

Cornfield Flowers Project



Species Cards



Fiddleneck (*Amsinckia micrantha*)

Least Concern

An established non-native to the UK, introduced from North America, which first appeared in the wild in 1910

Preference for sandy soils limits its occurrence in our area - found in less than 20% of CFP surveys

REASONS FOR DECLINE:
Herbicides

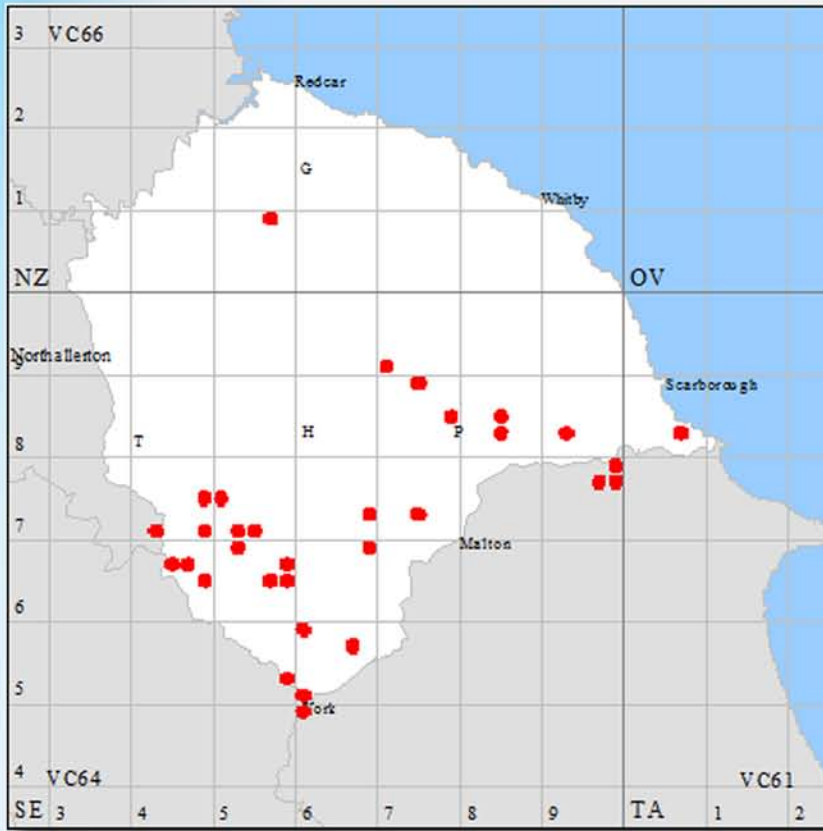
Our Fiddleneck experience...

One thing certain about Fiddleneck is that if you see it you cannot mistake it for anything else: it is a small, yellow forget-me-not. That of course is the easy bit – Nan Sykes has records of two sub-species, *Amsinckia micrantha* and *Amsinckia lycopoides*, and they are not easy to differentiate.

Fiddleneck is a native of Canada and was first grown as a crop in this country in the late 1800s. Eva Crackles first records it in our area in 1964 under *Amsinckia intermedia*, a further complication.

If you wish to see this plant you should go to Glebe Farm at Potter Brompton. There, growing on the sand, you will find thousands of plants and John Middlewood will be pleased to give you great armfuls of it for you to take home to determine the sub-species...

Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Fiddleneck (*Amsinckia micrantha*)



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 - Fiddleneck (*Amsinckia micrantha*)

- Found on dry, sandy soils
- Related to Forget-me-not family but the familiar flowers are all yellow, not blue
- Predominantly autumn germinating
- Fiercely prickly plant with clusters of yellow flowers make it unmistakable in sandy arable habitats

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.

