

# Cornfield Flowers Project



## Species Cards



### Scarlet pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*)

#### Least Concern

A charming plant with striking scarlet flowers that only open in sunny conditions

Commonly found in open, disturbed habitats - recorded in 90% of CFP surveys

#### REASONS FOR DECLINE:

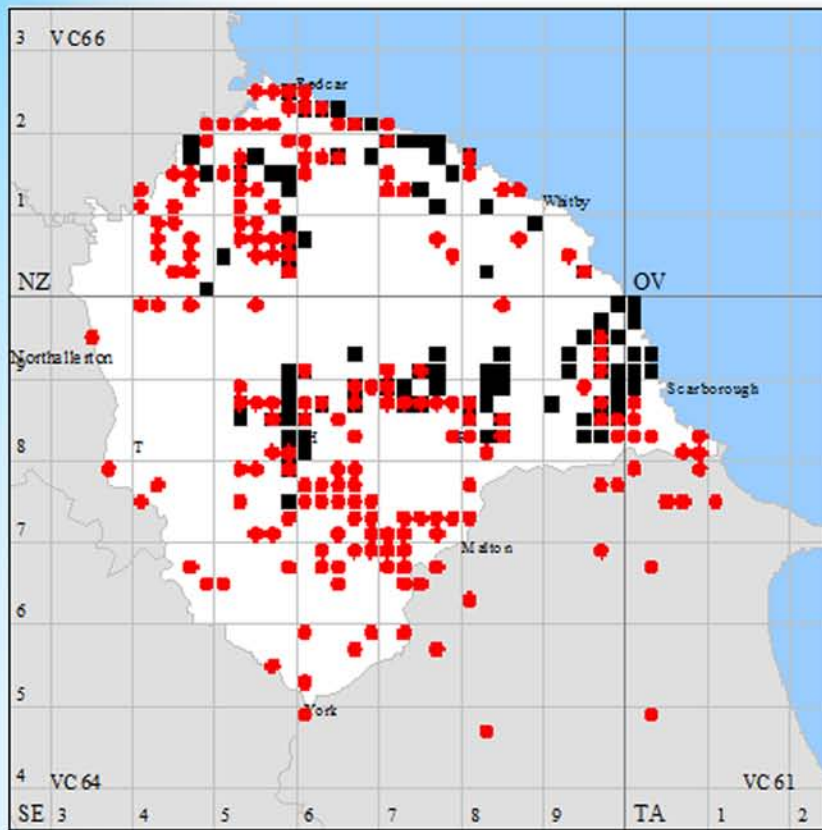
Nitrogen application; herbicides

### *Our Scarlet pimpernel experience...*

The Scarlet pimpernel is described in our area as frequent or widespread but rarely abundant. It was certainly abundant on the Mushroom Field in 2009 when it nearly swamped everything else. Also on this site, which is close to Spaunton Quarry, it is possible to find a pale pink form with a hint of lilac in the centre.

Widespread throughout England, it has experienced some losses in the north of its range. However it still remains a common, but always welcome, find.

# Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Scarlet pimpernel (*Anagallis 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 - Scarlet pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*)

- Found on well-drained, calcareous soils in sunny aspects
- Widespread and common throughout the UK
- Spring germinating
- Flowers occasionally appear in other colours (pink, purple) but most notably in blue - not to be confused with the distinct sub-species Blue pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis* subsp. *foemina*)

### 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.

