

Cornfield Flowers Project



Species Cards



Nipplewort (*Lapsana communis*)

Least Concern

Frequently found in a wide variety of soil types and habitats, including arable

A regular component of our surveys - recorded over 60% of the time

REASONS FOR DECLINE:
Herbicides

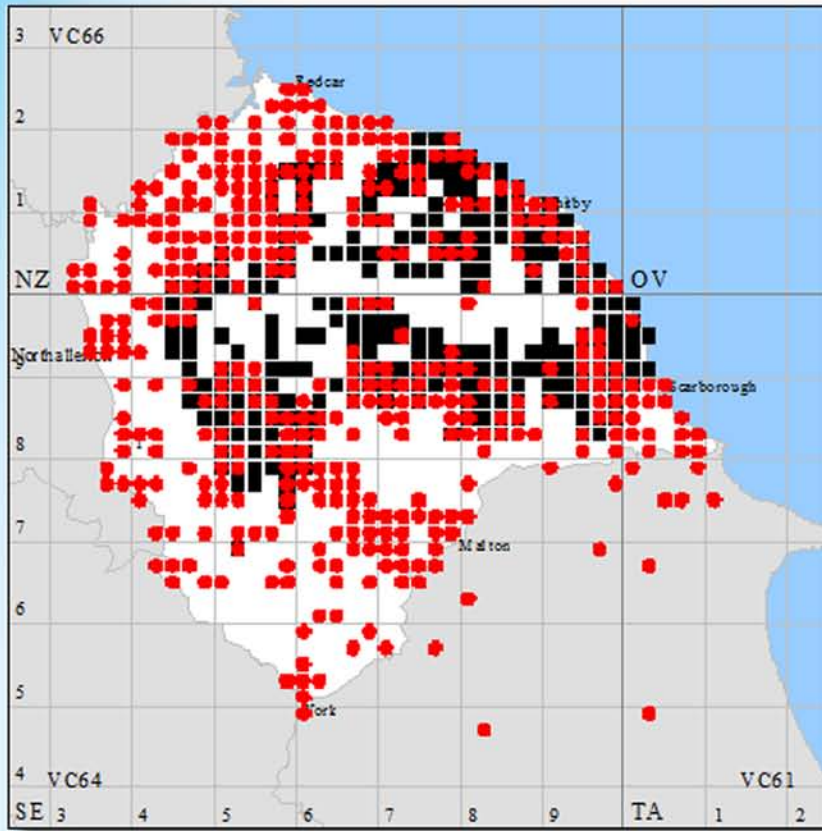
Our Nipplewort experience...

Nipplewort is native to the UK and a member of the very large *Asteraceae* family, which includes everything from Daisy and Dandelion to Thistles and Wormwoods. A very common feature of our arable surveys, it can be just as readily found in wood borders, hedgerows, road verges, walls, gardens and waste ground.

It is a tall and rather straggly plant, with small yellow flowers at the ends of the lengthy, slender stems.

It was historically used to treat ailments in the respective body part of its common name, whilst 'Wort' comes from the Old English word for herb.

Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Nipplewort (*Lapsana communis*)



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 - Nipplewort (*Lapsana communis*)

- Found in open disturbed ground as well as shady habitats on many soil types
- Tall, branching growth with dandelion-like pale yellow flowers and toothed leaves
- Autumn and spring germinating
- Possible to confuse with a number of similar arable plants in the *Asteraceae* family, but Nipplewort is the only one without prickles or bristles

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.

