

ficativamente a comprender la distribución clinal de especies y hábitats en el saladar, así como la estructura de las comunidades halófilas.

Palabras clave: salinidad edáfica, halófitas, marisma de Cordovilla, umbral de tolerancia a la sal, estructura de comunidades halófitas.

ABSTRACT

The specialized halophytic flora uses various strategies aimed at managing the high concentrations of salts in the soil, to compensate for the osmotic effect of edaphic salts and thus be able to absorb water. Therefore, although the presence of adaptations to salt-rich soils is a common feature, the diversity of the strategies used by plant species could lead to different species-specific ranges in the tolerance to edaphic salinity. The main objective of this study is to determine the relationship between the salinity thresholds of the soil and the salt tolerance of plant species inhabiting the inland salt marsh of Cordovilla (Albacete), taken as a model. Specifically, the species-edaphic salinity relationship has been evaluated in *Lygeum spartum*, *Helianthemum polygonoides*, *Schoenus nigricans*, *Frankenia thymifolia*, *Limonium supinum*, *Limonium caesium*, *Senecio auricula*, *Suaeda vera*, *Sonchus crassifolius*, *Sal-sola vermiculata*, along with a couple of typical non-halophytic zonal vegetation species present on the margins of the salt marsh, which were used as control species: *Helianthemum violaceum* and *Stipa tenacissima*. The results obtained in this study are of particular interest because they significantly contribute to understand the clinal distribution of species and habitats in the saltmarsh, as well as the structure of halophytic communities.

Key words: Edaphic salinity, halophytes, Cordovilla saltmarsh, salt tolerance threshold, structure of halophytic communities.

1. INTRODUCCIÓN

La salinidad, en general, restringe el crecimiento de las plantas y afecta a la flora tanto en su fisiología como en su estructura, debido a sus efectos sobre procesos de tipo osmótico y iónico (Margules *et al.*, 1988; Merlo *et al.*, 2011). Las formaciones de suelos salinos tienen gran interés biológico y botánico, siendo hábitats prioritarios de la directiva europea 92 /43/CEE (Martín Herrero *et al.*, 2003). Junto con los sedimentos yesíferos, los suelos salinos resultan un medio ecológico muy particular para la vida vegetal, en los que se produce una excepción osmótica que debe ser solucionada por la flora que los habita.