



5th meeting of PLANT WILD Grundtvig Project

Harvest and preparation of Carqueja (*Chamaespartium tridentatum*)




Plantas Aromáticas e Medicinais

Solsona, 12th June, 2013

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Region
Serra do Montemuro



- Relatively undeveloped
- High biodiversity
- Adverse and difficult climate
- Highly acidic granite based soils
- Maximum elevation nearly 1400m (8th tallest in Portugal)
- Well preserved from an environmental viewpoint
- Exceptional conditions for Organic agriculture

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Activities



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Activities



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Two methods for obtaining herbs

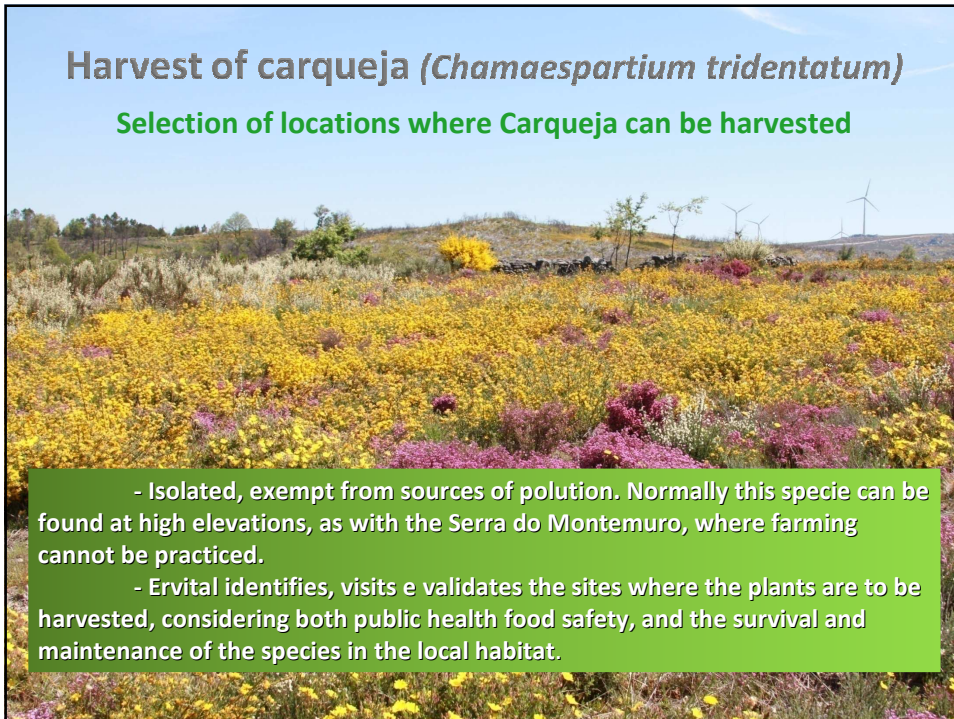
- ▶ Collection of wild flora
- ▶ Cultivation



Harvest of carqueja (*Chamaespartium tridentatum*)

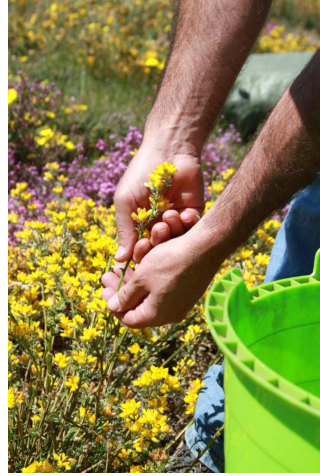
Selection of locations where Carqueja can be harvested

- Isolated, exempt from sources of pollution. Normally this specie can be found at high elevations, as with the Serra do Montemuro, where farming cannot be practiced.
- Ervital identifies, visits e validates the sites where the plants are to be harvested, considering both public health food safety, and the survival and maintenance of the species in the local habitat.



The processes/methods of harvest of this plant:

- Manual stripping of just the flowers;



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The processes/methods of harvest of this plant:

Chopping the flowering branches (with a weedwhacker)



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Locations and conditions for drying:



- Clean and hygienic conditions
- With controlled ventilation, temperature and lighting



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**Separation of the flowers from the stems when cut mechanically,
after drying**



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Storage

protected from moisture, light, heat, fauna and other hazards



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Finished Product

▶ Hand picked

▶ Seived/broken

