

Cornfield Flowers Project



Species Cards



Wall speedwell (*Veronica arvensis*)

Least Concern

Another of the numerous annual speedwells to feature in arable habitats

A widespread and common species, recorded in over 60% of CFP surveys

REASONS FOR DECLINE:
Herbicides

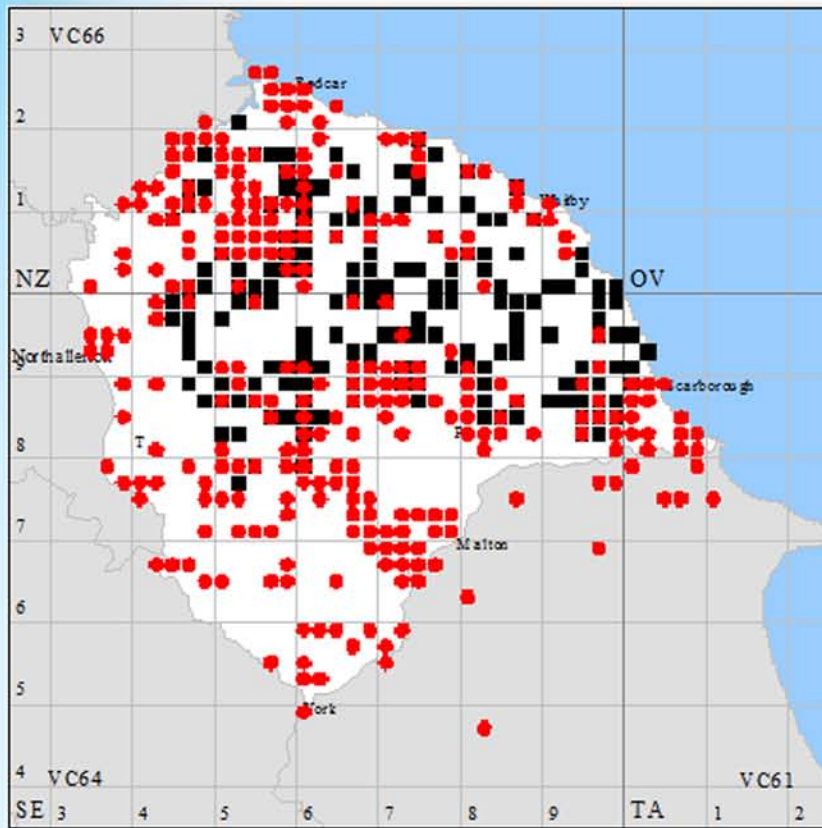
Our Wall speedwell experience...

The *Veronica* genus seems to have cornered almost every habitat in the UK, from rivers to Highlands, woodland to heathland, marshes to lawns. There are also nine species that have adapted to grow in arable fields, seven of which we find in our area. The other two are now only found in East Anglia and are very rare.

Wall speedwell is one of the smallest we come across, growing in an erect fashion up to 25cm but usually much shorter. The flowers are tiny, and entirely deep blue.

As well as arable you'll frequently find this species in many other habitats - open grassland, heaths, sand dunes, walls, tracks, pavements and waste ground. It is our second most recorded speedwell.

Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Wall speedwell (*Veronica 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 - Wall speedwell (*Veronica arvensis*)

- Found on dry soils in open habitats including arable, paths and walls
- Autumn and spring germinating
- A small speedwell with erect growth habit
- Has tiny deep-blue flowers (all petals same colour) atop densely clustered leafy stalk

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.

