
Personal Information **Spyridon Tsiftsis**

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Sex Male | Date of birth 06/05/1975 | Nationality Greek

Work Experience

- 5/2018 - present Assistant Professor in the Department of Forest and Natural Environment Sciences
– International Hellenic University
- 2/2001-5/2018 Fire inspector (fire officer), Kavala Fire Brigade, Greek Fire Service

Education

- 2003-2009 Doctoral thesis
Title of Thesis: “The Orchids (*Orchidaceae*) of E. Macedonia: Distribution, Ecology and High Conservation Value Areas”; School of Biology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
- 1993-1998 Bachelor of Forestry and Natural Environment; School of Forestry and Natural Environment, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

Languages

Greek (mother tongue); English (Proficient user)

Research interest

Botany; Taxonomy; Ecology; Biogeography; Conservation

Job-related skills

Field sampling; Plant taxonomy; Data analysis (R, PASW Statistics); Conservation planning (Zonation); Species distribution modelling (Maxent), GIS

Selected Research Projects

- 09/2022 - 02/2023 “Recording of Important Plant Species in the Municipality of Kato Nevrokopi (Prefecture of Drama)” (Duties: Scientific Coordinator. Funded: Municipality of Kato Nevrokopi)
- 11/2021 - 07/2023 “Study and recording of the orchids of the North Pindos National Park” (Duties: Scientific Coordinator. Funded: Natural Environment & Climate Change Agency - Management Agency of Northern Pindos National Park.)
- 09/2021 - 12/2022 “Establishment of protocols for the germination of the endemic plants of Mt. Olympus” (Duties: Member of the research team. Funded: Natural Environment & Climate Change Agency – Management Agency of Olympus National Park. Scientific Coordinator: Prof. Merou Th., IHU, Department of Forest and Natural Environment Sciences)
- 7/9/2020 – “Invasive Alien Species Observatory and Network Development for the
31/12/2022 Assessment of Climate Change Impacts in Black Sea Deltaic Protected Areas” (Duties: Member of the research team. Funded: ENI CBC JOINT OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME BLACK SEA BASIN 2014-2020, Scientific Coordinator: Prof. Merou Th., IHU, Department of Forest and Natural Environment Sciences)

- 31/7/2020 – “Restoration, management and valorisation of priority habitats of Mediterranean coastal areas” (λήγει 30/6/2023) (Duties: Scientific Coordinator. Funded: Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature)
- 1/10/2020 – “Consequences on biodiversity from the abandonment of traditional land uses in mountainous areas: state of the art, predictions for the future, response measures” (Duties: Member of the research team, Funded: Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation, Scientific Coordinator: Assoc. Prof. Ioannis Tsiripidis, ATh, School of Biology)
- 31/10/2020 & 18/4/2021 –
- 31/12/2021 –
- 03/2015-12/2015 “Monitoring and assessment of the conservation status of habitat types and plant species of Community interest within the area of the Management Body of Rodopi mountain-range National Park” (Duties: Member of the research team, Funded: OIKOM EΠE-Ministry of Environment, Scientific Coordinator: Assist. Prof. Ioannis Tsiripidis, ATh, School of Biology)
- 4/2014-12/2014 “Monitoring and assessment of the conservation status of species of Community interest in Greece” (Duties: Member of the research team, Funded: Ministry of Environment, Scientific Coordinator: Assoc. Prof. Georgiou K., National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Faculty of Biology)

Publications

Since 2006 I have published 56 publications in international peer-reviewed scientific journals, from which 37 are included in the SCOPUS and the Web of Science databases. Moreover, I have published 17 books or book chapters, the most significant of which is a two-volume book presenting all the taxa of the family Orchidaceae occurring in Greece (published in 2017).

