



Manual for iNaturalist Application Use & Recording of Pinna Species and Mediterranean Cushion Coral

Photos: Dimitris Tosidis, iSea



This manual was created for activities of the obSERVING NATURE project, which is implemented with the support of WWF Greece, within the framework of the “Greek Wildlife Alliance” initiative



Greek
Wildlife Alliance



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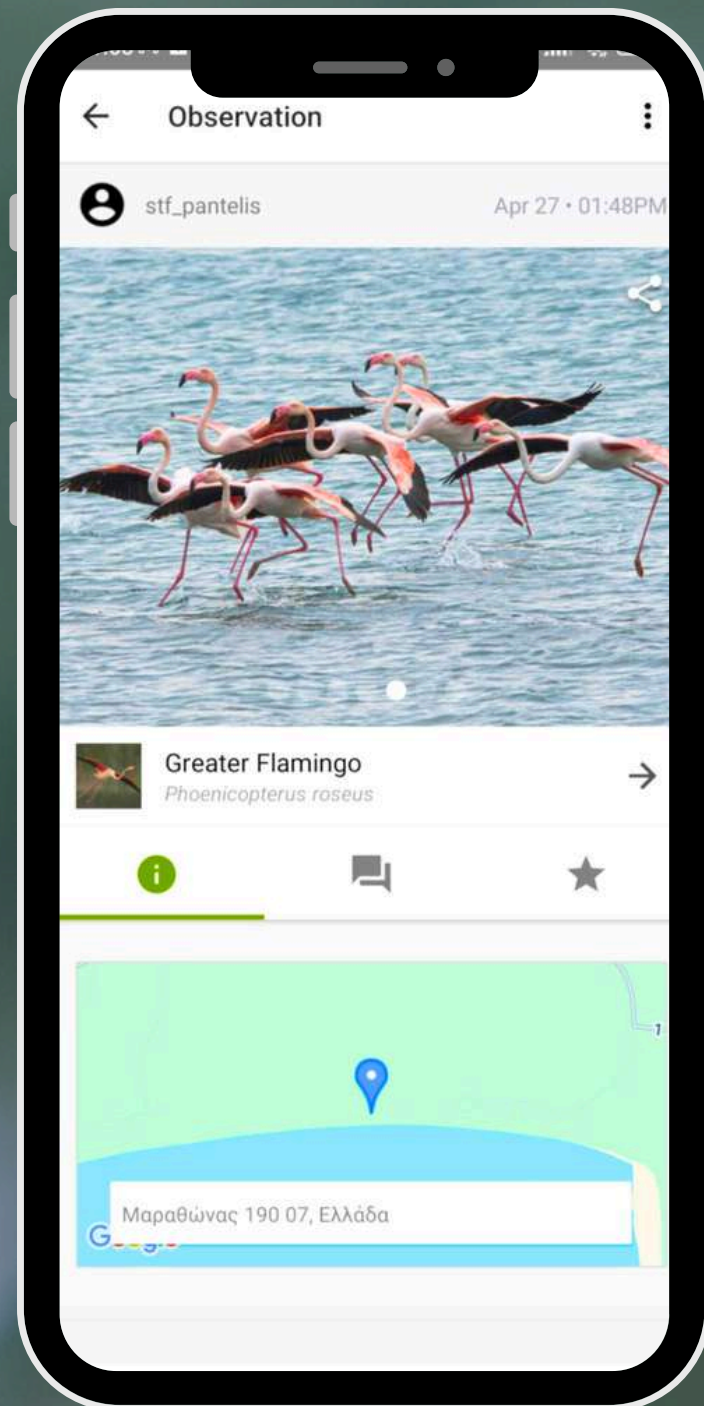
*Guide Paintings:
Viotopos Publications*



Online Platform & Application



Scan to Download
the App:



- **Citizen Science Tool** for data collection
- **Recording and Identification** of biodiversity
- Open Access **Database**
- **Global Network** of Scientists and Nature Lovers



Application

Create an **account** to add your observations via:

Browser

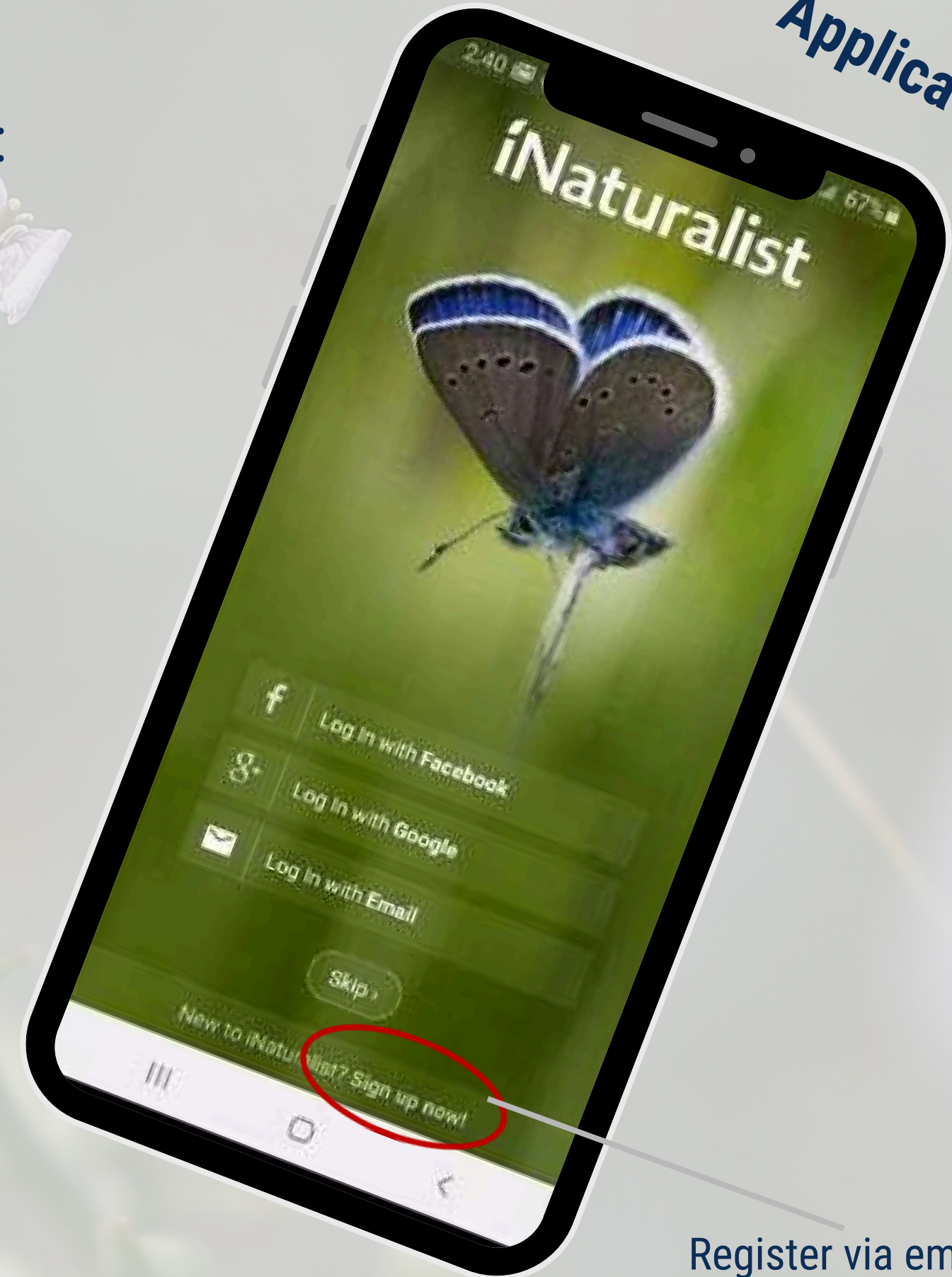
Welcome Back!

