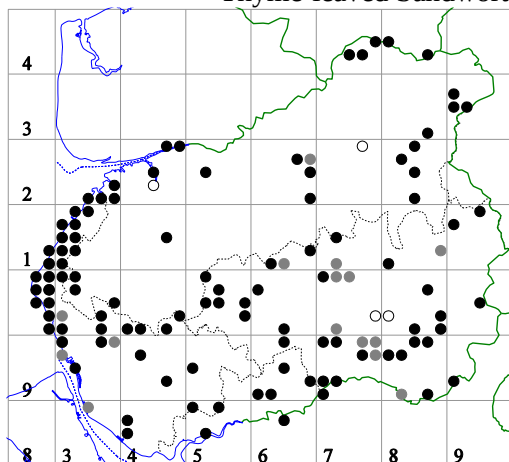


CARYOPHYLLACEAE Pink family

***Arenaria serpyllifolia* L.**

Thyme-leaved Sandwort



Southport PS Gateley 2021



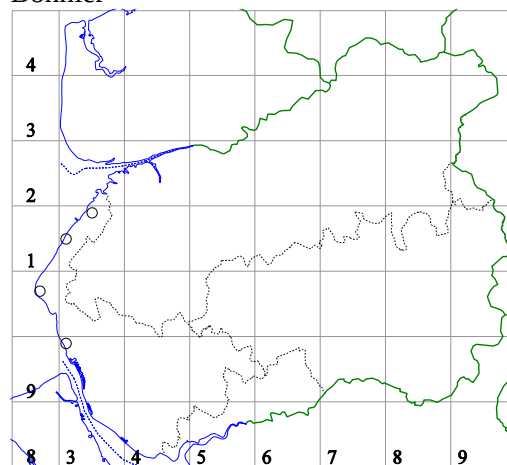
Ainsdale SJ McWilliam 2024

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; locally common along the coast and in the Clitheroe district, occasional elsewhere. There is a record limited to 10km precision for SD73.

Habitat: Sand-dunes, open sandy ground, limestone rocks, walls, quarries, railway ballast, alkaline waste beds, old colliery sites and iron works.

Comments: At the intraspecific level *ssp. serpyllifolia* is considered widespread.

***Arenaria serpyllifolia* ssp. *lloydii* (Jordan) Bonnier**



Status & distribution: Native, Waiting List (Red List for England); a dune ecotype that was recorded as var. *macrocarpa* Lloyd in the past from the dune system at Marshside (SD31P, n.d.) & Sandy Lane, Formby (SD20T, 1914) WG Travis; Formby (SD20T, JA Wheldon, n.d.); Birkdale (SD31C, JD Massey, 1930) & Blundellsands (SJ39E, Green 1933) that may well have been overlooked in recent times.

***Arenaria leptoclados* (Rchb.) Guss.**

Slender Sandwort

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); Scarce (4), Freshfield (SD20Z, V Gordon & PA Lockwood, 1995); Fazakerley (SJ39Z, V Gordon, 1995); south of Pearson's Flash (SD5803, 1997) & Higher Ince (SD5905, 2004) EM Stephenson.

Former distribution: Near the old church, Formby (SD20Y, Dickinson 1851 & JD Massey, 1931); Woodvale (SD31A, Liverpool Botanical Society, 1913); a fallow field by the canal, Aintree (SJ39U,

WG Travis); Kersal Moor (SD8102, JC Melvill, 1882).

Habitat: Sand-dunes, open sandy ground and old colliery sites.

Comments: Probably overlooked and under-recorded.

***Arenaria balearica* L.** Mossy Sandwort

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; Rivington Gardens (SD61H, PMA Francis, 1988, P Jepson, 2001); Seaforth Nature Reserve (SJ39D, S White 2003).

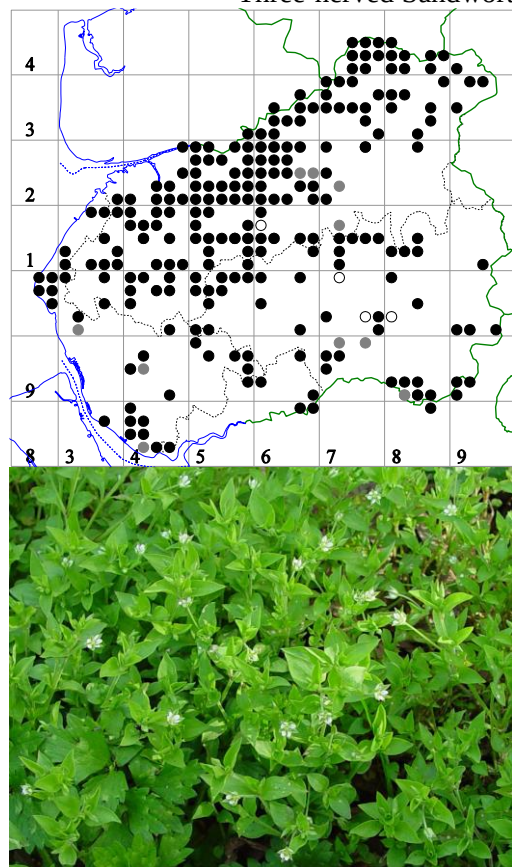
Former distribution: Blundellsands (SJ39E, Green 1933); Birkdale (SD31H, Green 1933); Gorsey Cop, Childwall (SJ48J, PJ Savidge, 1960).

Habitat: Walls, stony banks, usually associated with gardens; brick rubble tip.

