

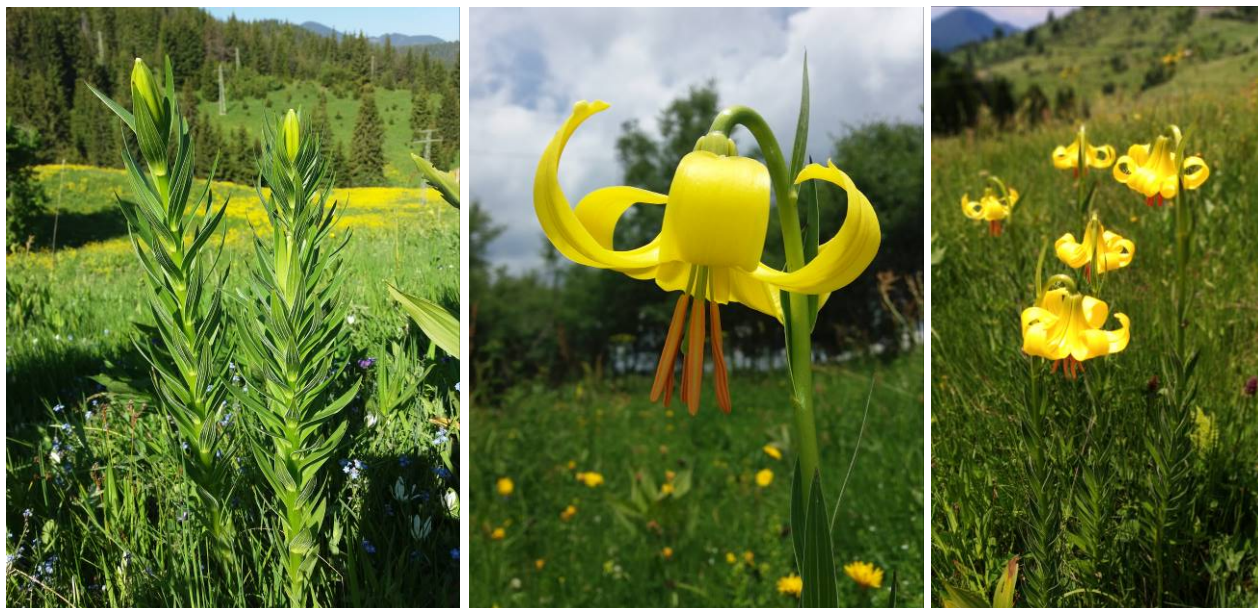
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**REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE RODOPEAN LILY (*LILIUM RHODOPAEUM*)
NEAR STOYKITE, SMOLYAN MUNICIPALITY, BULGARIA – 2019
BY VLADIMIR TRIFONOV**

This is a lightly edited version of the report prepared for Honeyguide by local holiday leader and botanist Vladimir Trifonov.

The year of 2019 was the best year to date for *Lilium rhodopeum* on this site, with the biggest number in the population since beginning of monitoring in 2008!

I visited the locality of the Rhodopean lily four times this year (08.06., 23.06., 30.06. and 11.08.2019) with a kind support of Honeyguide. There were identified total 194 individuals of the species, 132 of them are flowering and 71 vegetative. Insects or cattle had damaged 30 of these.



Lilium rhodopeum 2019, various: in bud, showing the local context (8 June), a close-up (23 June); a group of flowers (30 June).

Table 1. Results of census studies 2008-2018.

Year	number of flowering individuals	number of vegetative ind.	ratio of flowering/vegetative ind.	number of damaged ind.	total number of ind.	increasing/decreasing of total number of ind. In percentage to previous year
2008	122	66	1,85	28	188	-
2010	96	-	-	19	96	-48.94
2011	145	-	-	-	145	51.04
2012	78	52	1,50	-	130	-10.34
2013	17	46	0,37	-	63	-51.54
2014	42	11	3,82	15	53	-15.87
2015	41	4	10,25	14	45	-15.09
2016	56	23	2,43	5	79	75.56
2017	75	34	2,21	34	109	37.97
2018	117	31	3,77	10	148	35.78
2019	123	71	1,73	30	194	31.08

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Among the flowering individuals there are 109 with a single bloom, 10 with two blooms, and four with three blooms in the inflorescence. Ratio of the flowering/vegetative individuals is about 1.73 (123F/71V) in favor of flowering ones.

The total number of the population continues to increase for 2019 by 46 individuals, which is 31% more compared with 2018.

The population of the Rhodopean lily was not impacted by grazing until the end of flowering season. Grazing started late enough, in August, which is favorable for the species. Rhodopean lilies did not successfully form fruit capsules in year 2019.

Vladimir Trifonov, 2019



Photos of the *Lilium* meadow, 8 June and 23 June.