Selected publications

- Kolanowska, M., **Tsiftsis, S.**, Dudek, M. & Baranow, P. 2022. Niche conservatism and evolution of climatic tolerance in the Neotropical orchid genera *Sobralia* and *Brasolia*. *Scientific Reports* 12:13936.
- Djordjević, V., **Tsiftsis, S.**, Kindlmann, P. & Stevanović, V. 2022. Orchid diversity along an altitudinal gradient in the central Balkans. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* 10:929266. doi: 10.3389/fevo.2022.929266
- Kiziridis, A.D., Mastrogianni, A., Pleniou, M., Karadimou, E., **Tsiftsis, S.**, Xystrakis, F. & Tsiripidis, I. 2022. Acceleration and relocation of abandonment in a Mediterranean mountainous landscape: Drivers, consequences and management implications. *Land* 11(3):406.
- Tsiftsis, S.** 2021. The role of Natura 2000 network in protecting the orchid flora of East Macedonia (NE Greece). *European Journal of Environmental Sciences* 11(2): 71-78.
- Tsiftsis, S.**, Giannakis, T., Panajiotidis, S., Eleftheriadou, E. & Theodoropoulos, K. 2021. *Colchicum tulakii* (Colchicaceae), a new species from Central Macedonia, northeastern Greece. *Nordic Journal of Botany* 39(6): e03207.
- Štípková, Z., **Tsiftsis, S.** & Kindlmann, P. 2021. How did the agricultural policy during the communist period affect the decline in orchid biodiversity in Central and Eastern Europe? *Global Ecology and Conservation* 26: e01498.
- Shrestha, B., **Tsiftsis, S.**, Chapagain, D.-J., Khadka, C., Bhattarai, P., Kayastha, N., Kolanowska, M. & Kindlmann, P. 2021. Suitability of habitats in Nepal for *Dactylorhiza hatagirea* now and under predicted future changes in climate. *Plants* 10(3):467.
- Jakubska-Busse, A., **Tsiftsis, S.**, Śliwiński, M., Křenová, Z., Djordjević, V., Steiu, C., Kolanowska, M., Efimov, P., Hennigs, S., Lustyk, P. & Kreutz, C.A.J. 2021. How to protect natural habitats of rare terrestrial orchids effectively: a comparative case study of *Cypripedium calceolus* L. in different geographical regions of Europe. *Plants* 10:404.

