughout forest area	D, DLK

Anacardiaceae (Pistachio family)

Smoke bush <i>Cotinus coggygria</i>	la: on roadside below radio mast	DLK
Terebinth <i>Pistachia terebintha</i>	la: conspicuous component of the scrub at the lunch spot on the Pessani Road	

Apocynaceae (Periwinkle family)

Herbaceous periwinkle <i>Vinca herbacea</i>		DLK
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Apiaceae (Carrot family)

Thorow-wax <i>Bupleurum sp</i>		
Hemlock <i>Conium maculatum</i>	a: waste, grassy places	DA
Field eryngo <i>Eryngium campestre</i>	a: dry calcareous grassland	D, L, E
Sea-holly <i>E. maritimum</i>	a: coastal sand dunes	EA
A yellow umbellifer <i>Ferulago sylvatica</i>	o: shady places around centre; open woodland; roadsides and rocky areas throughout	D
Fennel <i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	a: roadsides and waste places	DA
Parsley water-dropwort <i>Oenanthe lachenalii</i>		EA
Orlaya <i>Orlaya grandiflora</i>	a: widespread in dry grassland	D
Perfoliate alexanders <i>Smyrniium perfoliatum</i>	f: on roadsides in agricultural areas	DLK
An umbellifer <i>Tordylium apulum</i>		DA
A burr chervil <i>Torilis tenella</i>	a: dry grassland on Loutros Hills	L

Aristolochiaceae (Birthwort family)

A birthwort <i>Aristolochia clematidis</i>		DA
A birthwort <i>A. rotunda</i>	under shade of scrub, lunch stop on Pessani Road	DP

Asclepiadaceae (Milkweed family)

Silk-vine <i>Periploca graeca</i>	l: dark purple-flowered climber on bushes on Evros flood plain	E
Swallow-wort <i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	o: roadsides, scrub	D
<i>Asteraceae</i> (Daisy family)		
A yarrow <i>Achillea nobilis</i>	o: below radio mast	DLK
An anthemis <i>Anthemis chia</i>	o: roadside near Doriskos	D
An anthemis <i>A. tomentosa</i>	o: roadside near Doriskos	E
Slender thistle <i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>		
Cornflower <i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	o: arable and grassland; among rocks on Blue Rock Hill	DA, DP, L, E
Perennial cornflower <i>C. triumfetti</i>	o: roadside below radio mast	DLK
Broad-leaved cudweed <i>Filago pyramidata</i>		
Star hawkbit <i>Rhagadiolus stellatus</i>	o: track to Diavolorema river	
Milk thistle <i>Silybum marianum</i>	f: roadsides and waste grassy places	D
A goat's beard <i>Tragopogon dubius</i>		D
A goat's beard <i>T. hybridus</i>		DLK
Salsify <i>T. porifolius</i>	garden escape, Dadia village	DA
Spiny cocklebur <i>Xanthium spinosum</i>		DA
<i>Boraginaceae</i> (Borage family)		
Dyer's alkanet <i>Alkanna lehmanii</i>	o: alkaline grassland; disused quarry, Loutros	D, L
Bugloss <i>Anchusa arvensis</i>		D
Alkanet <i>A. officinalis</i>		D
An alkanet <i>A. undulata</i>		D, E
Pale bugloss <i>Echium italicum</i>		L
Purple viper's-bugloss <i>E. plantagineum</i>		L
Purple gromwell <i>Lithospermum purpureocaeruleum</i>		DA, DF
Nonea <i>Nonea pulla</i>		DA
A goldendrop <i>Onosma kittanae</i>	RDB f: Blue Rock Hill	DP
<i>Brassicaceae</i> (Cabbage family)		
An Alyssum <i>Alyssum corymbosum</i>		L
An Alyssum <i>A. saxatile</i>		DLK
Tower-cress <i>Arabis turrata</i>	o: roadsides and rocky places	DLK
Bunias <i>Bunias erucago</i>	o: track to Diavolorema river	
Hoary cress <i>Cardaria draba</i>	la: tracksides in delta area	DA, E
Flixweed <i>Descurainia sophia</i>	o: grassland and waste places	DA, E
<i>Buxaceae</i> (Box family)		
Box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	o: in woodland understory	DF
<i>Campanulaceae</i> (Bellflower family)		

