

# Cornfield Flowers Project



## Species Cards



### Ivy-leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*)

#### Least Concern

Another annual speedwell, flowering early in the season

Only found occasionally in arable habitats - 13% of CFP surveys

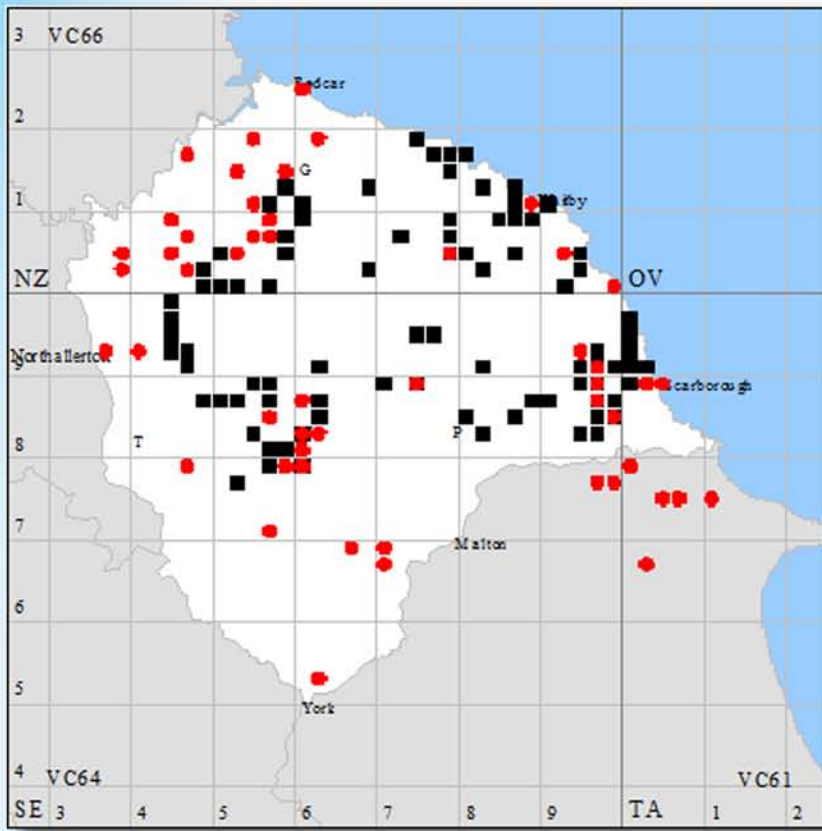
**REASONS FOR DECLINE:**  
Herbicides

### *Our Ivy-leaved speedwell experience...*

Ivy-leaved speedwell is originally a non-native plant to the UK, having been introduced sometime prior to 1500. It also has two subspecies that differ at the chromosome level but are somewhat difficult to separate from physical features. Apparently one prefers shady habitats, the other open. As a very common annual, frequently found in gardens and waste ground, we don't over-concern ourselves with the differences.

This species is best identified from the light-green Ivy-shaped leaves (*hedera* being the Latin for Ivy and *folia* leaves) and the lilac or pale-blue flowers.

# Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Ivy-leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*)



### 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 - Ivy-leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*)

- A weed of cultivation, found in arable, gardens and disturbed soils
- Diagnostic feature for this species are the light-green, Ivy-shaped leaves
- Autumn, winter and spring germinating
- Has two sub-species - the more common subsp. *lucorum* with lilac petals, and the less frequent subsp. *hederifolia* with blue petals

### 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.

