

QUINTA DO EGA



wetlands, acknowledged by the grass (Triglochin maritima). integration in CORINE Biotopes and Ria de Aveiro SPA (Special Protection Area, Birds Directive). Although it is not a true "ria", but a lagoon system, this rich ecosystem encompasses several biotopes, such as saltmarshes, reed beds, rushes, slime, islands, free water masses, salt ponds and fish culture and bird breeding sites.

Marshlands originate in coastal zones with calm waters. The reduced tidal flow facilitates the deposition of detritus and suspended sediments in mudflats that allow the installation of a particular vegetation type: halophytic plants. In "Quinta do Ega" we can find middle level marsh zones, habitat to sea purslane Text: Rosa Pinto (Halimione portulacoides), and, to a lesser extent, sea aster (Aster

Wetlands present undeniable tripolium subsp. pannonicus), biological and landscape value. sea lavender (Limonium vulgare), "Ria de Aveiro" is one of the most small marsh flower (Cotula important Portuguese coastal coronopifolia) and sea arrow-

> In further coastline we can find high salt marsh, where sea rushes (Juncus maritimus) dominate, being the formations locally called as "juncal". Here and there, within the "juncal", we can also observe sea club-rush (Bolboschoenus maritimus = Scirpus maritimus).

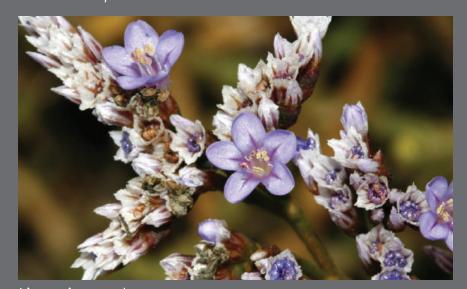
> The expansion of freshwater favors reedbeds, which are pure stands of reeds (Phragmites australis).

> Despite being monospecific, reedbeds have great ecological important, providing rest and breeding sites for many aquatic species, especially birds.

Photography: Lísia Lopes



Halimione portulacoides



Limonium vulgare



Bolboschoenus maritimus



Aster tripolium subsp. pannonicus



Juncus maritimus