A clustered bellflower	<i>Campanula lingulata</i>		L
Spreading bellflower	<i>C. patula</i>		L
A slender bellflower	<i>C. spatulata</i>	r: rocky hillside near centre	D
Large Venus's-looking-glass	<i>Legousia speculum-veneris</i>	o: track to Diavolorema river; grassland in Loutros Hills	D,L
Caprifoliaceae (Honeysuckle family)			
Dwarf elder	<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	f: roadsides around Dadia village	DA
Elder	<i>S. nigra</i>		D
Caryophyllaceae (Pink family)			
Corncockle	<i>Agrostemma githago</i>		DA
Berry catchfly	<i>Cucubalus baccifer</i>	o: roadside below radio mast	DLK
A pink	<i>Dianthus cruentus</i>	o: lunch stop on Pessani road	DP
A pink	<i>D. giganteus</i>		DLK
Rose campion	<i>Lychnis coronaria</i>		DLK
Sticky catchfly	<i>L. viscaria ssp. atropurpurea</i>	o: roadside below radio mast	DLK
A sandwort	<i>Minuartia setacea</i>		D
A sandwort	<i>M. greuteriana</i>	RDB la: rocky hillside between the Ecocentre and Dadia village	
Kholrauschia	<i>Kholrauschia velutina</i>	f: dry grassland; rocky habitats	D, DLK, L
Paronychia	<i>Paronychia sp</i>	f: dry, rocky habitats, often on rocks	D
Annual knawel	<i>Scleranthus annuus</i>		L
Perennial knawel	<i>S. perennis</i>	la: scree slope near radio mast	DLK
White campion	<i>Silene alba</i>	a: roadsides	DA
Sand catchfly	<i>S. conica</i>		L
Cretan catchfly	<i>S. cretica</i>		E
Italian catchfly	<i>S. italica</i>	f: rocky grassland; roadside below radio mast	D, DLK
A catchfly	<i>S. multicaulis</i>		E
A catchfly	<i>S. viridiflora</i>		D
Bladder campion	<i>S. vulgaris</i>	o: roadside below radio mast	DLK
Corn spurrey	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>		ED
Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot family)			
Shrubby glasswort	<i>Arthrocnemum fruticosum</i>	a: saltmarshes and beside lagoons	E
Perennial glasswort	<i>A. perenne</i>	a: saltmarshes and beside lagoons	E
Sea-purslane	<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>	a: saltmarshes and beside lagoons	E
Glasswort	<i>Salicornia europaea</i>	a: saltmarshes and beside lagoons	E
Cistaceae (Sun-rose family)			
Grey-leaved cistus	<i>Cistus incanus (=C. creticus)</i>	a: widespread in open situations on rocky hillsides and woodland margins	DF
Bay-leaved cistus	<i>C. laurifolius</i>	o: rocky slopes and woodland margins	DF