☐ Remember me [Forgot your password?](#)

[Log In](#)

[Don't have an account? Sign up.](#)

[Show more login options](#)



Register via email

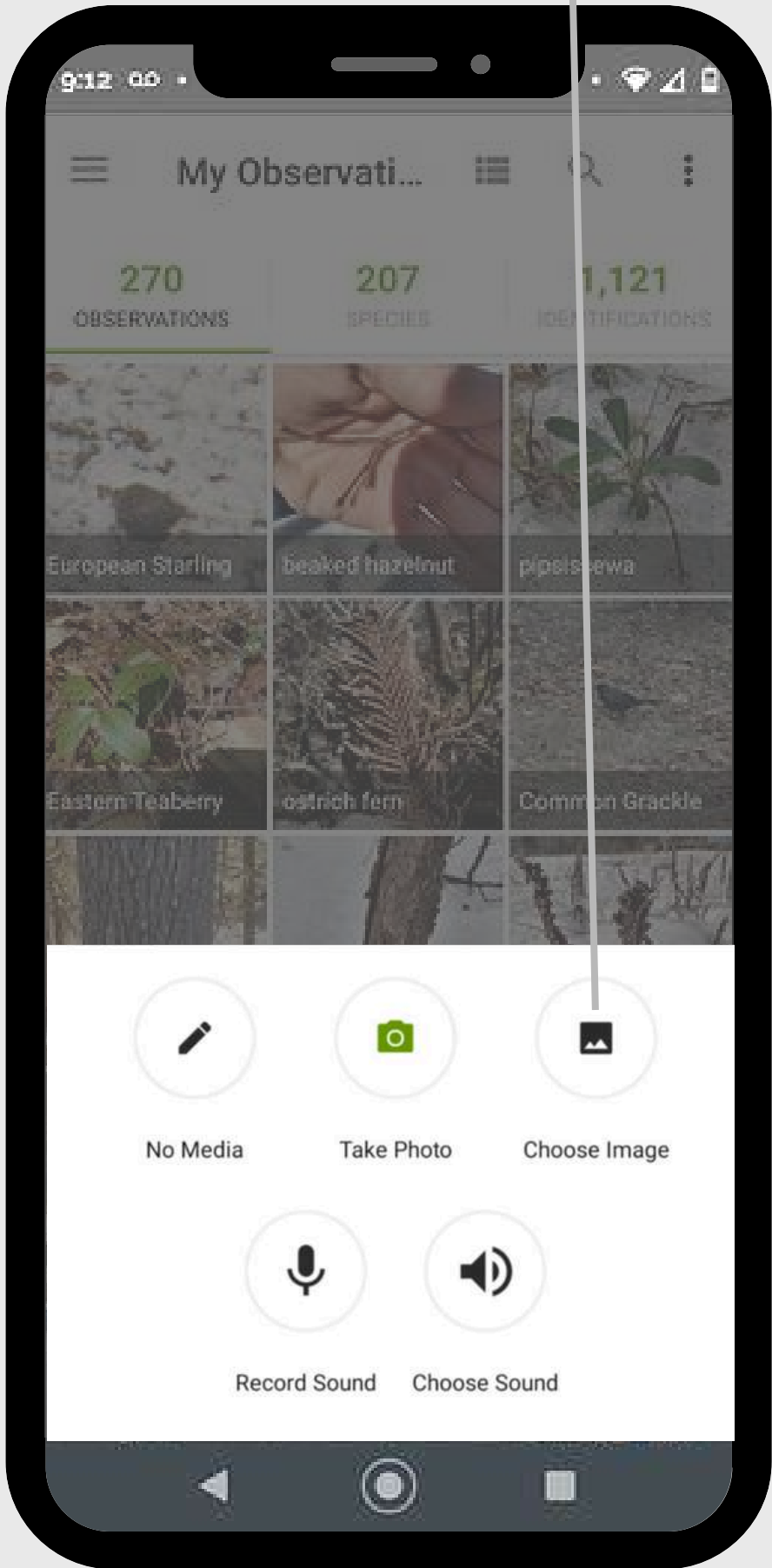
How to add an observation of a species?

Locate it in nature!

