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My interest is to note in contributions to the Lotus Newsletter any remarks that are made LOTUS CRETICUS between the perennial and annual growth habit in the genus. One has the impression, perhaps since This plant species is common in Corsica, Spain, Barbaric Islands, France, Sardinia, Sicily, Crete, Cyprus, Syria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Algeria. mostly annual group of species that provides the grain legumes of human nutrition.

In Israel, it occurs on the sandy seashore, in the coastal Galilee, Acco Plain, Carmel coast and in the Philistean Plain. It is often associated with Sparocotus virginicus, Agropyrum junceum and Ammophila arenaria.

It will be interesting to follow any attempts which may be reported in Israel. It is an effective sand-binder, creating multiple hills of sand on shifting dunes. It has been transplanted successfully by us into the North Sinai Peninsula, where it has prospered without irrigation. It is relatively easy to multiply it by seeding, after the seeds have been treated with glass paper. The collection of seeds has to be carefully handled as the siliques open suddenly and the seeds are scattered by the wind.

percentage of annual (or biennial) types produced by perennials in a given season can be related to the environmental conditions. Trials to create mother plantations have proved successful and 50kg seed per hectare have been produced (200 granules = one gram). will become possible, following taxonomic and genetic analyses, to indicate possible Such mother plantations seem to be sensitive to nematodes and rust. Common chemicals for plant protection are suitable to solve this problem. the spectrum of variability which must inevitably follow such a change.

The roots possess nodules rich with nitrogen accumulative bacteria. Thus, these plants may improve sandy soil by accumulating nitrogen in the soil.

of plants. It is to be hoped that, in defining habitats and distribution of the present day, it may be possible to work back from the Besides acting as a fodder for sheep, it is also an ornamental plant due to its dark green colour, which it retains throughout the year.

of man as a dispersal agent. I have tried to do this for the Gramineae of South Asia (1976b), but have not so far been able to proceed to

Finally, it may definitely be considered as a drought resistant plant.

for the study of isomorphism, frequently still somewhat sketchy and hypothetical, on geological history and palaeoclimatology, and the history of vegetation and its fauna as governed primarily by these physical factors.

Reference

Le Houérou H. 1969. Principes, Méthodes et Techniques d'Amélioration Pastorale et Fourragère en Tunisie. Publication de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture (F.A.O.), Rome. Page 157: Le Lotier de Crète (Lotus creticus).

crop could be grown in the intervening period. In parts of India,