Sage-leaved cistus <i>C. salvifolius</i>	a: widespread in open situations on rocky hillsides and woodland margins	D
A fumana <i>Fumana arabica</i>		DF
Spotted rock-rose <i>Tuberaria guttata</i>		DF
 <i>Convolvulaceae</i> (Bindweed family)		
Field bindweed <i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	o: roadsides around Dadia village	D
Pink bindweed <i>C. cantabrica</i>	o: rocky hillsides	DLK, L
 <i>Cornaceae</i> (Dogwood family)		
Dogwood <i>Cornus sanguinea</i>		DA
Cornelian cherry <i>C. mas</i>		D
 <i>Corylaceae</i> (Hazel family)		
Eastern hornbeam <i>Carpinus orientalis</i>	f: shrubby plants in understory	DF
Hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>	f: as coppice and in understory	DF
Hop hornbeam <i>Ostrya carpinifolium</i>		D
 <i>Crassulaceae</i> (Stonecrop family)		
A stonecrop <i>Sedum cespitosum</i>	f: rocky places	D, L
Rock stonecrop <i>S. reflexum</i>	f: rocky places	D
Navelwort <i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	f: rocky places	D
 <i>Dipsacaceae</i> (Teasel/scabious family)		
Teasel <i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>		DA
A scabious <i>Knautia orientalis</i>		DLK
A scabious <i>Knautia sp</i>	r: wasteland near Evros Visitor Centre	D
A scabious <i>Scabiosa sp</i>	f: widespread in alkaline grassland	D
 <i>Ericaceae</i> (Heather family)		
Eastern strawberry-tree <i>Arbutus andrachne</i>	o: woodland and scrub	DF
Tree-heath <i>Erica arborea</i>	o: woodland and scrub	DF
 <i>Euphorbiaceae</i> (Spurge family)		
A spurge <i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>	f: disused quarry, Loutros	L
A spurge <i>E. nicaeensis</i>		D, E
A spurge <i>E. seguierana</i>	la: widespread on roadsides and in grassland	D
 <i>Fagaceae</i> (Beech family)		
Eastern beech <i>Fagus moesiaca</i>	f: scattered in understory	DF
Turkey oak <i>Quercus cerris</i>	f: scattered in forest	DF
Kermes oak, holly oak <i>Q. coccifera</i>	f: tightly grazed bushes on Loutros Hills	L
An oak <i>Q. dalechampii</i>		DF

An oak <i>Q. frainetto</i>	Id-la: in deciduous forest	DF
Downy oak <i>Q. pubescens</i>	la: forest	DF
Sessile oak <i>Q. petraea ssp medwediewii</i>	o: deciduous forest and as isolated standard trees	DF
 <i>Fumariaceae</i> (Fumitory family)		
Fumitory <i>Fumaria officinalis</i>		DA
 <i>Geraniaceae</i> (Crane's-bill family)		
Common storks-bill <i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	o: roadsides in Dadia area and below radio mast	D, DLK
Mallow-leaved storks-bill <i>E. malacoides</i>		D
Cut-leaved crane's-bill <i>Geranium dissectum</i>		DA
		DA
Dove's-foot crane's-bill <i>G. molle</i>		
Little robin <i>G. purpureum</i>	o: waysides and track sides	DA
Small-flowered cranesbill <i>G. pusillum</i>		
Bloody crane's-bill <i>G. sanguineum</i>	o: roadsides in Dadia area and near Lefkimi	D, DLK
Round-leaved crane's-bill <i>G. rotundifolium</i>		DA
 <i>Hypericaceae</i> (St. John's-wort family)		
A St John's-wort <i>Hypericum cerastoides</i>	o: rocky hillside between the Ecocentre and Dadia village	DF
A St John's-wort <i>H. olympicum</i>		DF
Perfoliate St John's-wort <i>H. perforatum</i>		DF
Perforated St. John's-wort <i>H. perforatum</i>		DLK
 <i>Lamiaceae</i> (Mint family)		
Blue bugle <i>Ajuga genevensis</i>		DF
A deadnettle <i>Lamium garganicum</i>		DLK
Spotted deadnettle <i>L. maculatum</i>	white-flowered form on roadside below radio mast	DLK
White horehound <i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	o: rough grassland	L, E
Bastard balm <i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>		DLK
A stachys <i>Stachys cretica</i>		D
Felty germander <i>Teucrium polium</i>		L
A thyme <i>Thymus capitatus</i>	o: alkaline grassland in Loutros Hills	L
A thyme <i>T. longicaulis</i>	o: rocky hillside between the Ecocentre and Dadia village	D, L
 <i>Leguminosae (Papilionaceae)</i> (Pea family)		
A milk-vetch <i>Astragalus hamosus</i>		L
Hairy broom <i>Chamaecytisus hirsutus</i>		DF
Bladder senna <i>Colutea arborescens</i>	o: roadsides in Dadia area	DA
Shrubby scorpion-vetch <i>Coronilla emerus</i>		D
A dyer's greenweed <i>Genista janauensis</i>	o: rocky slopes below radio mast	DLK

