

# Cornfield Flowers Project



## Species Cards

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### **Keeled-fruited cornsalad** (*Valerianella carinata*)

#### **Least Concern**

Not strictly a specialist arable wildflower, more typically found in gardens, paths and railway tracks, but occasionally appear in arable margins

Stronghold in south-west England - close to its northern range limit in our area

#### **REASONS FOR DECLINE:**

None associated - populations increasing in UK

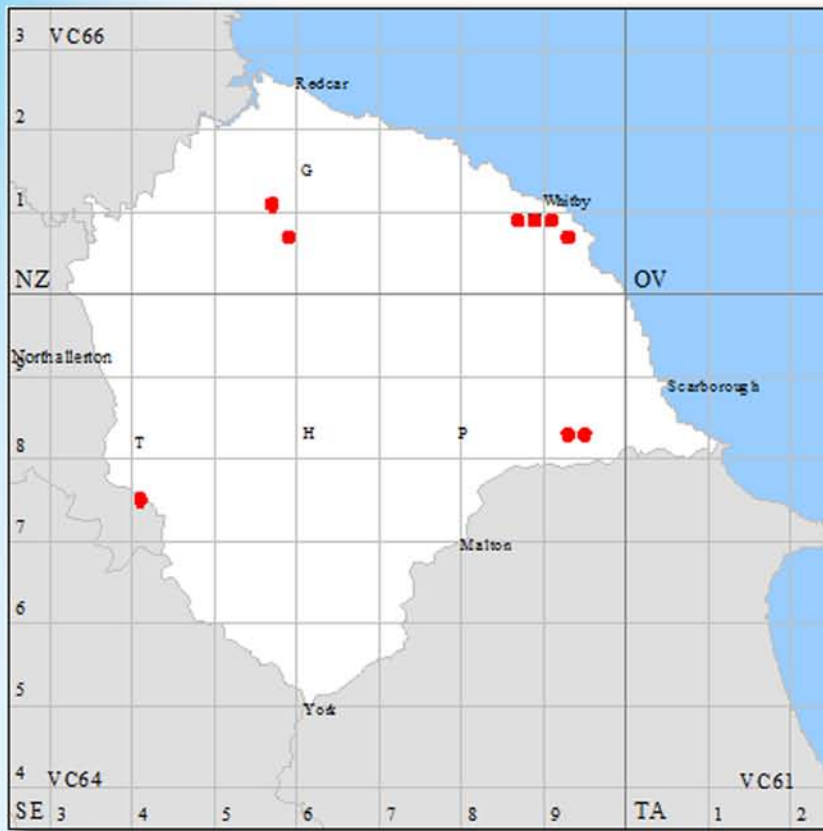
### ***Our Keeled-fruited cornsalad experience...***

The single site shown for Keeled-fruited cornsalad in our area in *New Atlas of the British and Irish Flora* is probably the Ruswarp Station site known to Nan Sykes in 1993 in *Wild Plants and their Habitats in the North York Moors*. In recent years it seems to have expanded its range in the Ruswarp area: three of the seven sites recorded for Vice County 62 (north-east Yorkshire) are close to Ruswarp, one is at Snainton and the other three are scattered to the north and west.

Eva Crackles does not record it in the East Riding of Yorkshire (Vice County 61) but a few years ago it was found by local naturalist Len Auckland growing in his garden at Staxton, which would make it a VC61 record. It does appear to be associated with gardens, with Phil Wilson's *Arable Plants – a field guide* referring to it as 'a frequent garden weed in south-west England'.

Keeled-fruited cornsalad would be classed as rare in our area with no historic records, the oldest being the Ruswarp Station site mentioned above.

# Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Keeled-fruited cornsalad (*Valerianella carinata*)



## 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 - Keeled-fruited cornsalad (*Valerianella carinata*)

- Preference for light, calcareous soils
- Autumn germinating
- Has a pale-blue tinge to flowers
- Separated from other cornsalads by its narrow, rounded seeds with visible groove and 'keel' up their centre

### 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.