Comments: Native to the western Mediterranean Islands.

***Moehringia trinervia* (L.) Clairv.**

Three-nerved Sandwort



Sanderson's Lane DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; locally common in wooded

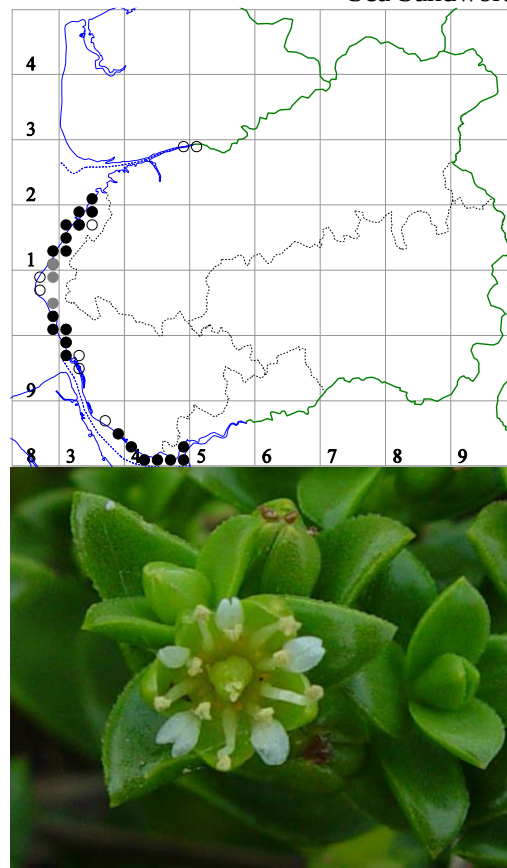
districts particularly along river valley systems at low to mid altitudes.

Habitat: Woods, hedgebanks, shaded lane sides and railway banks.

Comments: There has been a marked increase in the size of several populations in recent years.

***Honckenya peploides* (L.) Ehrh.**

Sea Sandwort



Speke DP Earl 2010

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England),

Axiophyte; locally abundant along the coast, frequent in the estuary systems.

Habitat: Sand and shingle along the foreshore.

Comments: Appears to have declined from the Formby district perhaps due to recent erosion.

***Sabulina verna* (L.) Rchb.**

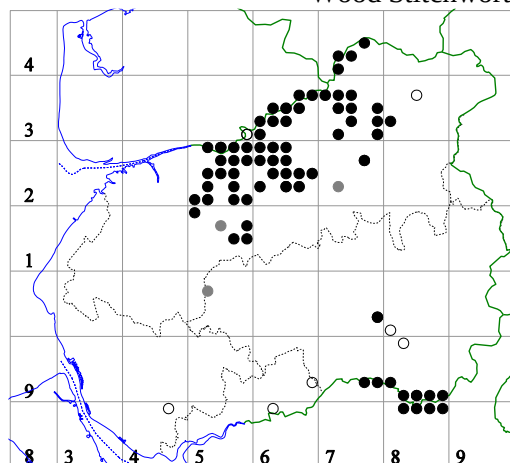
Spring Sandwort

Status & distribution: Native, **Nationally Uncommon**, Least Concern (Red List for England), Critically Endangered at the vice-county level; Eccleshill Old Ironworks (SD62X, P Jepson, 1999).

Habitat: Iron slag.

Comments: Plants occur by Ings Beck, Rimmington on mineral spoil heaps just within vice-county 64.

Stellaria nemorum* L. ssp. *nemorum
Wood Stitchwort



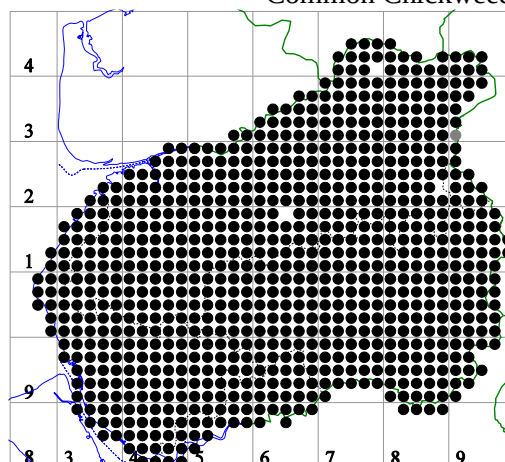
Lower Penwortham DP Earl 2008



Padiham DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; locally common in the river valleys of the Ribble catchment area and along the Mersey to the west of Stockport.
Habitat: Riverbanks and wet woods.
Comments: Said to be plentiful along the Irwell beyond Agecroft (Grindon 1859).

***Stellaria media* (L.) Villars**
Common Chickweed

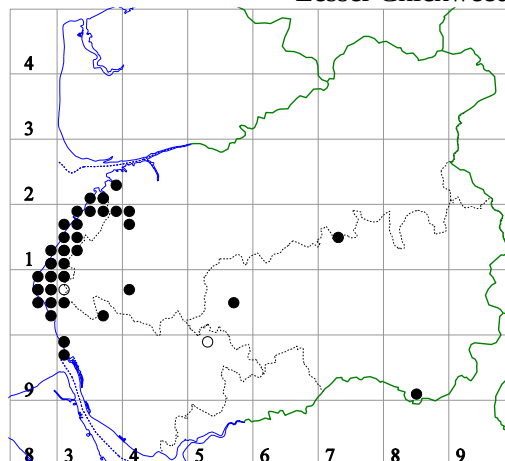


Southport DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); common and widespread and only absent from the highest ground and the remote saltmarshes.

