

# Holm Oak Undergrowth



*Paeonia coriacea*



*Paeonia broteroi*



*Quercus ilex* subsp. *ballota*

The oak (*Quercus rotundifolia*) is the species that characterizes large areas of the plant landscape in Andalusia. Since the best soils have been taken to be used for agricultural crops, today, it is relegated to hillsides and mountains. Its broad plasticity, resistance to drought and indifference to the acid or basic characteristics of the soil have let it grow in places that are forbidden to more demanding species.

A multitude of plant species find refuge in its undergrowth, from the attractive peonies (*Paeonia coriacea* and *Paeonia broteroi*) to the rare *Laserpitium longiradium*, an endangered species with only a small known population.