Disk trefoil <i>Hymenocarpus circinatus</i>	o: track to Diavolorema river; alkaline grassland in Loutros Hills	DA, L
A vetchling <i>Lathyrus cicera</i>		ED
Yellow vetchling <i>L. aphaca</i>		DLK
Hairy vetchling <i>L. hirsutus</i>	o: woodland bank, track to Diavolorema river	DA
Grass vetchling <i>L. nissolia</i>	o: track to Diavolorema river; alkaline grassland in Loutros Hills	DA
Brown vetch <i>L. setifolius</i>	o: woodland bank, track to Diavolorema river; roadside below radio mast	DA, DLK
A vetchling <i>L. venetus</i>		DF
Bur medick <i>Medicago minima</i>		D
Large disk medick <i>M. orbicularis</i>	o: dry grassland around Dadia and on the edge of the delta	D, E
Small melilot <i>Melilotus indicus</i>		D
Cockscomb sainfoin <i>Onobrychis caput-galli</i>	o: dry grassland around Dadia and in the Loutros Hills	D, L
An onobrychis <i>O. ebenoides</i>		D
Pitch trefoil <i>Psoralea bituminosa</i>		DA
False acacia <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	o: standard trees in Dadia area	D
Spanish broom <i>Spartium junceum</i>	f: waysides and rocky hillsides	D
Narrow-leaved crimson clover <i>Trifolium angustifolium</i>	f: waysides and nutrient-rich grassland	D
Haresfoot clover <i>T. arvense</i>	o: dry grassland	D
A trefoil <i>T. boissieri</i>	o: dry grassland on edge of the delta	ED
Hop trefoil <i>T. campestre</i>		
A trefoil <i>T. globosum</i>	o: dry grassland in the Loutros Hills	L
A trefoil <i>T. pilulare</i>		DLK
Reversed clover <i>T. resupinatum</i>		EA
A trefoil <i>T. speciosum?</i>		DLK
Starry clover <i>T. stellatum</i>	o: dry grassland in the Loutros Hills and on edge of delta	L, E
Tufted vetch <i>Vicia cracca</i>		DLK
Large yellow vetch <i>V. grandiflora</i>		DA
Hairy tare <i>V. hirsuta</i>		D
Hairy yellow vetchling <i>V. hybrida</i>		DA
Yellow vetch <i>V. lutea</i>		DA
Common vetch <i>V. sativa</i> agg.	o: track to Diavolorema river	DA
A vetch <i>V. pannonica</i>		DA
Fodder vetch <i>V. villosa</i>	o: track to Diavolorema river	DA
Linaceae (Flax family)		
Pale flax <i>Linum bienne</i>		E
Purging flax <i>L. catharticum</i>		D
Yellow flax <i>L. nodiflorum</i>		DF

A flax <i>L. tenuifolium</i>		DF
<i>Loranthaceae</i> (Mistletoe family)		
Loranthus <i>Loranthus europaeus</i>	on <i>Quercus petraea</i> at lunch stop on Pessani road	DP
Mistletoe <i>Viscum album</i>	on <i>Populus nigra</i> in Diavolorema valley	DA
<i>Malvaceae</i> (Mallow family)		
Least mallow <i>Malva neglecta</i>	o: track to Diavolorema river	DA
Common mallow <i>M. sylvestris</i>		DA
<i>Moraceae</i> (Fig family)		
Fig <i>Ficus carica</i>	f: around Dadia village	DA
Mulberry <i>Morus nigra</i>	f: around Dadia village	
<i>Oleaceae</i> (Olive family)		
Manna ash <i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	f: roadside below radio mast	DLK
Wild jasmine <i>Jasminum fruticans</i>	o: track to Diavolorema river; roadside below radio mast	DA, DLK, L
Wild privet <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>		DF
Phillyrea <i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>	o: roadside below radio mast; widespread in scrub and woodland	D
<i>Orobanchaceae</i> (Broomrape family)		
Thyme broomrape <i>Orobanche alba</i>		D
Bedstraw broomrape <i>O. caryophyllacea</i>	o: near radio mast; Blue Rock Hill, Pessani road	DLK, DP
<i>Paeoniaceae</i> (Peony family)		
Wild peony <i>Paeonia peregrina</i>	o: roadside below radio mast; lunch stop on Pessani road	DLK, DP
<i>Papaveraceae</i> (Poppy family)		
Common poppy <i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	o: grassland	DA, L, E
<i>Platanaceae</i> (Plane family)		
Oriental plane <i>Platanus orientalis</i>	r: beside river at Loutros	L
<i>Polygalaceae</i> (Milkwort family)		
Tufted milkwort <i>Polygala comosa</i>	o: dry rocky grassland	D, DLK
A milkwort <i>Polygala sp</i>	o: Blue Rock Hill	DP
<i>Polygonaceae</i> (Dock family)		
Curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i>	o: grassland and wasteland	DA