Habitat: Disturbed ground, arable fields, gardens, allotments and pavements, particularly on light soils.

***Stellaria pallida* (Dumort.) Crép.**
Lesser Chickweed



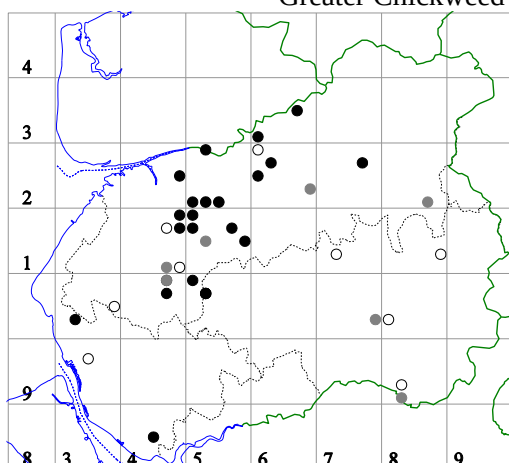


Formby M Jones 2022

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; mainly coastal, rare inland.
Habitat: Sand-dunes, open sandy ground, sand pits and roadside verges. Plants are usually associated with species such as *Erodium cicutarium* and *Geranium molle*.
Comments: Axiophyte. Plants may have been imported to roadside verges with coastal sand as at the A565, Mere Brow (SD41E, DP & J Earl, 1996).

Stellaria neglecta Weihe

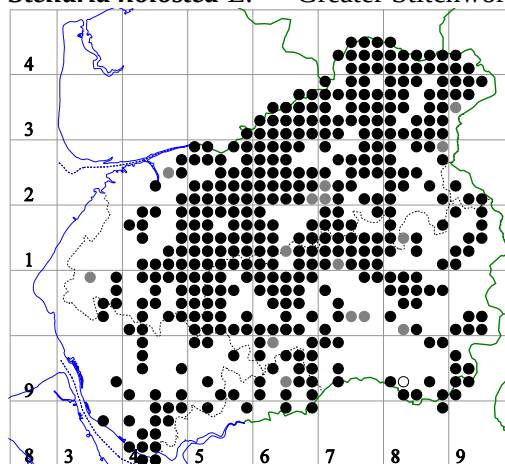
Greater Chickweed



Shaw's Wood, Leyland DP Earl 2012

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; widespread, occasional to locally frequent between Skelmersdale and the Ribble valley, scarce elsewhere.
Habitat: Very characteristic of riverbanks and alluvial beds in woodlands.
Comments: Probably under-recorded in recent times and plants should be looked for at historic locations, particularly along riverbanks.

Stellaria holostea L. Greater Stitchwort



Anderton's Mill DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England);

widespread and locally common particularly in the rural districts.

Habitat: Woods, woodland borders and hedge banks especially along country lanes.

Comments: Plants are scarce in urban areas and may have declined from former locations on the coastal plain where this species is uncommon.

Stellaria palustris Ehrh. ex Hoffm.
Marsh Stitchwort

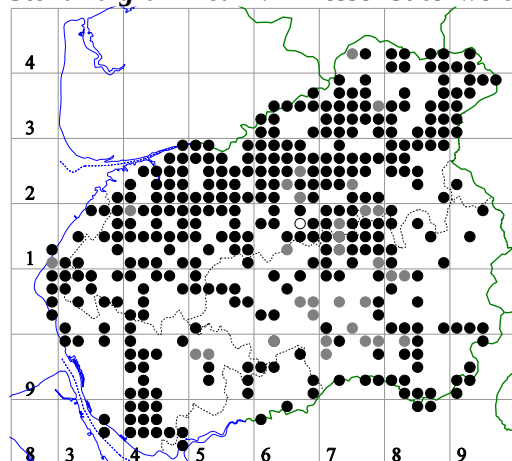
Distribution: Native, Nationally Uncommon, Vulnerable (Red List for England), Rare (2); still present at Martin Mere (SD4214, J Styles, 2018) where also recorded from (SD4114, T Clare, 2011); last seen at a ditch near Windmill Farm (SD4315, DP Earl, 2010).

Former distribution: Scarisbrick (SD31R, J Horsefield, 1831); ditches between Rufford Station and Mawdesley (SD41S, HE Bunker & JA Whellan); a brook side between the Tramway and Walton (SD52P, *Flora of Preston* 1865).

Habitat: Ditch sides.

Comments: Long known from the Rufford and Martin Mere districts and perhaps present along additional ditches in the area.

Stellaria graminea L. Lesser Stitchwort



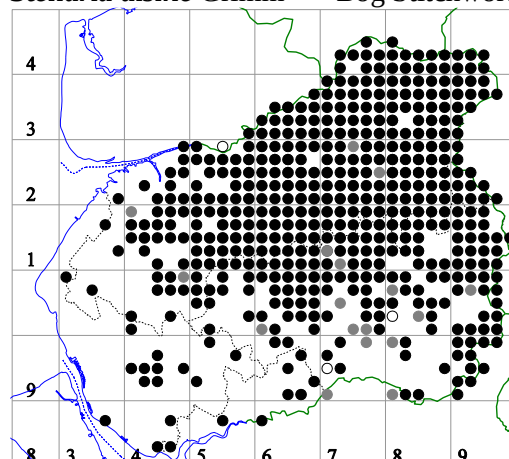
Skelmersdale DP Earl 2009

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); widespread and locally frequent.