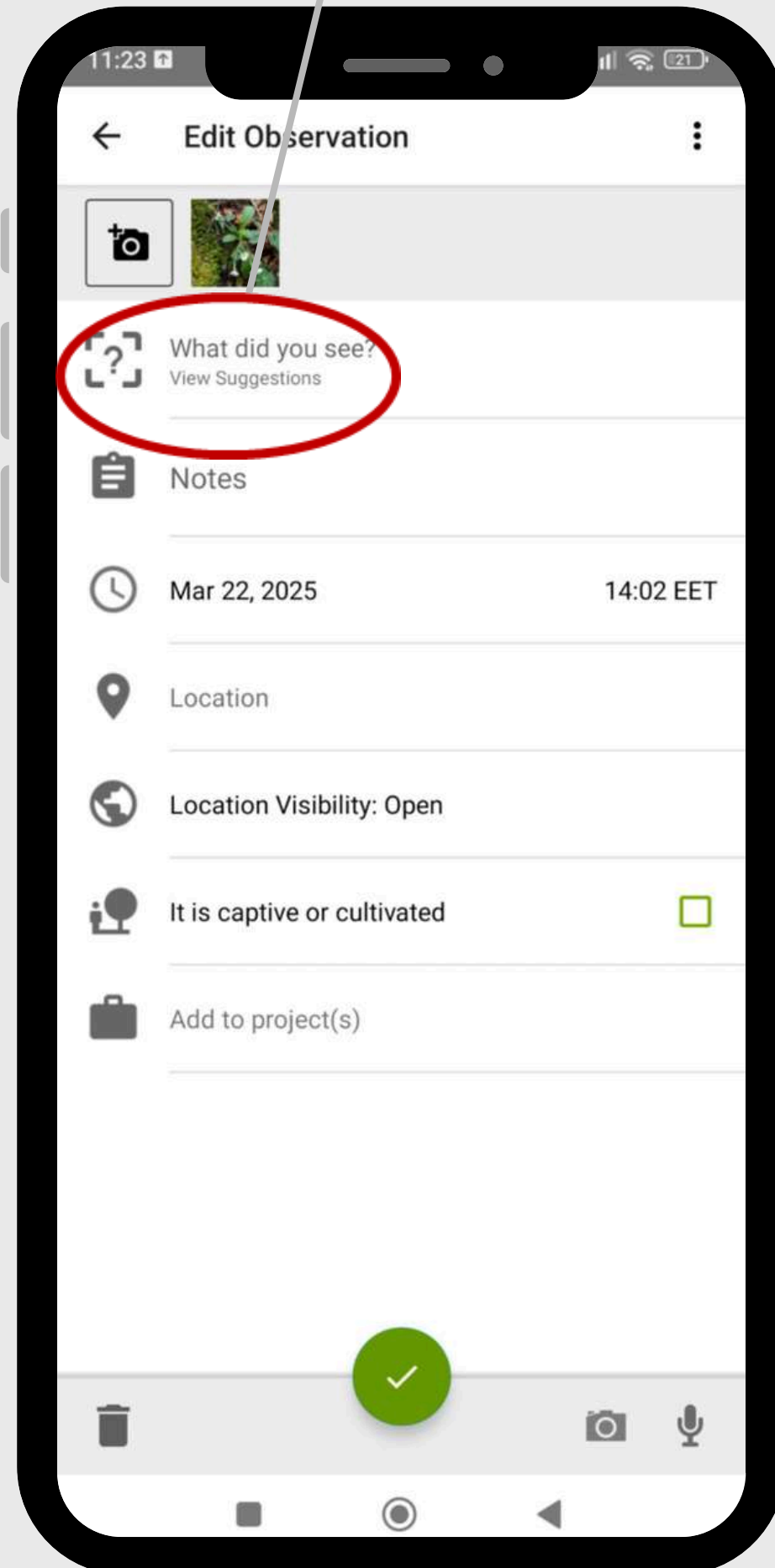


Add a New one

Take a photo of the species or add photos you have taken previously

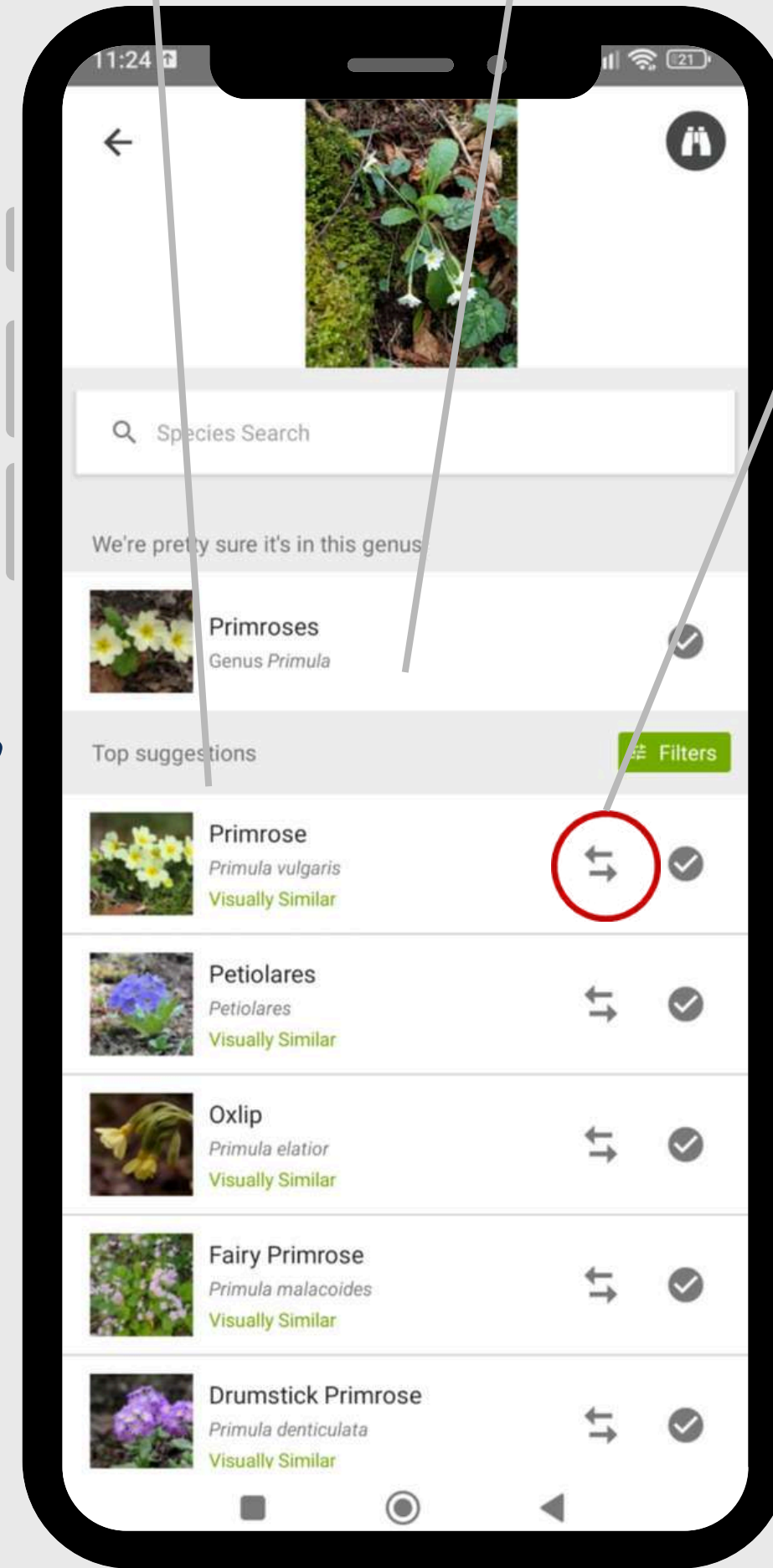


Identify it
(click on [?])

