

Cornfield Flowers Project



Species Cards



Knotted clover (*Trifolium striatum*)

Least Concern

Another annual Clover, rare in our area on dry, relatively infertile sandy soils

Known only by the CFP at Glebe Farm, Potter Brompton and a second site near West Knapton

REASONS FOR DECLINE:
Herbicides; outcompetition

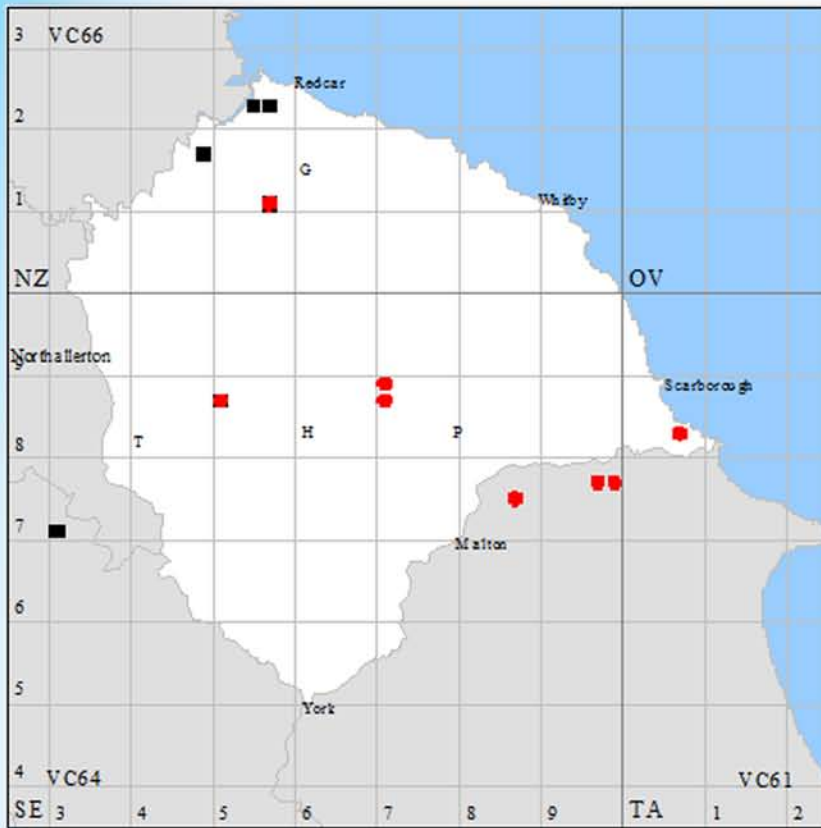
Our Knotted clover experience...

Knotted clover is yet another unlikely arable plant, and yet again it is found on arable headlands and set-aside at Potter Brompton. If you want to find it you should look for it earlier in the year than Hare's-foot clover – it flowers in late May and early June. By the end of June, especially in a dry year, it has dried up and vanished, with mostly only dead seed heads to find.

Eva Crackles describes it as uncommon, on short turf and open habitats on sand or more rarely on gravel or chalk. There has been a recent 2014 discovery in the North Riding by the North-east Yorkshire Botanical Group, but the Project has not been able to confirm the site.

Knotted clover has a shy little cousin, Rough clover (*Trifolium scabrum*), which is much more scarce. It grows in the same sort of place as Knotted clover, though perhaps not on arable margins. Chris Wilson once found them both growing in a sand pit at Flixton and would dearly like to find it again.

Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Knotted clover (*Trifolium striatum*)



Key

● Post-2000 records (inc. CFP introductions)

■ Pre-2000 records

G: Guisborough T: Thirsk
H: Helmsley P: Pickering

Data: BSBI, 2014 Maps produced by MapMate®

Key Facts - Knotted clover (*Trifolium striatum*)

- Found on dry sandy soils on arable, grassy heath and dune-turf
- A rather unassuming plant. Stiffly hairy, especially on leaves
- Probably spring germinating
- Pale-pink flowers smaller and not as showy as typical clovers, partially hidden by surrounding leaves

UK Conservation Designations

The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain (2006) designates all UK wildflowers by their rarity, and hence conservation importance, in the following order:



The Cornfield Flowers Project is spearheaded by the Carstairs Countryside Trust, Ryedale Folk Museum, North Yorkshire Moors Association and North York Moors National Park Authority. It has a demonstration field and nursery at Ryedale Folk Museum and a working arable field at Silpho, near Scarborough. It is supported by the North York Moors National Park Sustainable Development Fund, North York Moors Coast & Hills LEADER Programme and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