Habitat: Unimproved and semi-improved meadows, along grassy riverbanks and roadsides.

Comments: Although still widespread this species has declined in abundance due to agricultural improvement.

Stellaria alsine Grimm Bog Stitchwort



Cuerden Valley Country Park DP Earl 2020

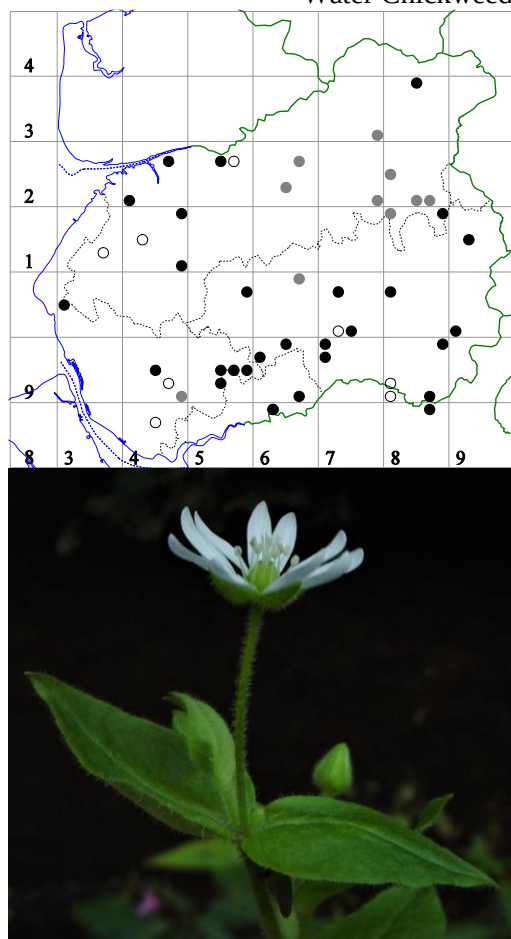
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); widespread, common in the hill districts and on the clay soils in dairy farming

areas, rare in urban areas, on sandy soils and in the arable districts.

Habitat: Margins of ponds, rivers and streams; wet meadows and cattle-trod pastures; hill flushes.

Stellaria aquatica (L.) Scop.

Water Chickweed



Adlington DP Earl 2020

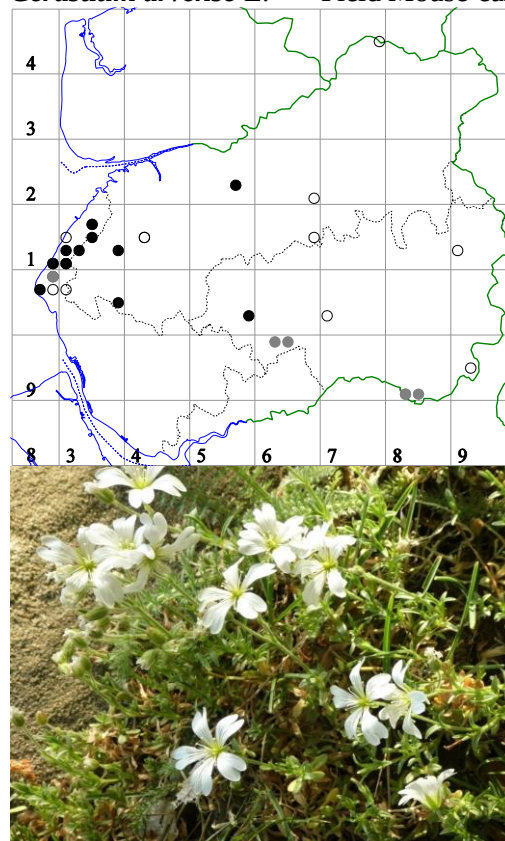
Status & distribution: Native & Adventive, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte.

Distribution: Widespread but occasional at lower altitudes and rare north of the West and South Pennine Moors.

Habitat: Native along riverbanks; occasionally found as a casual in flowerbeds.

Comments: This species is probably under-recorded along riverbanks due to limited access. A record from Bradshaw Brook (SD71, Rev CE Shaw *Savidge et al* 1963) was later found to be *Stellaria neglecta*.

Cerastium arvense L. Field Mouse-ear



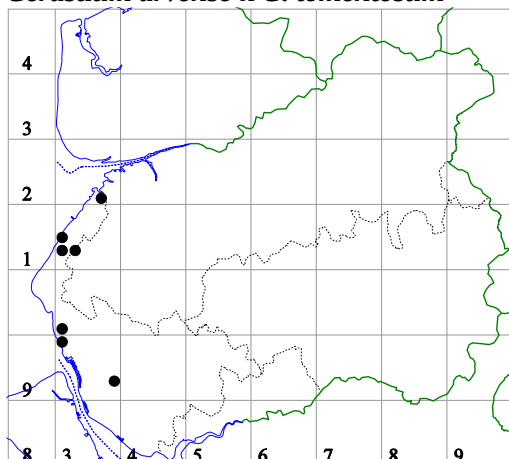
Aughton Churchyard PS Gateley 2020

Status & distribution: Native, [Near Threatened \(Red List for England\)](#), Axiophyte, occasional in coastal districts often surviving in cemeteries and garden lawns, rare further inland as at Aughton Churchyard (SD30X, DP & J Earl, 2005). There is an un-localised record for SD60.

Habitat: Dune pastures and heaths, lawns, turf, fields, roadside banks and canal towpaths usually on well drained sandy soils.