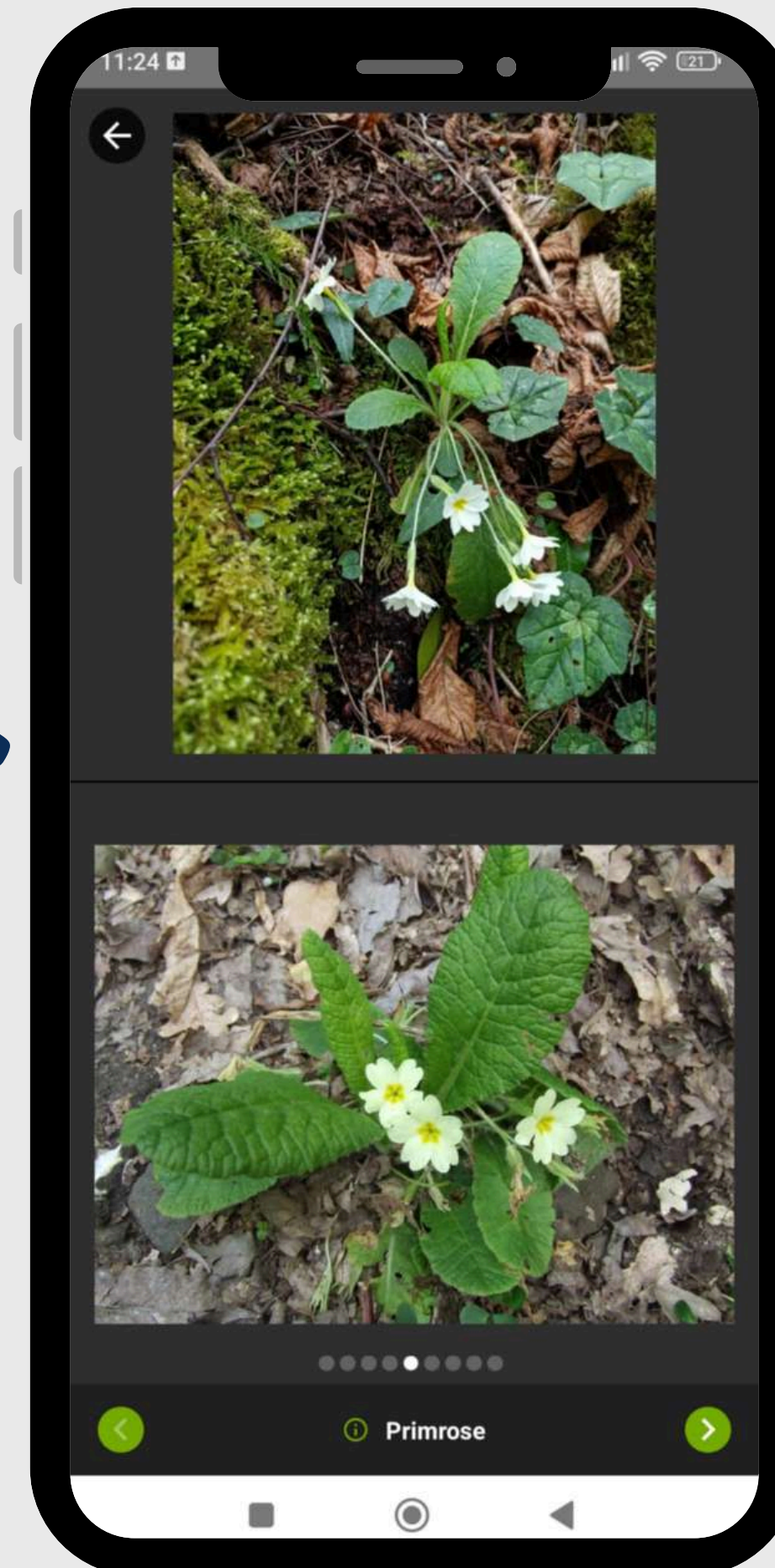


Top 10 Identification
Suggestions

Genus



Compare your photo with the iNat
suggestions

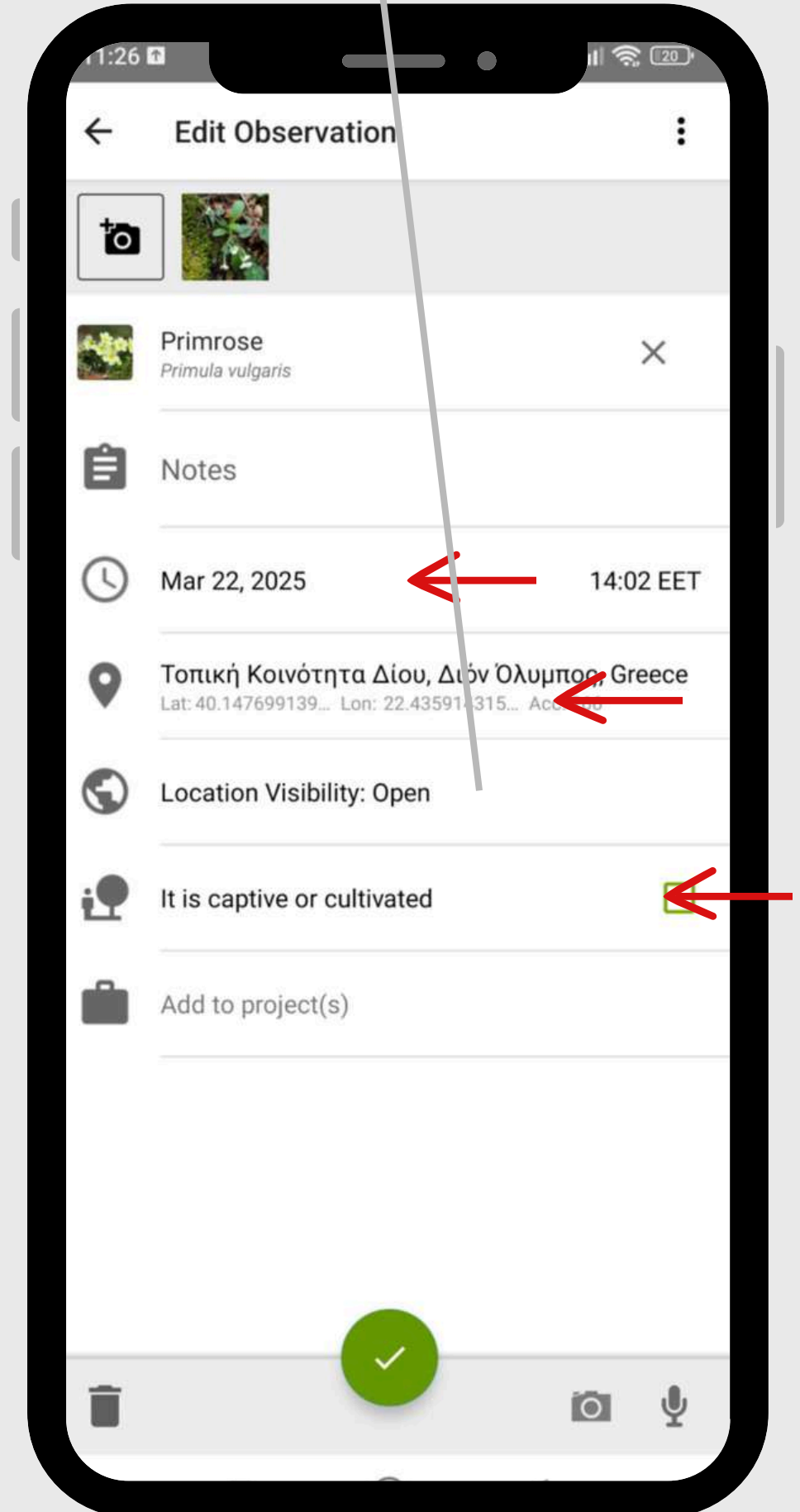
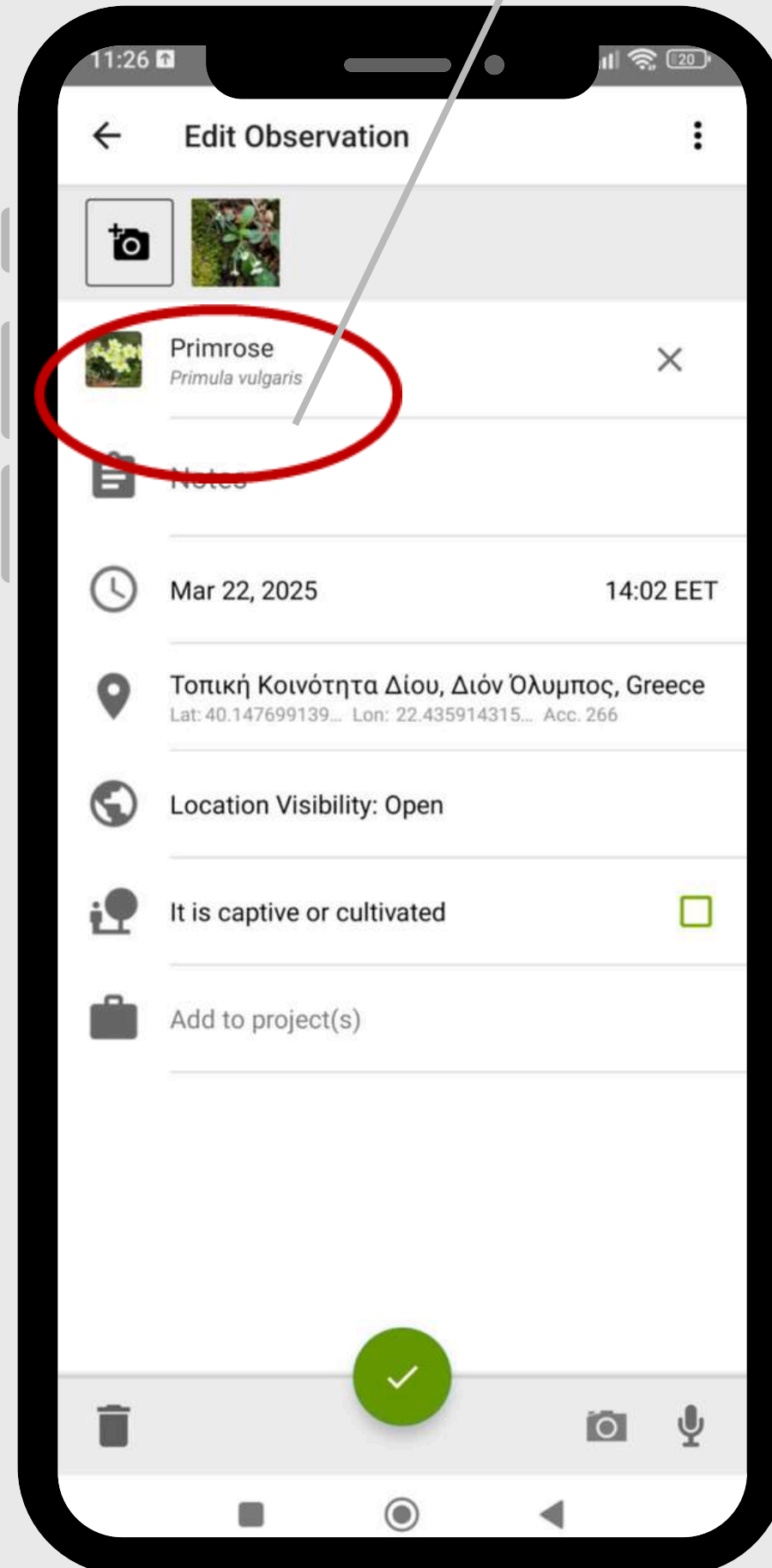
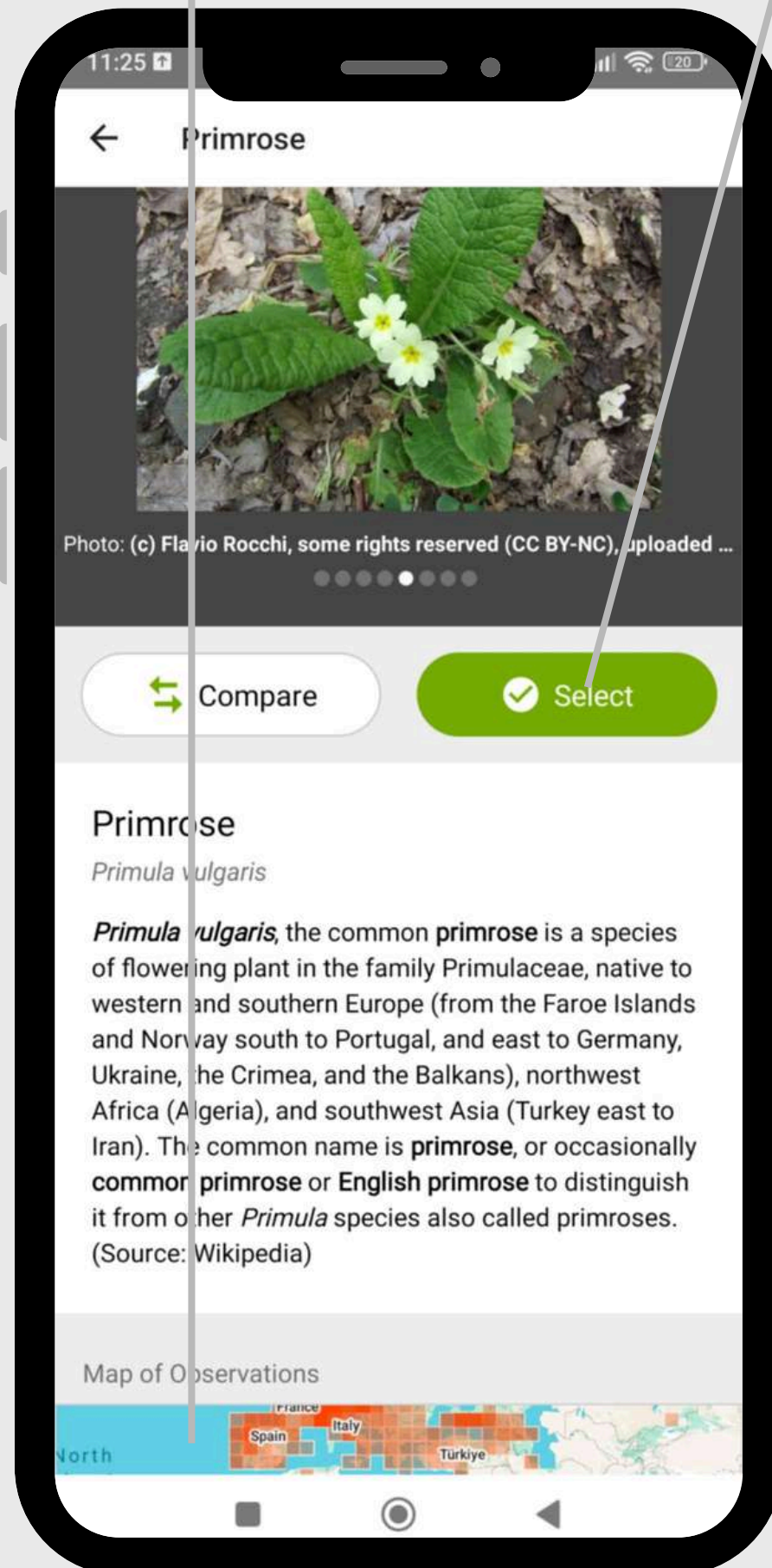