- Djordjević, V., **Tsiftsis, S.**, Lakušić, D., Jovanović, S., Jakovljević, K. & Stevanović, V. 2020. Patterns of distribution, abundance and composition of forest terrestrial orchids. *Biodiversity & Conservation* 29:4111–4134.
- Tsiftsis, S.** & Tsiripidis, I. 2020. Temporal and spatial patterns of orchid species distribution in Greece: implications for conservation. *Biodiversity & Conservation* 29(11-12):3461-3489.
- Tsiftsis, S.** & Djordjević, V. 2020. Modelling sexually deceptive orchid species distributions under future climates: the importance of plant-pollinator interactions. *Scientific Reports* 10, 10623.
- Štípková, Z., **Tsiftsis, S.** & Kindlmann, P. 2020. Pollination mechanisms are driving orchid distribution in space. *Scientific Reports* 10, 850.
- Varsamis, G., Karapatzak, E., Tseniklidou, K., Merou, T. & **Tsiftsis, S.** 2020. Plant morphological variability at the distribution edges: the case of *Dryas octopetala* (Rosaceae) in northern Greece. *Willdenowia* 50(2): 267-277.
- Tsiftsis, S.**, Štípková, Z. & Kindlmann, P. 2019. Role of way of life, latitude, elevation and climate on the richness and distribution of orchid species. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 28(1):75-96.
- Tsiftsis, S.** & Djordjević, V. 2018. Habitat effects and differences in the reproductive success of *Orchis punctulata* and *Orchis purpurea* (Orchidaceae). *Turkish Journal of Botany* 42: 400-411.
- López-Sáez, J.A., Glais, A., **Tsiftsis, S.** & Lepez, L. 2018. Modern pollen-vegetation relationships along an altitudinal transect in the Lefka Ori massif (western Crete, Greece). *Review of Paleobotany and Palynology* 259:159-170.
- Antonopoulos, Z. & **Tsiftsis, S.** 2017. Atlas of the Greek Orchids, Vol II. Rethymno, Greece: Mediterraneo Editions.
- Tsiftsis, S.** & Antonopoulos, Z. 2017. Atlas of the Greek Orchids, Vol I. Rethymno, Greece: Mediterraneo Editions.
- Kontsiotis, V., Zaimis, G., **Tsiftsis, S.**, Kourtsiadis, P. & Bakaloudis, D. 2017. Assessing the influence of riparian vegetation structure on bird communities in agricultural Mediterranean landscapes. *Agroforestry systems* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10457-017-0162-x>
- Drouzas, A., Charitonidou, M. & **Tsiftsis, S.** 2017. Chloroplast DNA variation in *Epipactis atrorubens* populations from northern Greece. *Botany Letters* 164(1):55-62.
- Tsiftsis, S.** & Tsiripidis, I. 2016. Threat categories of the Greek orchids (Orchidaceae). *Botanika Chronika* 21:43-74.
- Djordjević, V., **Tsiftsis, S.**, Lakušić, D., Jovanović, S. & Stevanović, V. 2016. Factors affecting the distribution and abundance of orchids in grasslands and herbaceous wetlands. *Systematics and Biodiversity* 14(4): 355-370.
- Tsiftsis, S.** 2016. Morphological variability of *Himantoglossum* s.s. (Orchidaceae) in Greece. *Phytotaxa* 245(1): 17-30.
- Djordjević, V., **Tsiftsis, S.**, Lakušić, D. & Stevanović, V. 2016. Niche analysis of orchids of serpentine and non-serpentine areas: Implications for conservation. *Plant Biosystems* 150(4): 710-719.
- Trigas, P., Panitsa, M. & **Tsiftsis, S.** 2013. Elevational Gradient of Vascular Plant Species Richness and Endemism in Crete – The Effect of Post-Isolation Mountain Uplift on a Continental Island System. *PLoS ONE* 8(3): e59425.
- Karamplianis, T., **Tsiftsis, S.** & Constantinidis, T. 2013. The genus *Crocus* L. (Iridaceae) in Greece: some noteworthy floristic records and their karyotypes. *Phytologia Balcanica* 19(1):53-66.
- Merou, T.P., **Tsiftsis, S.** & Papanastasis, V.P. 2013. Disturbance and recovery in semi-arid Mediterranean grasslands. *Applied Vegetation Science* 16(3):417-425.
- Tsiftsis, S.**, Tsiripidis, I., Trigas, P. & Karagiannakidou, V. 2012. The effects of presence/absence vs. continuous suitability data on reserve selection. *European Journal of Environmental Sciences* 2(2): 125-137.
- Trigas, P., **Tsiftsis, S.**, Tsiripidis, I. & Iatrou, G. 2012. Distribution patterns and conservation prioritization of the endemic flora of Peloponnese (Greece). *Folia Geobotanica* 47:421-439.

- Tsiftsis, S.,** Tsiripidis, I. & Papaioannou, A. 2012. Ecology of the orchid *Goodyera repens* in its southern distribution limits. *Plant Biosystems* 146:857-866.
- Tsiftsis, S.,** Tsiripidis, I. & Trigas, P. 2011. Identifying important areas for orchid conservation in Crete. *European Journal of Environmental Sciences* 1(2):28-37.
- Tsiftsis, S.,** Tsiripidis, I. & Karagiannakidou, V. 2009. Identifying areas of high importance for orchid conservation in east Macedonia (NE Greece). *Biodiversity and Conservation* 18(7): 1765-1780.
- Tsiftsis, S.,** Tsiripidis I., Karagiannakidou, V. & Alifragis, D. 2008. Niche analysis and conservation of the orchids of east Macedonia (NE Greece). *Acta Oecologica-International Journal of Ecology* 33:27-35.