Primulaceae (Primrose family)

Purple loosestrife (not as UK) *Lysimachia atropurpurea* r: roadside between Centre and Dadia village D

Ranunculaceae (Buttercup family)

Pheasant's-eye *Adonis sp* E
 Peacock anemone *Anemone pavonina* o: roadside below radio mast; Blue Rock Hill DLK, DP
 Traveller's-joy *Clematis vitalba* o: roadside below radio mast DLK
 Eastern larkspur *Consolida orientalis* o: grassland on Loutros Hills L, E
 Forking larkspur *C. regalis* DA, L
 Love-in-a-mist *Nigella damascena* r: track to Diavolorema river DA
 Fan-leaved crowfoot *Ranunculus circinatus* EA
 Lesser celandine *R. ficaria* D, DLK
 A buttercup *R. gramineus?* DLK
 A water crowfoot *R. pseudofluitans* DLK
 A buttercup *R. muricatus* la: by stream on track to Diavolorema river DA
 A buttercup *R. trichophyllus* EA
 A buttercup *R. velutinus* DA

Rhamnaceae (Buckthorn family)

Christ's-thorn *Paliurus spina-christi* a: hedgerows and isolated in shrubby areas D, L, E
 A buckthorn *Rhamnus oleoides* DLK

Rosaceae (Rose family)

Eriolobus *Eriolobus trilobatus* RDB single tree on Pessani road DP
 A geum *Geum bulgaricum* DLK
 Sulphur cinquefoil *Potentilla recta* o: rocky hillside below Centre; rocky grassland in Loutros Hills D, DLK
 A cinquefoil *Poterium verrucosum* DA
 Almond-leaved (=wild) pear *Pyrus amygdaliformis* o: single trees or bushes beside the road D, L
 Dog rose *Rosa canina* f: waysides and hedgerows D
 Mediterranean sweet briar *R. glutinosa* track to Diavolorema river DA
 Bramble *Rubus fruticosus* f: beside canals ED
 Wild service-tree *Sorbus torminalis* o: roadside below radio mast D, DLK

Rubiaceae (Bedstraw family)

Crosswort *Galium cruciata* o: roadsides, alkaline grassland D
 Field madder *Sherardia arvensis* f: grassland on edge of delta E

Salicaceae (Willow family)

Grey poplar *Populus canescens* D
 Black poplar *P. nigra ssp nigra* Diavolorema valley DA
 Aspen *P. tremulus*
 White willow *Salix alba* D

Scrophulariaceae (Figwort family)

Jersey toadflax <i>Linaria pelisseriana</i>	o: rocky hillside between the Ecocentre and Dadia village	DF
A toadflax <i>L. peloponesiaca</i>		D
Southern red bartsia <i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	o: rocky hillside between the Ecocentre and Dadia village	D
French figwort <i>Schrophularia canina</i>		DLK
Moth mullein <i>Verbascum blattaria</i>	o: rocky places on Pessani Road	D, DP
A mullein <i>V. sinuatum</i>	o: roadsides	D, E
Great mullein <i>V. thapsus</i>		DLK
A mullein <i>V. undulatum</i>	f: roadsides	D
Large speedwell <i>Veronica austriaca v. austriaca</i>		DF