Distribution of the suggested species

Select the species that most closely resembles yours

Selected Identity

Add Location, Date, etc.



What makes a good observation?

- **Close and clear photos** so that the characteristics of the organisms are visible! (Multiple angles)
- Attempt at **Identification**
- **High Quality** with the addition of information



iSea
I add wild species, not
domesticated or cultivated ones!

High Observation Quality:

- Species Identification
- Location (GPS pin or Map location)
- Date

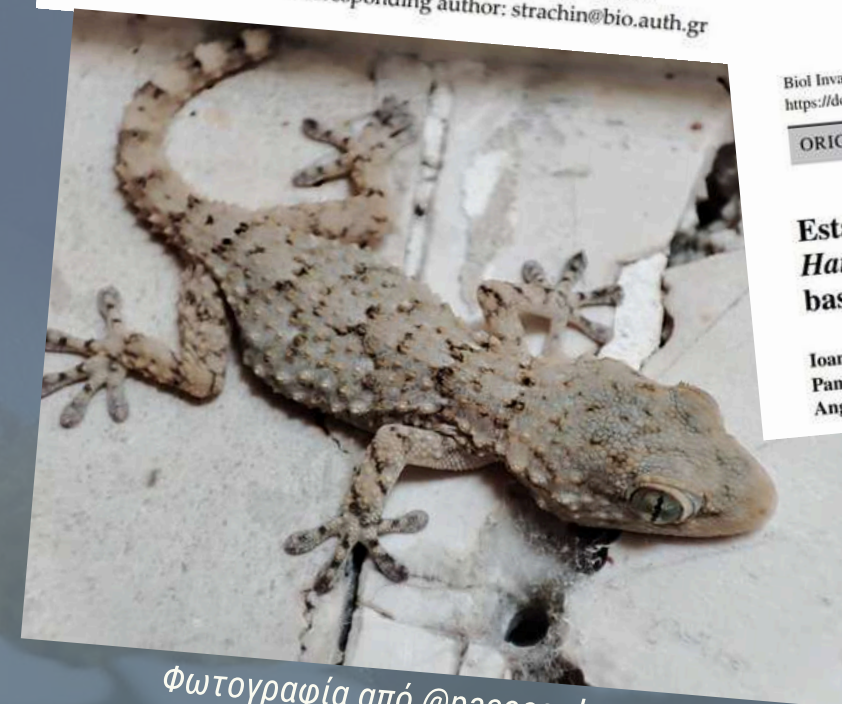
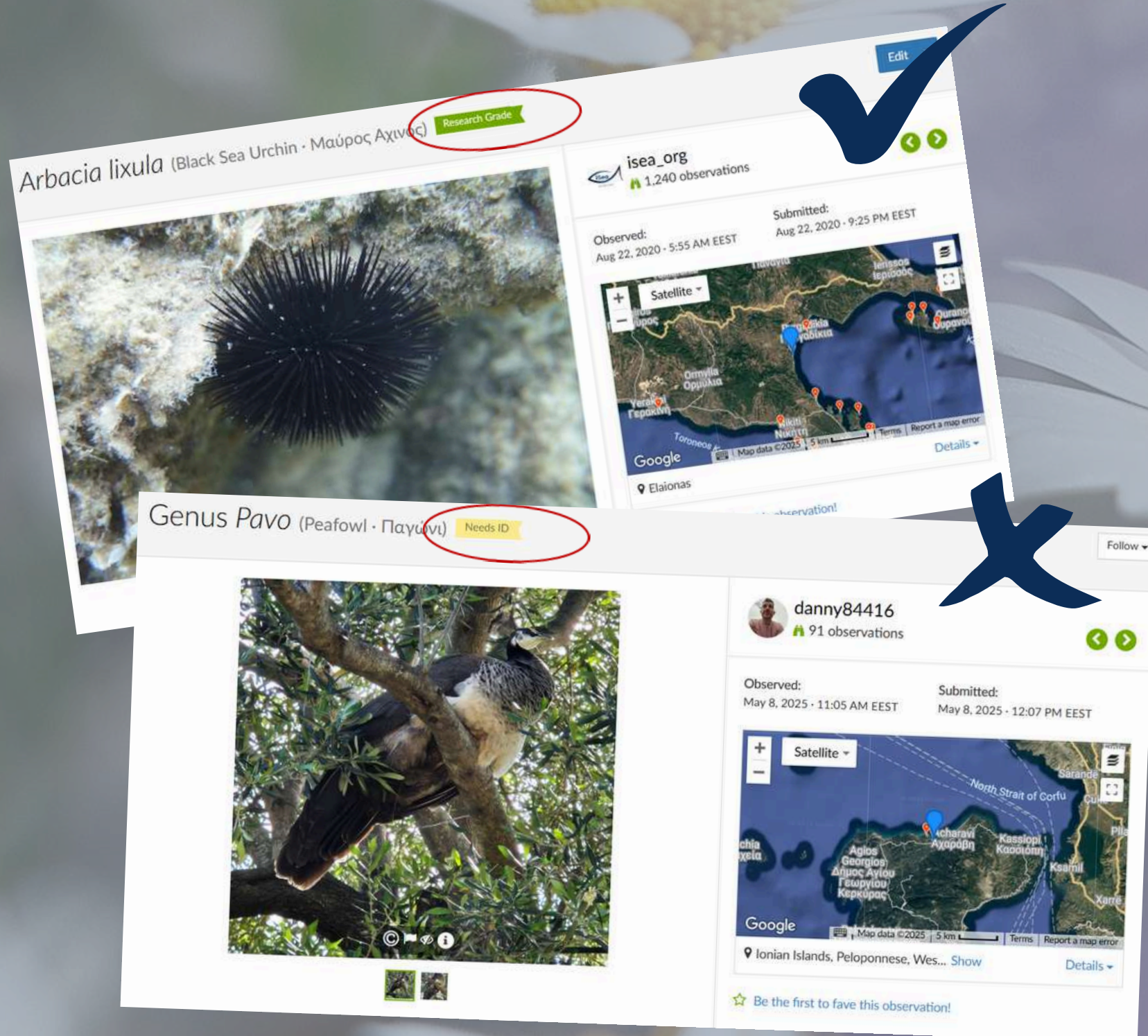
GOOD OBSERVATION

