

Cornfield Flowers Project



Species Cards



Cut-leaved crane's-bill (*Geranium dissectum*)

Least Concern

The most easily distinguished of the three arable weed *Geraniums*, with leaves deeply-divided almost to base

Recorded in half of all CFP arable wildflower surveys

REASONS FOR DECLINE:
Herbicides

Our Cut-leaved crane's-bill experience...

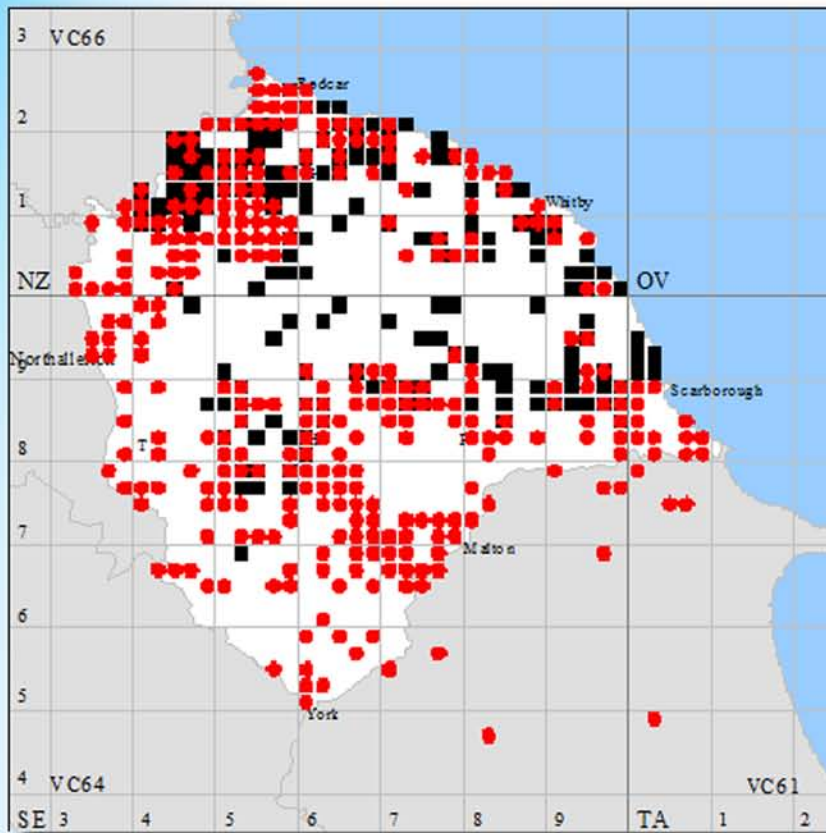
There are three *Geranium* species that we find in arable habitats; *dissectum* and *molle* are equally common, *pusillum* is less frequent and its identification can be confused.

Cut-leaved crane's-bill is the most readily identified from a distance; as the name suggests its leaves are deeply divided almost to the base, giving a straggly appearance. It grows on a variety of soil types and we record it in half of all surveys. Gardens, waste ground and rough grassland are also supporting habitats, and it appears to thrive in disturbed nutrient-rich sites.

Of the three *Geraniums* this is our only non-native species, having been introduced to the UK pre-1500. It has done rather well since.

As with Common stork's-bill, its scientific name derives from the long, beak-like fruits but this time from the Greek word for Crane – *geranos*.

Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Cut-leaved crane's-bill (*Geranium dissectum*)



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 - Cut-leaved crane's-bill (*Geranium dissectum*)

- Generally found in fertile soils on arable, waste ground, gardens and grasslands
- Widespread and common species throughout UK
- Predominantly spring germinating
- Hairy stems, bright-pink flowers, spreading growth and deeply divided leaves differentiate it from other Geraniums

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:

Extinct → Extinct in the wild → Critically Endangered → Endangered
 Vulnerable → Near Threatened → Least Concern

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.