Comments: A record for a tip near Darwen (SD62V, CA Howe, 1956) ideally requires confirmation and may have been the hybrid with *Cerastium tomentosum*.

Cerastium arvense x *C. tomentosum*



Ainsdale DP Earl 2009

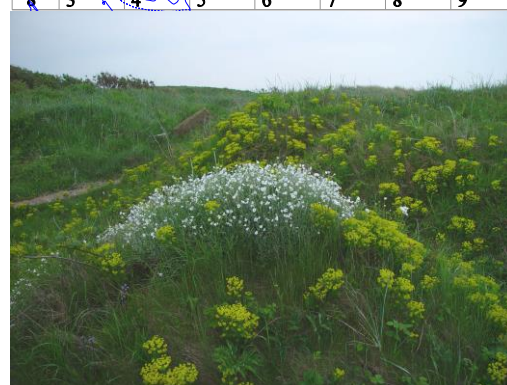
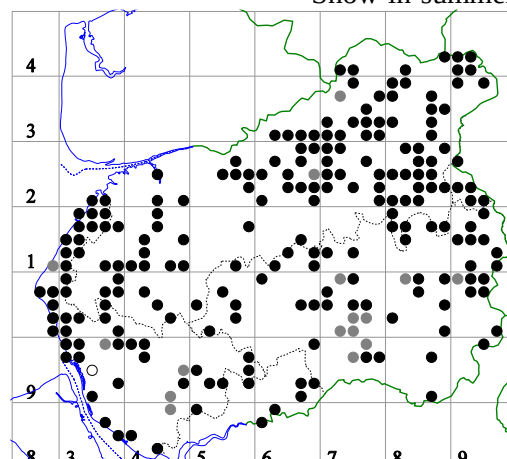
Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; Blundellsands Key Park (SJ39E/SD30A, A Newton, 1995); site of railway station (SJ39W, V Gordon, 1997); Ainsdale Cemetery (SD31G, DP Earl, 1995); Kenilworth Dunes (SD31B, PH Smith & MP Wilcox, 2004); Marine Drive (SD32Q, DP & J Earl, 2005).

Habitat: Dry sandy soils on the coastal plain.

Comments: Thought to be under-recorded.

Cerastium tomentosum L.

Snow-in-summer



Hall Road DP Earl 2008

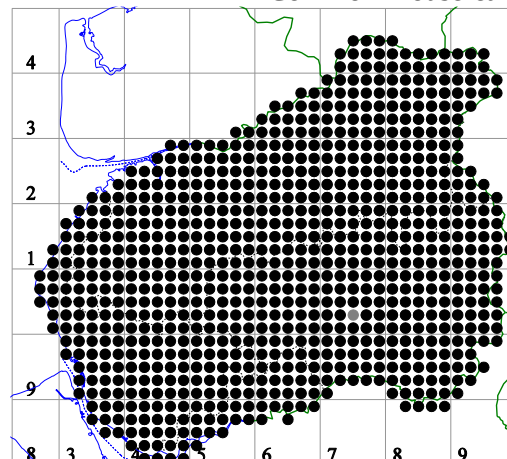
Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; widely established particularly near habitation. Established along the coastal dunes system between Blundellsands (SJ39E) & Birkdale (SD31C) for some time (Green 1933) but the earliest record has yet to be traced.

Habitat: Grassy banks, roadsides, railway banks, waste ground, tips and sand-dunes.

Comments: Native to Italy.

Cerastium fontanum Baumg.

Common Mouse-ear





Southport DP Earl 2008

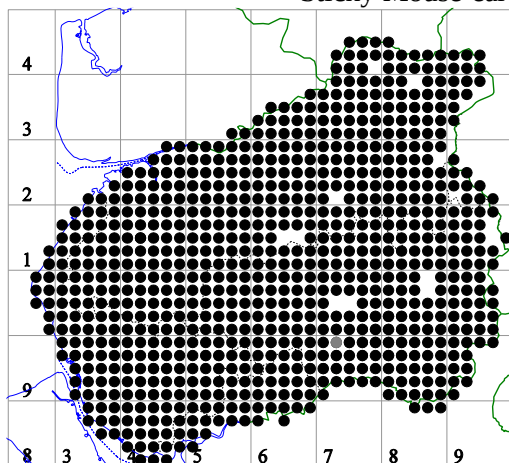
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); common and widespread.

Habitat: Grassland, roadsides, derelict land and sand-dunes.

Comments: *C. fontanum* ssp. *vulgare* (Hartman) Greuter & Burdet is common; ssp. *holosteoides* (Fries) Salmen, Ommering & Voogd has been recorded from moist dune-slacks at Freshfield (SD20U, n.d.), recent records from the Preston area are considered unconfirmed.

***Cerastium glomeratum* Thuill.**

Sticky Mouse-ear



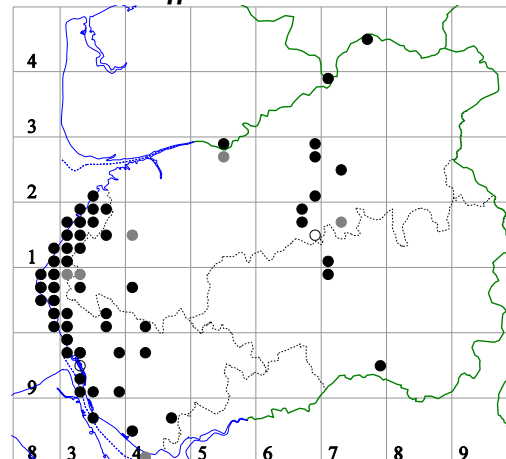
Downholland Cross DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); common and widespread except on the highest ground.