Then it will be able to pass
the platform's **Quality
Control** and then receive
Research Level quality.



Research Grade

Observations that have been labeled as **"Research Grade"** have been identified. They are valid and ready to be used in scientific research.



Biol Invasions (2023) 25:889–900
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02955-8>

ORIGINAL PAPER

Establishment and spread of the ~~invasive~~ ladybird *Harmonia axyridis* (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) in Greece: based on contributions from citizen scientists

Ioanna Angelidou · Jakovos Demetriou · Maria Christou · Evangelos Koutsoukos · Christos Kazilas · Pantelis Georgiades · Konstantinos Kalaentzis · Dimitris C. Kontodimas · Quentin Groom · Helen E. Roy · Angeliki F. Martinou



Examples of recent **Scientific Publications** for Greece with data from iNaturalistGR!!!

Explore biodiversity through the Observations of other users on the Map...

...through Projects...



iNaturalistGR

Search

Explore Your Observations Community Identify More

Upload

Observations

Delphinus delphis

Location

Go

Filters

Greece

67 OBSERVATIONS

1 SPECIES

33 IDENTIFIERS

27 OBSERVERS

Map Grid List Places of Interest Redo search in map

Italy Greece

Rome Bari Brindisi Lecce

Tyrrhenian Sea

Palermo Messina

Trapani Marsala

Catania

Syracuse

Delphinus delphis (Common Dolphin - Κοινό Δελφίνι) Central Macedonia, Aug 2, 2022

Research Grade 3

Jul '23

Delphinus delphis (Common Dolphin - Κοινό Δελφίνι) South Aegean, Aegean, Jun 12, 2024

Research Grade 6

Jun '24

Delphinus delphis (Common Dolphin - Κοινό Δελφίνι) East Macedonia and Thrace, May 6, 2024

Research Grade 6

Jun '24

Delphinus delphis (Common Dolphin - Κοινό Δελφίνι) W22W+X4, Μαρκόπουλος, Jul 3, 2024

Research Grade 3

Jul '24

Delphinus delphis (Common Dolphin - Κοινό Δελφίνι) W22W+X4, Μαρκόπουλος, Aug 13, 2024

Research Grade 4

Aug '24

Delphinus delphis (Common Dolphin - Κοινό Δελφίνι) W22W+X4, Μαρκόπουλος, Sep '24

Research Grade 4

Sep '24

Pleurobranchus testudinarius

1,240 observations

Submitted: Apr 5, 2025 - 12:08 PM EEST

Observed: Apr 5, 2025 - 6:39 PM EEST

Beach road, Nea Skioni 630 BS, G., Show

Be the first to love this observation!

What's this?

Community Taxon

Pleurobranchus testudinarius

Cumulative IDs: 4 of 4

0 2/3rd 4

Agree Compare About

Annotations

Attribute Value Agree Disagree

Alive or Dead Select

Evidence of Presence Select

Life Stage Select

Sex Select

Projects (1)

Activity

loea.org suggested an ID

Pleurobranchus testudinarius

a member of Order Pleurobranchida (Side-gilled Sea Slugs)

Compare

ajapaikisgeorgios suggested an ID

Pleurobranchus testudinarius

a member of Order Pleurobranchida (Side-gilled Sea Slugs)

Compare

adriandm suggested an ID

Pleurobranchus testudinarius

a member of Order Pleurobranchida (Side-gilled Sea Slugs)

Compare

Mediterranean seagrass

About

It's time to record all the Posidonia oceanica and Cymodocea nodosa meadows and try to protect them better. Posidonia meadows are an important part of the ecosystem.

But to be able to protect them we need to

Read More

Project Journal

Your Membership

Overview

4,531 OBSERVATIONS

2 SPECIES

452 IDENTIFIERS

1,602 OBSERVERS

Stats

Recent Observations

View All

Posidonia oceanica Neptune Grass - Ποσειδωνία 1.8mo

Posidonia oceanica Neptune Grass - Ποσειδωνία 3.5d

Posidonia oceanica Neptune Grass - Ποσειδωνία 1.20h

Cymodocea nodosa Little Neptune Grass 1.20h

Most Observations

1st solarboot-projekte 689

Most Species

1st ghoese 2

Most Observed Species

Posidonia oceanica 3,844

Cymodocea nodosa 687

...and Journal Posts from around the world

Your Journal

Home Profile Observations Edit Observations Calendar IDs Lists

New Post

April 24, 2025

City Nature Challenge 2025 : Το μεγαλύτερο BioBlitz event έρχεται σε Αθήνα

Πρόκληση για τη Φύση στην Πόλη έρχεται για τέσσερις ημέρες στην Ελλάδα, από τις 25 έως τις 28 Απριλίου του 2025. Ολοκληρώνεται με τον Παγκόσμιο Πάρκο Σχινιά - Μαραθώνα

Everyone's Journal Posts

Отчёт за первую декаду апреля 01.04.2025-10.04.2025

ВЕСНА: ДЕНЬ ЗА ДНЕМ - 2025

03.04.2025 - соловьиный сверчок, зарница, чирик-свиристун, (В. Зеленикова @aloriscun); красногловый лырок (М. Тарасова @tarasova_m)

05.04.2025 - перелетчик, малый зуек, варанушка (О. Малахова @...)

View Post

Posted on May 8, 2025 11:38 AM by @okasana | 0 comments | Leave a comment

2025 City Nature Challenge Results!

That's it! Thank you to everyone who took part in our third City Nature Challenge! Whether you uploaded your records, or helped identify other observations, your contributions to citizen science are invaluable. Together, we are helping others appreciate, study, and protect the natural world around us.

This year, an amazing total of over 3 million observations were recorded globally, with nearly 100,000 people involved. In Oxfordshire we recorded 2,006 observations, 599 species and...