Tamaricaceae (Tamarisk family)

Tamarisk <i>Tamarix hampeana</i>	d-a: Evros delta	E
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Tiliaceae (Lime family)

Silver lime <i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	f: woods below radio mast	DLK
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Ulmaceae (Elm family)

Elm <i>Ulmus canescens</i>	la: hedgerows around Dadia village and on track to Diavolorema river	DA
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Valerianaceae (Valerian family)

A cornsalad <i>Valerianella sp</i>		
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Violaceae (Violet family)

Dwarf pansy <i>Viola (arvensis) kitaibeliana</i>	o: dry grassland beside track to Diavolorema river	DA
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Monocotyledons**Cyperaceae** (Sedge family)

Divided sedge <i>Carex divisa</i>		EA
False fox sedge <i>C. otrubae</i>		DLK
Sea club-rush <i>Scirpus maritimus</i>	ld: edges of lagoons and canals	EA

Iridaceae (Iris family)

Wild gladiolus <i>Gladiolus illyricus</i>		DLK
An iris <i>Iris attica</i>	o: rocky hillside between the Ecocentre and Dadia village; dry rocky places elsewhere	D
An iris <i>I. orientalis</i>		E
Yellow flag <i>I. pseudacorus</i>		E
An iris <i>I. sintenisii</i>	beside track to Diavolorema river	DA

Juncaceae (*Rush family*)

Sharp rush *Juncus acutus* f-ld: close to water E

Liliaceae (*Lily family*)

An allium *Allium nigrum* E

Asphodel *Asphodelus aestivus* DF

Dragon arum *Dracunculus vulgaris*

A grape hyacinth *Muscari botryoides* o: open woodland D

Tassel hyacinth *M. comosum* a: dry grassland and rocky places D

A grape hyacinth *M. commutatum* o: dry grassland and rocky places D

A grape hyacinth *M. neglectum* o: dry grassland and rocky places D

Honey garlic *Nectaroscordum siculum* DLK

Star-of-Bethlehem *Ornithogalum umbellatum* o: below radio mast ; Blue Rock Hill on Pessani road DLK, DP

Butcher's-broom *Ruscus aculeatus* o: forest understory DF

Wild tulip *Tulipa sylvestris* road verge below radio mast DLK

Orchidaceae (*Orchid family*)

White helleborine *Cephalanthera damasonium* DLK

A white helleborine *C. epipactoides* RDB r; extensive patch on road below radio mast

Sword-leaved helleborine *C. longifolia* DLK

Red helleborine *C. rubra* single plant on road below radio mast

Violet bird's-nest orchid *Limodorum abortivum* o: in forest DF

Mammose orchid *Ophrys mammosa* r: small group on road verge below radio mast DLK

Lax-flowered orchid *Orchis laxiflora* DLK

Long-lipped Serapias *Serapias vomeracea* DLK, ED

Poaceae (*Grass family*)

Aegilops *Aegilops ovata* (= *neglecta*) f: dry grassland D, L

Elegant hair-grass *Aira elegantissima* f: rocky places D

Large quaking-grass *Briza maxima* f: dry grassland D

Drooping brome *Bromus tectorum* f: agricultural grassland DA, E

Cock's foot *Dactylis glomerata* a: agricultural grassland DA

Wall barley *Hordeum murinum* f: agricultural grassland and waste places DA

Wood melick *Melica uniflora* DLK

Common reed *Phragmites australis* ld: fresh and brackish water bodies

Bulbous meadow-grass *Poa bulbosa* D, E

Angel's hair *Stipa pennata* o: alkaline grassland L

Bearded fescue *Vulpia ambigua* DLK

Typhaceae (*Reedmace family*)

Lesser reedmace *Typha angustifolia* f: edge of canals E

Greater reedmace *T. latifolia*

f: edge of canals

E

FUNGI

Shaggy parasol
Lepiota rhacodes

EA

LICHENS

Cladonia foliacea
Rhizocarpon geographicum
Umbilicaria sp.

DF

DF

D