

# Cornfield Flowers Project



## Species Cards



### Henbit dead-nettle (*Lamium amplexicaule*)

#### Least Concern

An annual Dead-nettle with attractive deep-pink, elongated flowers and toothed stalkless leaves that clasp the stem giving a whorled appearance

Relatively frequent in our area (though not as much as Red dead-nettle) found in 35% of surveys

#### REASONS FOR DECLINE:

Herbicides; modern competitive crop varieties; shift to autumn cultivations

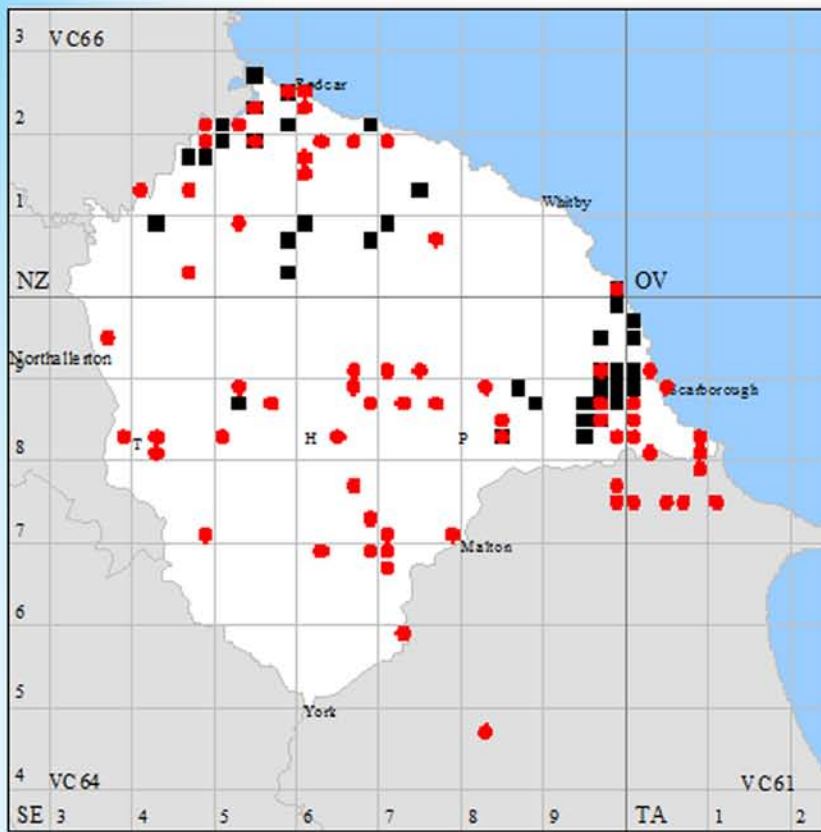
### *Our Henbit dead-nettle experience...*

Henbit dead-nettle is quite distinct from the other *Lamiums* with a more delicate and ornamental appearance. The key features are the slender pink flowers which stand proud on long bases, and the pairs of toothed leaves which clasp around the stem, almost giving the impression of a ruff collar.

It's a species that favours light, dry soils and is usually found on our sand, limestone and chalk sites. Unlike the other Dead-nettles we find, it is almost exclusively a plant of arable habitats.

Dead-nettles perhaps enjoy a less troubled life than might otherwise be the case – they are frequently considered by the public as a 'nettle' and steered clear of for fear of receiving a sting. As we see it the 'dead' prefix is a pretty clear indication that it is devoid of a sting; though perhaps people think that makes it a particular lethal type of nettle....

## Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Henbit dead-nettle (*Lamium amplexicaule*)



### 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 - Henbit dead-nettle (*Lamium amplexicaule*)

- Preference for light, well-drained calcareous soils on disturbed ground
- Can be most noticeable flowering in stubbles after harvest
- Spring and summer germinating
- The stalkless leaves clasping the stem make this species unmistakable with other Dead-nettles

### 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.