

# Cornfield Flowers Project



## Species Cards



### Field pansy (*Viola arvensis*)

#### Least Concern

Relatively common in arable communities, its small attractive flowers are always a pleasure to see

Populations widespread and mostly stable within UK

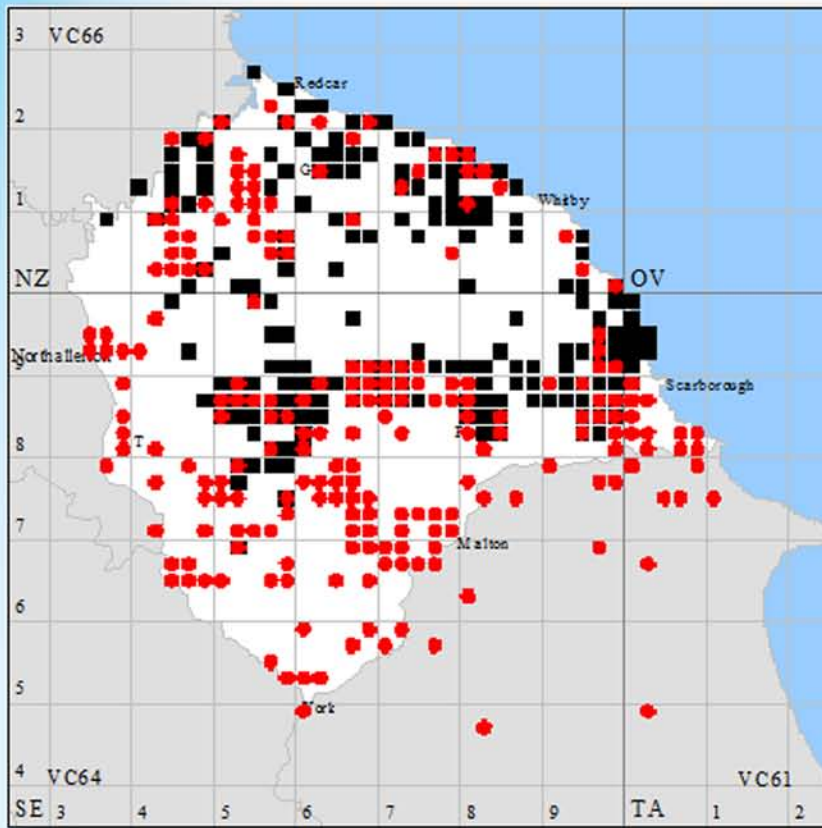
**REASONS FOR DECLINE:**  
Populations relatively stable

### *Our Field pansy experience...*

Field pansy is described as being abundant, frequent or widespread. Local botanist Nan Sykes thinks this may be partly due to its resistance to herbicides, and it certainly appears to be so - often it is found as one of only half-a-dozen species that have managed to survive where spraying has taken place. In our area it is certainly common.

We sometimes find it with a touch of blue in the upper petals, pretending to be Wild pansy, with which it occasionally hybridises. Eva Crackles in *Flora of the East Riding of Yorkshire* reports a hybrid in an arable field near Wintringham in 1958 and at Octon Grange in 1977. We found other hybrids at Glebe Farm, Potter Brompton, in 2010.

# Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Field pansy (*Viola arvensis*)



## 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 pansy (*Viola arvensis*)

- Found on a wide range of free-draining soils
- Small flowers usually cream and yellow, with occasional pale-blue tinge to upper petals
- Autumn and spring germinating
- A common plant of most arable communities, recorded in over 80% of Cornfield Flowers Project surveys

### 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:



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.