View Post

Posted on May 8, 2025 10:47 AM by @evenc | 0 comments | Leave a comment

2025 City Nature Challenge Results!

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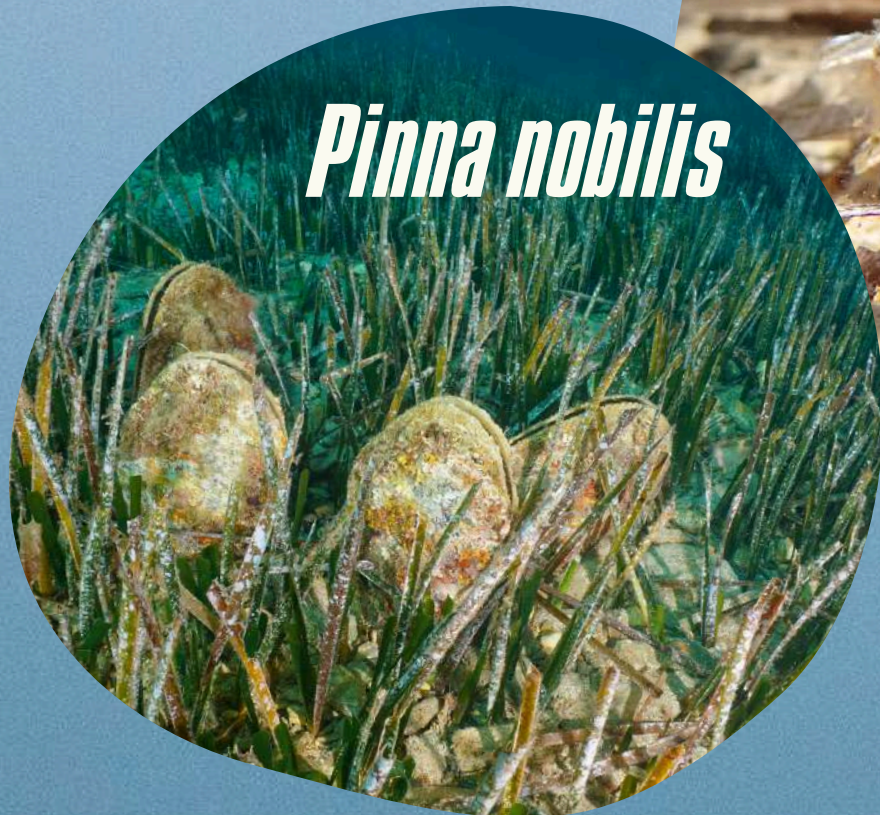
View Post

Detection, Identification, and Recording of Pinna species and Mediterranean Cushion Coral in the field

Pinna rudis



Pinna nobilis



Cladocora caespitosa



The obSERVING NATURE project is funded by WWF Greece, within the framework of the "Greek Wildlife Alliance" initiative



2 iNaturalistGR projects

obSERVING
Pen Shells in Greece



**Add your
Observations!**

obSERVING
**Mediterranean Cushion Coral in
Greece**



The obSERVING NATURE project is funded by WWF Greece, within the framework of the "Greek Wildlife Alliance" initiative



Identification of *Pinna nobilis*



- 35% of their length **buried**

Juveniles:

- Uniform **yellowish** shell color
- **Large number of radiating ribs**

Adults:

- **Small or without scales** on the shell



Depths: 0.5-60 m.

Primary Habitat: Underwater meadows & sandy bottoms

Pinna rudis

Juveniles:

- Small number of radiating ribs (4 - 5 / side)
- Large and sturdy scales on the shell

Adults: (compared to *P. nobilis*)

- Larger and longer scales on the shell
- Smaller in size

Depths: 0,5-40 m

Habitats: Hard rocky substrates, meadows, sandy bottoms



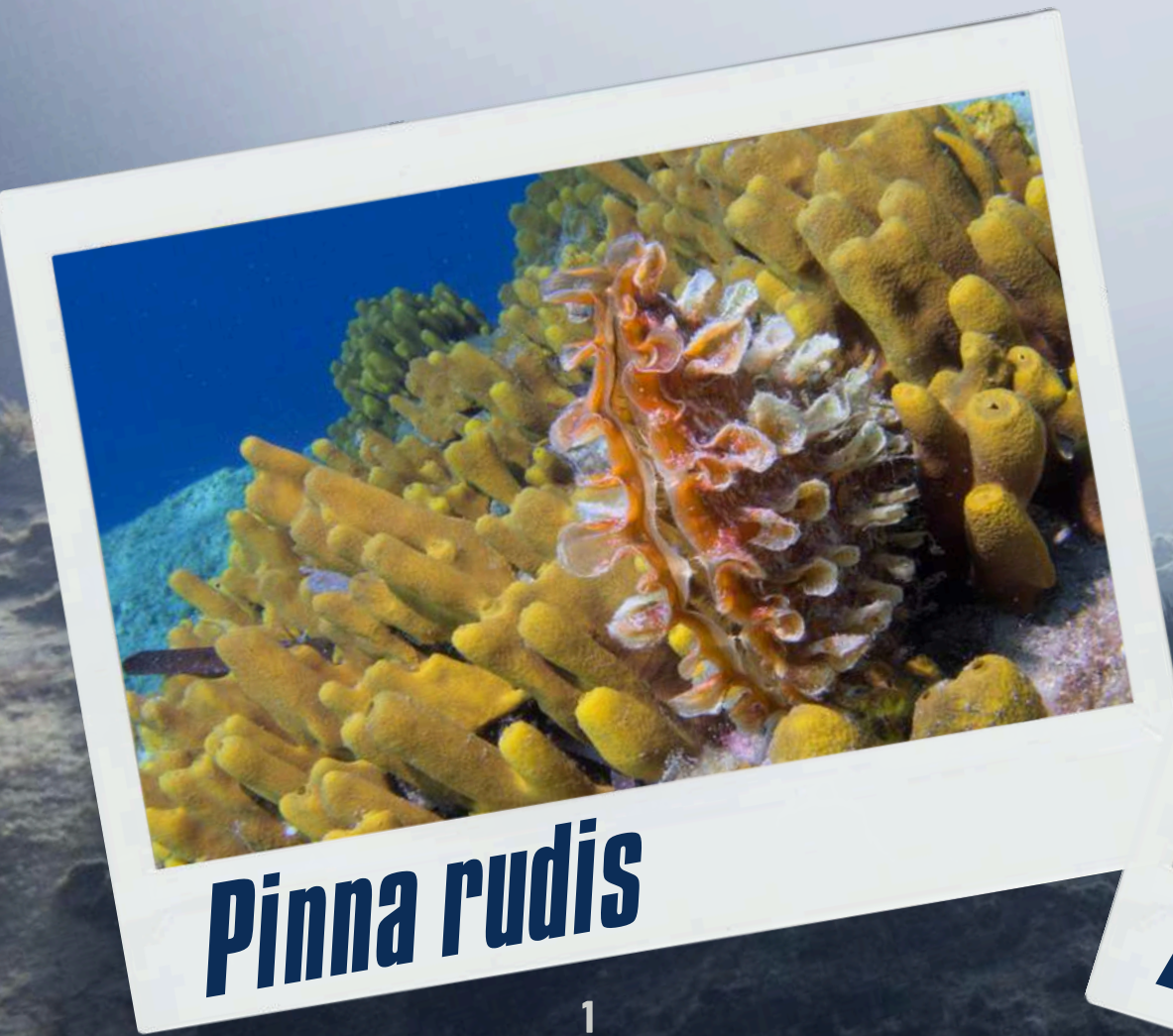
1



2



40-50cm



Pinna rudis

1



Pinna nobilis

2

Pinna rudis:

- Harder shell with fewer & larger scales
- white and iridescent outline
- Fewer radiating ribs



P. nobilis:

- Larger in size with small dense scales
- Pink outline
- More radiating ribs

Alive:

- Standing on the bottom
- Close the shell abruptly in response to stimuli
- Infected by the parasitic protozoan *Haplosporidium pinnae*, they close very slowly and usually incompletely

Note:

Underwater Meadows



Cymodocea nodosa

3



Posidonia oceanica

4

Cladocora caespitosa

- Forms **burrows**
- **Hard shell**
- Forms polyps with vivid yellow-orange colors
- Forms cushion-shaped heads



4-5 mm Ø

Colony Max Ø 1m



Cladocora caespitosa - Threats

Impacts of climate change and extensive Mediterranean heatwaves:

- Hypochromatism (partial bleaching)
- Hyperchromatism (dark brown or green)
- Decoloration-Necrosis (bleaching of the entire coral)

Corallivorous predators

e.g. *Coralliophila meyendorffi*



How do I record species with the iSea kit?