Habitat: Grass verges, lawns, pastures, sand-dunes, walls and waste ground.

Comments: This species has become more frequent in recent times; it is likely to be present along the M62 within SD91S.

***Cerastium diffusum* Pers. Sea Mouse-ear**



Lifeboat Lane, Formby PH Smith 2011

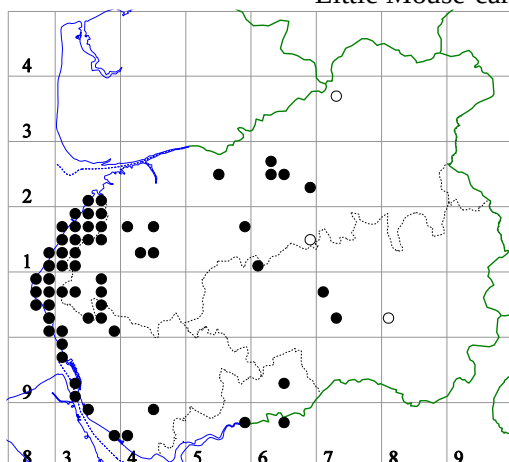
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; common in the coastal districts, local inland.

Habitat: Locally abundant on the sand-dunes, also occurring in short grassland on well drained sandy soils, wall tops, railway ballast, former industrial sites and salted roadsides.

Comments: Increasingly recorded from inland locations.

***Cerastium semidecandrum* L.**

Little Mouse-ear



Downholland Cross DP Earl 2008

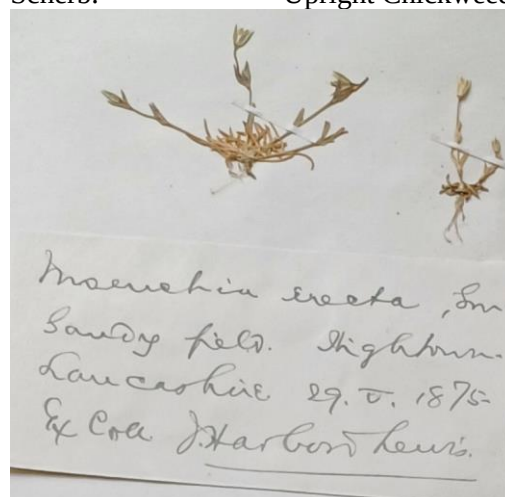
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; frequent to locally common along the coastal fringe, local inland.

Habitat: On sand-dunes, dry sandy soils, wall-tops and ballast.

Comments: Known to have declined inland and also as a member of the sand-dune ephemeral communities being less common than *C. diffusum*. This may relate to the aerial deposition of nitrogen.

***Moenchia erecta* (L.) Gaertner, Meyer & Scherb.**

Upright Chickweed

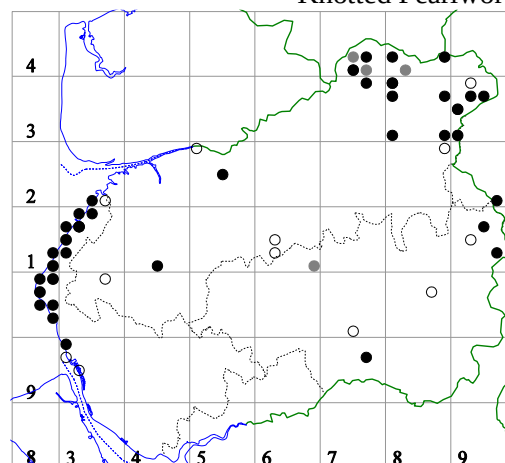


Status & former distribution: Native, **Nationally Uncommon, Vulnerable (Red List for England)**, Extinct in South Lancashire; Tide Mill Dam, Liverpool (SJ38N, J Shepherd 1839); hedgebanks near Parkside Station (SJ69C, Buxton 1849); nearly opposite the new stone quarry, Winwick (SJ69B, W Wilson, 1845, MANCH); Mossley Common & a lane between Boothstown and Worsley (SD70F, Grindon 1859); grassy lane to sand-hills south of Hightown Station (SD20W, Brown 1873 & JL Lewis, 1875, MANCH); Hartley near Castleton (SD81V, 1913, *Fl. Roch*).

Habitat: Occurred on dry sandy ground.

***Sagina nodosa* (L.) Fenzl**

Knotted Pearlwort





Birkdale Green Beach PH Smith 2012

Status & distribution: Native, [Vulnerable \(Red List for England\)](#), Axiophyte; locally common along the coast and the north-eastern hills, rare elsewhere.

Habitat: Open sandy dune-slacks, salt sprayed walls; in hill district flushes and damp tracks especially about the 'hushings'.

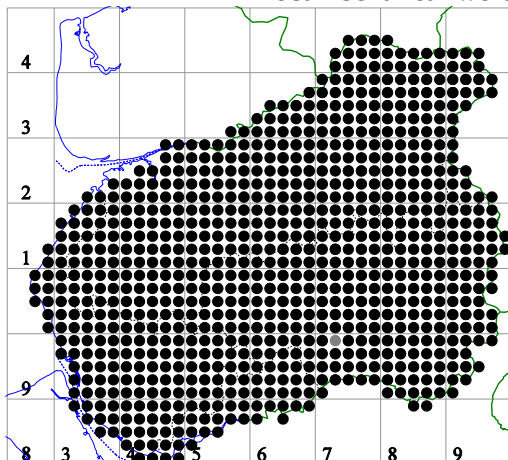
Comments: Plants occasionally occur on artificial substrates such as limestone chippings but are usually short-lived adventives.

