

Cornfield Flowers Project



Species Cards



Grey field-speedwell (*Veronica polita*)

Status not evaluated

One of a number of Speedwells introduced to the UK, first recorded in the wild in 1777

Uncommon in our area, recorded in 20% of CFP surveys, as opposed to Common field-speedwell which is found in over 90%

REASONS FOR DECLINE:

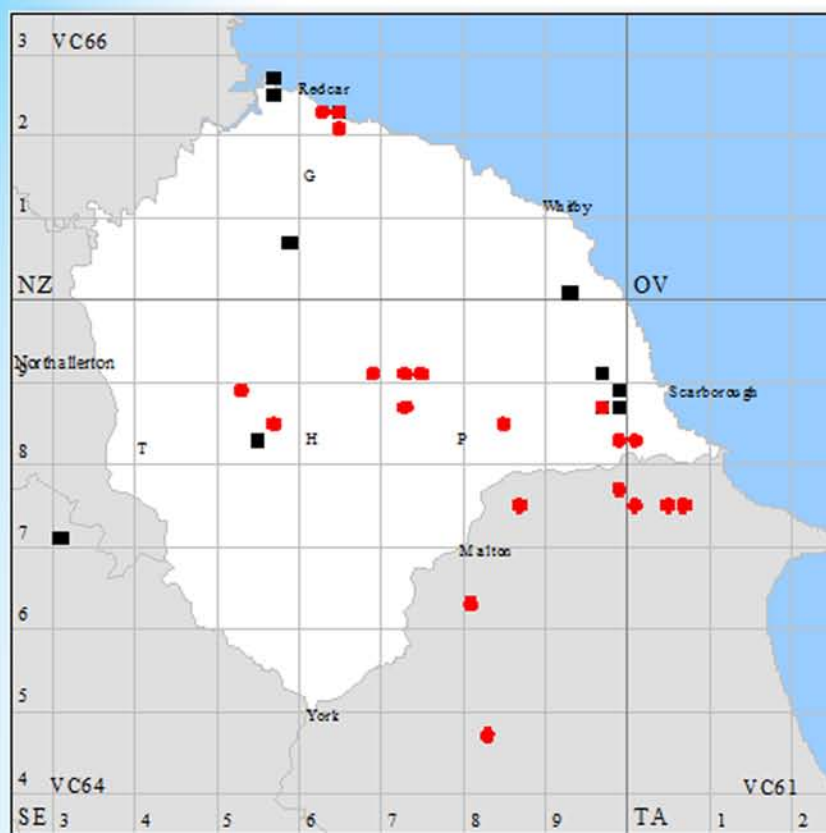
Nitrogen application; herbicides

Our Grey field-speedwell experience...

Grey field-speedwell (that's the one with the small blue flowers) seems to be less common than Green field-speedwell (*Veronica agrestis*) generally, but at Spikers Hill Farm in West Ayton, growing on limestone, it is the most common speedwell. Here it beats even Common speedwell (*Veronica persica*) for numbers.

On the same site we only find the occasional Green field-speedwell. Phil Wilson in *Arable Plants – a field guide* classes both Grey and Green field-speedwells as 'local'.

Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Grey field-speedwell (*Veronica polita*)



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 - Grey field-speedwell (*Veronica polita*)

- Normally found on light, calcareous based soils
- Leaves have a grey-green appearance
- Spring germinating
- Flowers entirely bright-blue with white centre - Common field-speedwell has bright-blue flowers with white lower petal

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.

