

Cornfield Flowers Project



Species Cards



Weasel's-snout (*Misopates orontium*)

Vulnerable

Although historical records do exist for Weasel's-snout in our area, it hasn't been found for at least 75 years

REASONS FOR DECLINE:

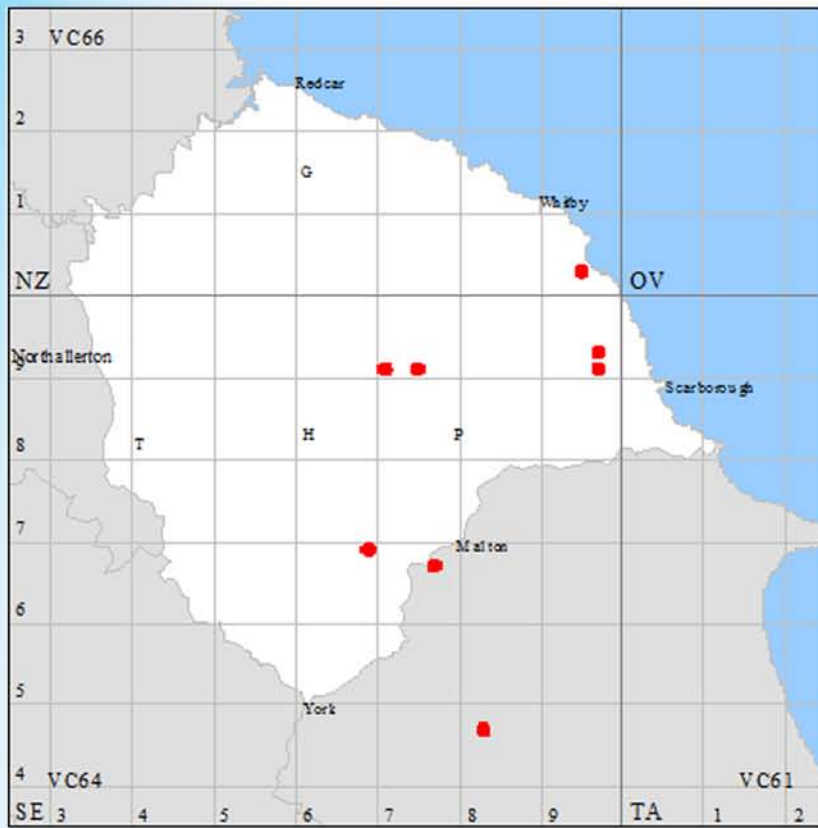
Nitrogen application; herbicides; shift to autumn cultivations

Our Weasel's-snout experience...

Looking at the distribution of Weasel's-snout today, almost all sites are to the south and west of us. Phil Wilson in *Arable Plants – a field guide* says 'Confined to the south of Britain and most frequent near the coasts of the south and west from Hampshire to Cornwall and Pembrokeshire'.

None of our local floras list it as present. The *New Atlas of the British and Irish Flora* shows a handful of pre-1970 sites in the west of our area. All the sites on our map are introductions made by the CFP using seed acquired from the south of England.

Distribution in north-east Yorkshire: Weasel's-snout (*Misopates orontium*)



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 - Weasel's-snout (*Misopates orontium*)

- Preference for light soils
- Seed pods or flowers said to resemble a Weasel's nose, giving its common name
- Late-spring germinator - often one of the last arable plants to appear
- Formerly classified as *Antirrhinum orontium*, it is closely related to the garden plant Snapdragon

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.