Sagina subulata (Sw.) C. Presl
Heath Pearlwort

Status & distribution: [Near Threatened \(Red List for England\)](#), Casual in South Lancashire; Pennington Flash (SJ69J, BW Fox, 1952, BON).

Comments: The voucher specimen requires validation.

Sagina procumbens L.
Procumbent Pearlwort



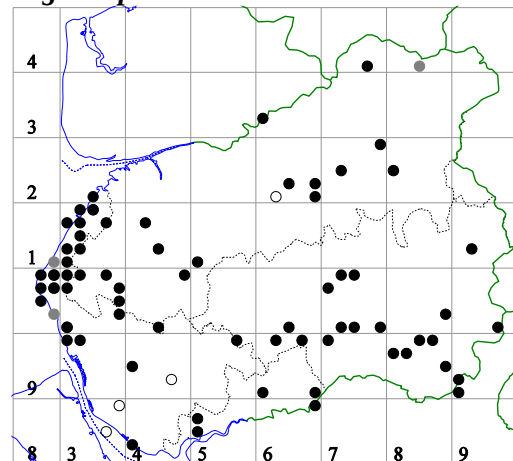
Greaves Hall, Banks DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); common and widespread.

Habitat: Pavements, flowerbeds, tracks, wet meadows, flushes, dune-slacks, pond and reservoir margins.

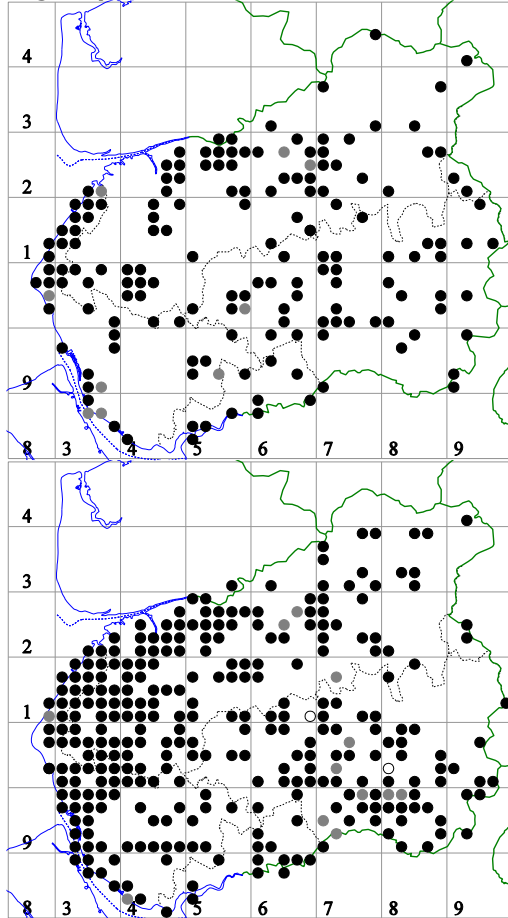
Comments: Plants have probably been overlooked where gaps in the distribution map occur.

Sagina apetala Ard. Annual Pearlwort



Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; considered over recorded with the true subspecies probably being much more localised and more characteristic of open sandy and stony ground particularly nearby to the coast.

Sagina filicaulis Jord. Slender Pearlwort



Distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); widespread, most frequent in lowland districts and increasing as an urban weed.

Habitat: Open sandy ground, walls, pavements and ballast.



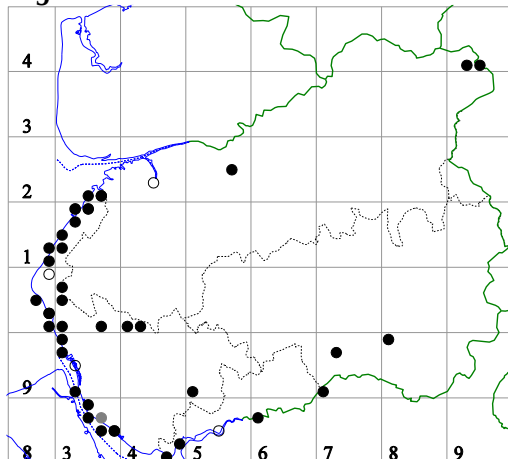
Marine Drive, Southport S Hartnett 2023

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; mainly coastal, rare or overlooked in the upper reaches of the estuaries and tidal sections of rivers. There are now several recent inland records from roadsides.

Habitat: Coastal walls, saltmarshes, sand-dunes; salted roadsides inland.

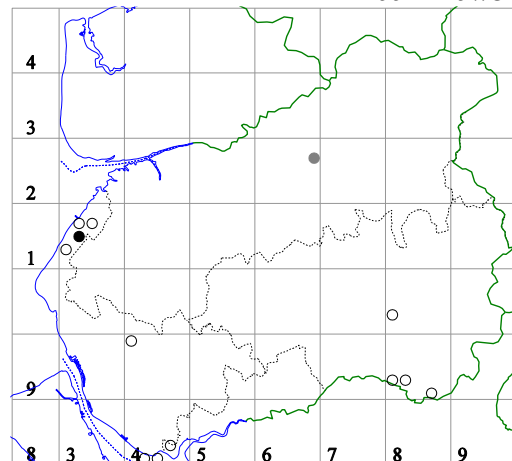
Comments: Plants should be looked for along salt roadsides along which this species is spreading.