I record the GPS location from the diving site and the depth at which the individuals are found

1. Consult the information & collect biological data

2. Fill in the white squares with notes

3. Take photos of the species

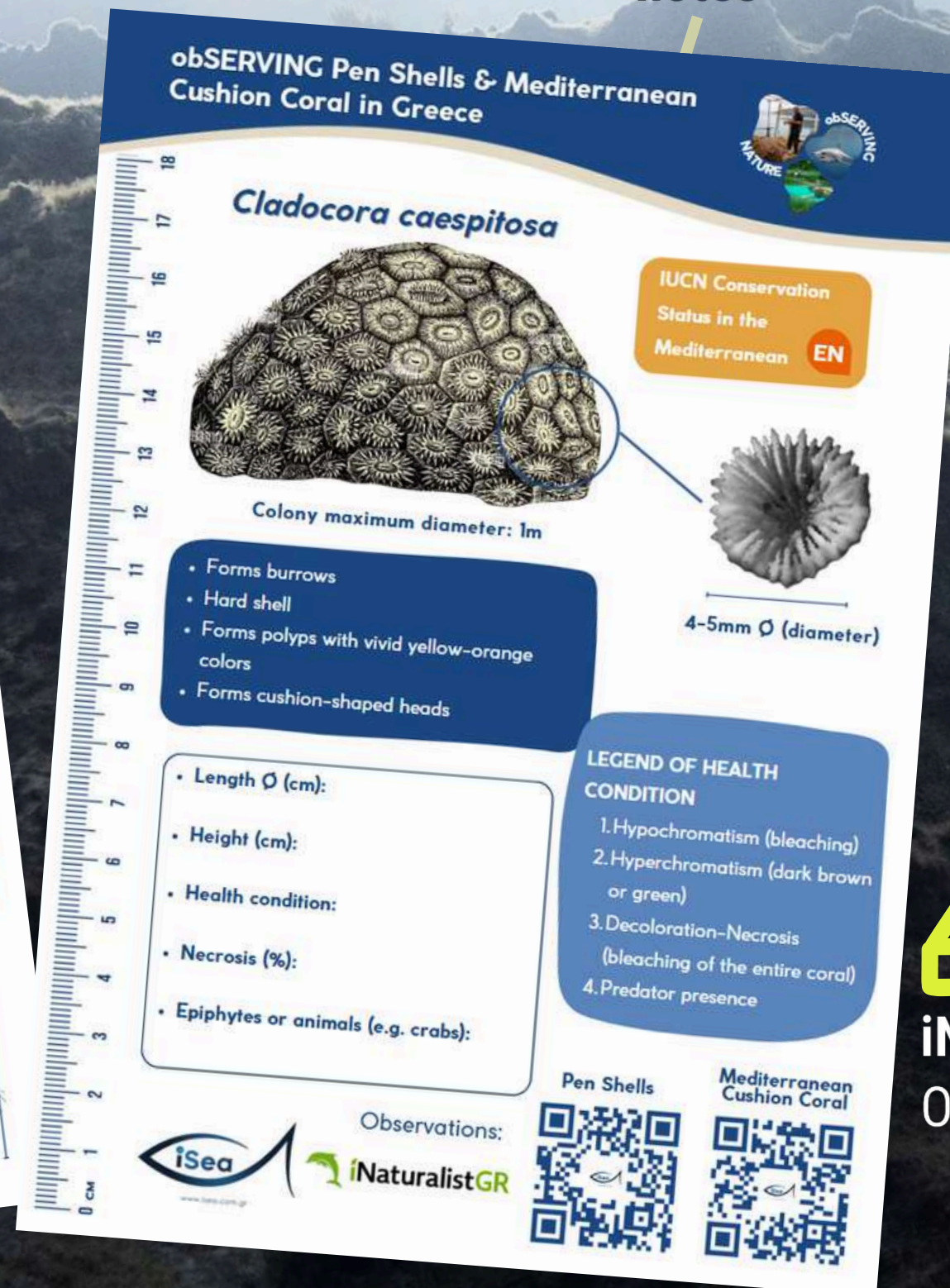
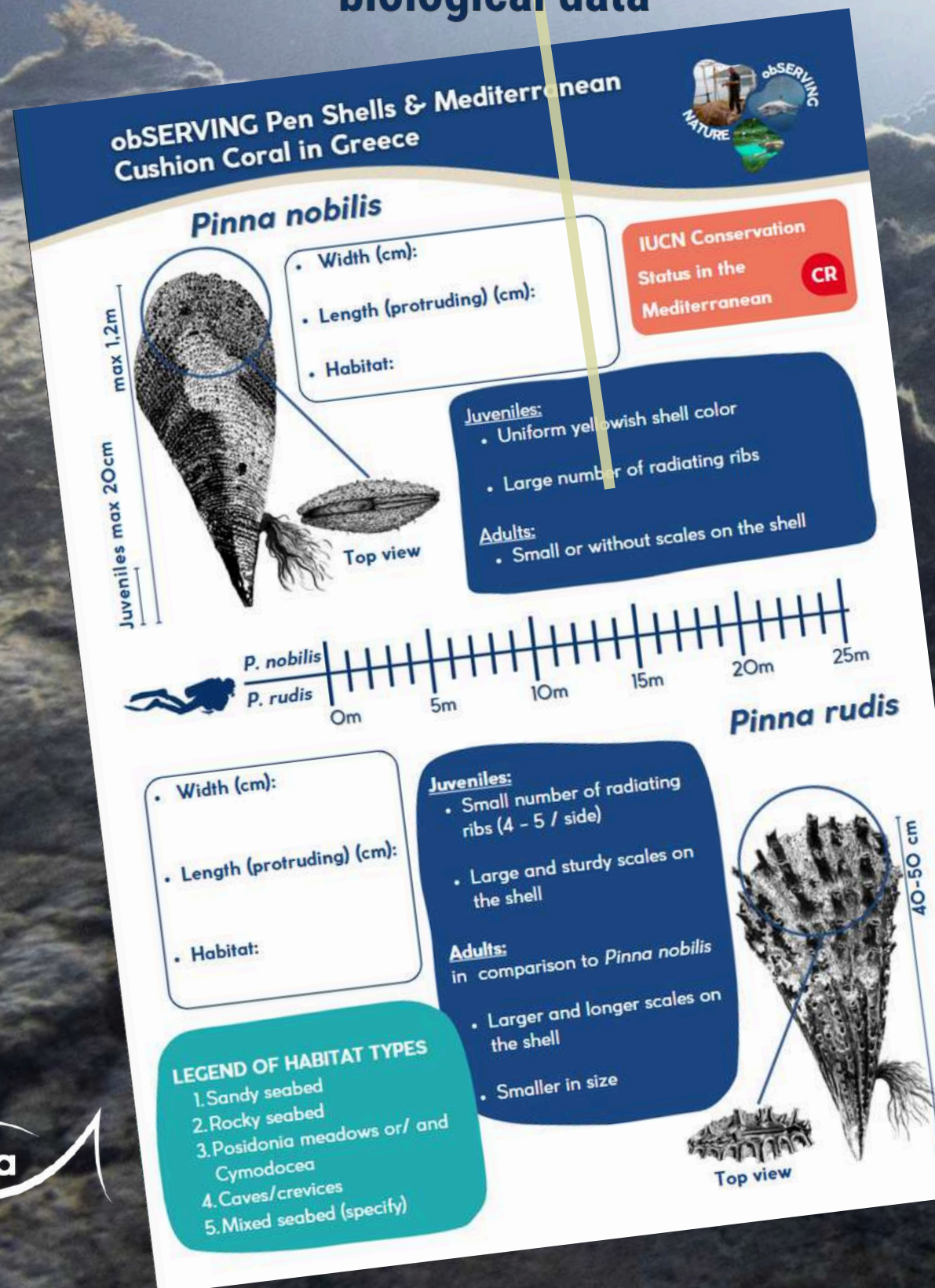


4. Enter the data



iNaturalist
Observation

Excel - Observation Book
Biological & Ecological Details



Peculiarities in Pinna Recording:



Population Abundance Estimation

If I locate Pinnas in an area, I count their number on random line transects:

1. Follow 2-3 transects per area, one for a different depth zone (0-5m, 5-10m, 10-15m)
2. Each transect is 25m long & 2m wide
3. Mark on the line below every time they are detected

I remember to take Stigma of the point!!!



Pinna nobilis

- Usually found dead
- I record dead individuals only via iNaturalist (photo) and in transects noting their age stage
- In case of doubt about mortality, I make a full record

Pinna rudis

- It has not suffered a mass kill like *P. nobilis*
- I record live & dead in both iNaturalist and slate

