

Cornfield Flowers Project



Species Cards



Field gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*)

Endangered

Towards the northern end of its range
around the Humber

Has experienced a significant decline
since the 1960s

REASONS FOR DECLINE:
Herbicides

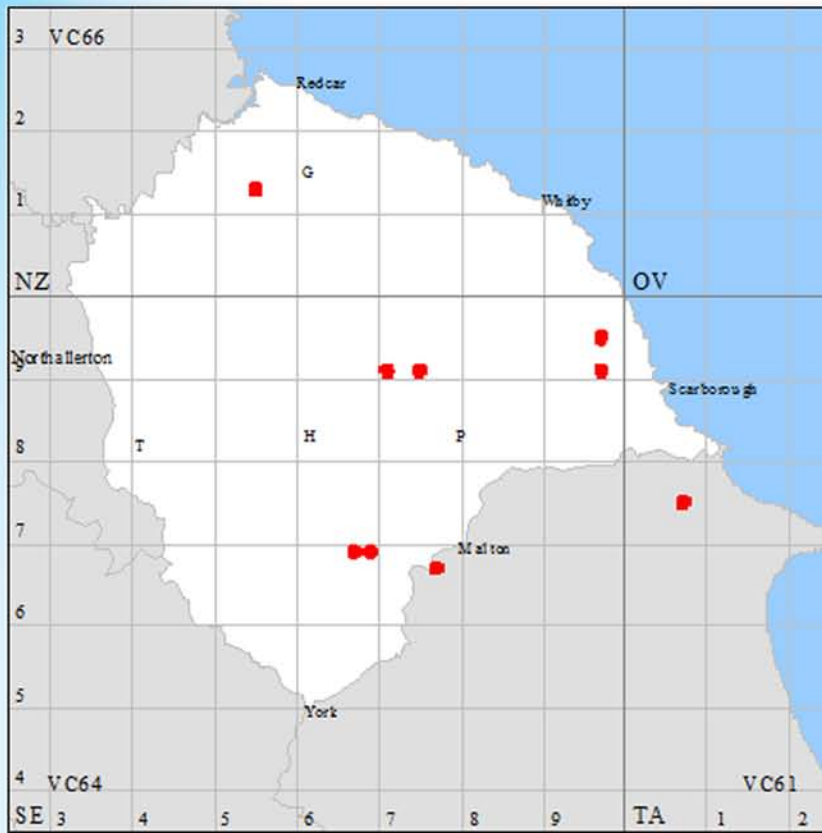
Our Field gromwell experience...

Field Gromwell has one site to the north of us - by the coast just north of the Tees, according to Phil Wilson's *Arable Plants – a field guide*. The next most northerly record shows it on one site in the East Riding of Yorkshire; this is probably the site on which it was found by the Yorkshire Naturalists Union near the Pocklington Canal in the late 1980s.

Eva Crackles in *Flora of the East Riding of Yorkshire* tells us that it has not been found since 1957 (since declared Regionally Extinct), but gives a few sites for it in Holderness and Lower Derwentland before that date.

The CFP has been growing Field gromwell on several sites since 2005 but the seed was acquired from near Maiden Castle in Hampshire. It has been a successful introduction and produces spontaneous plants at the Ryedale Folk Museum, Birkdale Farm Terrington and our arable strip at the Silpho field.

Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Field gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*)



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 - Field gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*)

- Preference for light, calcareous soils
- Autumn and spring germinating
- Remaining population strongholds are in south and east England
- Last known record for north-east Yorkshire was in 1957. CFP seed is sourced from southern England and grown for demonstration purposes

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.

