

Cornfield Flowers Project



Species Cards



Rough poppy (*Papaver hybridum*)

Least Concern

Similar to Prickly poppy in form and habit, with petals that drop the same day and rounded, spiked, seed pod

Mostly localised to south-east Britain, but some historical records exist for north-east Yorkshire

REASONS FOR DECLINE:

Nitrogen application; herbicides

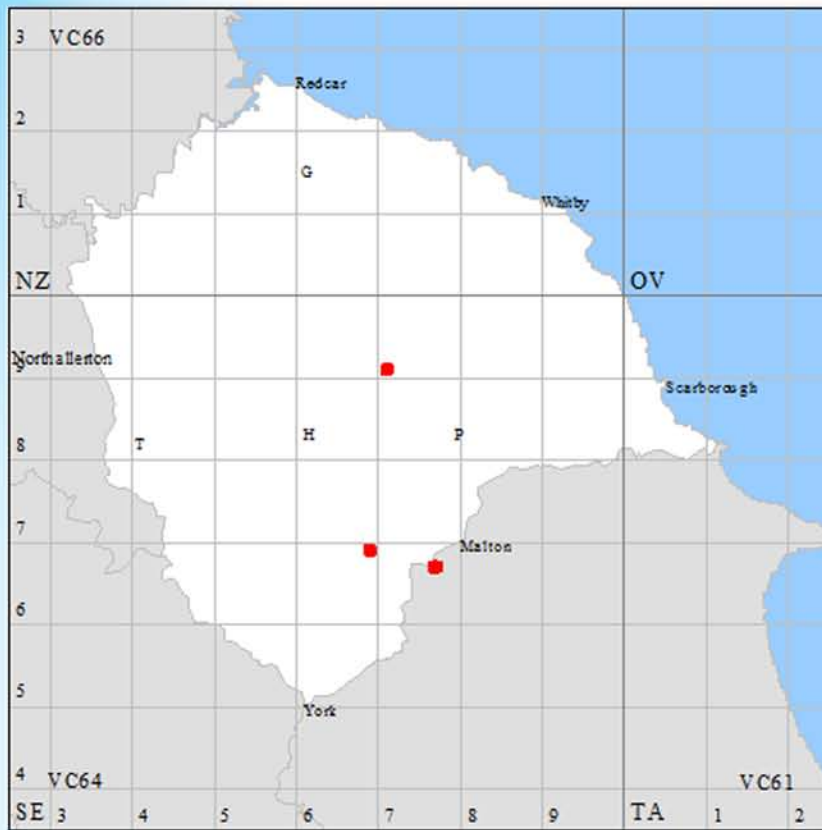
Our Rough poppy experience...

The distribution of Rough poppy in Britain is very much south and east of a line drawn from the Severn to the Wash, with very few records to the north and west of that line. It favours calcareous soils, mostly chalk-based but also on limestones and calcareous sands.

There are however a few very old records for Rough poppy in our area - in Malton in 1794 and 1840, with other records from Thirsk and Malton in 1863. The most recent recorded sightings are at Topcliffe Mill, near Thirsk, in 1957 and on the Wolds around Kilham in 1990.

Project Officer Chris Wilson brought seed up from Hampshire in 2009 and we have grown it in the demonstration beds at the Ryedale Folk Museum, but it does not do well there. Our volunteer farmer Stephen Gibson has managed to successfully grow it from the same seed in his demonstration bed at Birkdale Farm, Terrington since 2009.

Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Rough poppy (*Papaver hybridum*)



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 - Rough poppy (*Papaver hybridum*)

- Found on a variety of calcareous soils, mostly in southern and eastern Britain
- A short-growing poppy, rarely getting above crop height
- Autumn and spring germinating
- Has deep scarlet petals that drop the same day, and a spiked seed-pod similar to Prickly poppy, but more spherical

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.

