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Conservation status of endemic and rare plants of Küre Mountains National Park (Bartin Section)

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Küre Mountains National Park is 37.753 ha, whereas our research area is 19.000 ha (Bartin section). Küre Mountains start from Bartin River on the west and runs approximately 300 kilometers on to Kızılırmak River from the east. Also known as İsfendiyar Mountains, the mountain range is extends Black Sea on the north and Gökirmak on the south.

Küre Mountains National Park, which hosts the best intact examples of "Black Sea Moist Karst Forest" ecosystems, is among the European 100 Forest Hotspots that need to be protected. "Hotspots" is a nature protection term that is used to define highly endemic and rapidly declining habitat areas. Also, the area is one of the 9 Forest Hot Spots and 311 Key Biodiversity Areas in Turkey that must be protected.

As a consequence of identification of the collected plant specimens, in the Bartin Section of Küre Mountains 560 taxa belonging to 280 genera and 89 families have been determined. 32 of these taxa belonging to 19 families are endemic and 6 taxa are rare. In this study, it is presented the habitat, threat categories, suggestions for the protection, life forms, phytogeographical regions and photos of the 38 taxa (32 of it are endemics and 6 of it are rare).

Keywords: endemic, rare, Küre Mountains, Bartın.