Sagina maritima G. Don Sea Pearlwort



Scleranthus annuus L. ssp. *annuus*

Annual Knapel





Birkdale Common PH Smith 2012

Status & distribution: Native, [Endangered \(Red List for England\)](#) and critically endangered at vice-county level with about 250 plants found at Birkdale Common (SD3214, PH Smith, 2010).

Former distribution: Once an occasional species in the lowlands with a casual record from near Queens Park, Blackburn (SD6926, P Jepson & E Stones, 1986).

Habitat: Open sandy-stony ground on the dune system; formerly in cornfields, gravel pits, along clay cliff tops, railway sidings and on a golf course.

Comments: Endangered. The Blackburn plants occurred as casuals on ground disturbed during the development of a golf course.

***Corrigiola litoralis* L.**

Strapwort



Herb : A. J. FARMER.
 Name *Corrigiola litoralis* L.
 Dr. B.P.L. 594/1 Lon. Cat. Ed.
 Collected by A.J. Farmer Date 22.8.40
 Locality 3rd field
 S. Lancs.
 Vice County 59.

Status & distribution: Casual in South Lancashire; Barkfield Sidings, near Freshfield (SD20Z, JD Massey & W Chesher, 1928 & GVC Last, 1940, MANCH); Huyton disused railway station (SJ49K, N McMillan, 1968); Fazakerley disused sidings (SJ39Z, G Steman, 1991).

Habitat: Railway ballast.

Comments: Although classed as Nationally Rare (Stace) and Critically Endangered (Red List for England) plants are not native but adventive in the vice-county often persisting for a few years.

***Herniaria glabra* L.** Smooth Rupturewort



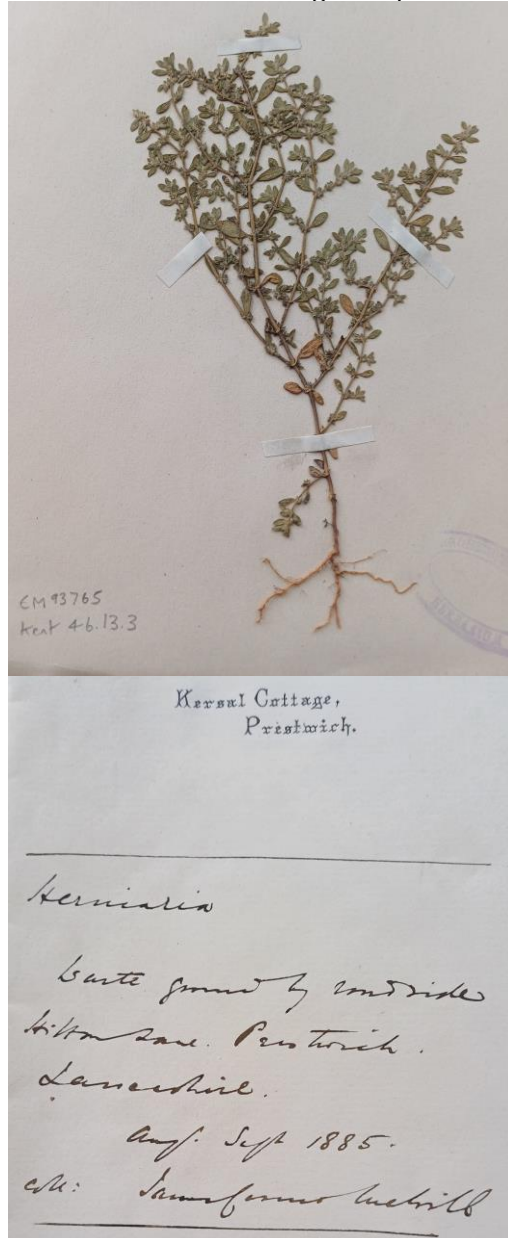
Birkdale DP Earl 2005

Distribution: Naturalised in South Lancashire, Scarce (4); Kenilworth Road, Ainsdale (SD31B, PH Smith, 2005) and spreading to nearby roads; Westbourne Road, Birkdale (SD31I, PH Smith, 2005); Moston Sidings, Manchester (SD80V, J Clarke, 2004); Crosby Marine Park (SJ3197, PS Gateley, 2017).

Habitat: Sandy roadside verges and pavements near the sea, ballast of disused railway sidings.

Comments: Thought to have been first recorded from Shore Road, Ainsdale (AR Franks & MPG Tolfree, 1980).

***Herniaria hirsuta* L. Fringed Rupturewort**



Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Hilton Lane, Prestwich (SD80B, JC Melvill, 1885 where locally profuse for a few years *Botanical Exchange Club Report* 1885 p. 157); Crown Wallpaper Tip (SD7019, BW Fox, 1958).

Habitat: Roadside, wallpaper waste tip.

Comments: Native to mainland Europe.

***Illecebrum verticillatum* L.**

Coral-necklace



Fazakerley Sidings PS Gateley 2009

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Walton Triangle (SJ39S, V Gordon, 1976); Fazakerley sidings (SJ39Y, BK Payane, 1987, SJ39Z) where still present in 2009 (PS Gateley & G Quartly-Bishop). There is a voucher specimen from Liverpool (SJ39, c. 1899, BON).

Habitat: Railway ballast at disused sidings.

Comments: Vulnerable (Red List for England) this species is however a casual in the vice-county.

***Polycarpon tetraphyllum* (L.) L.**

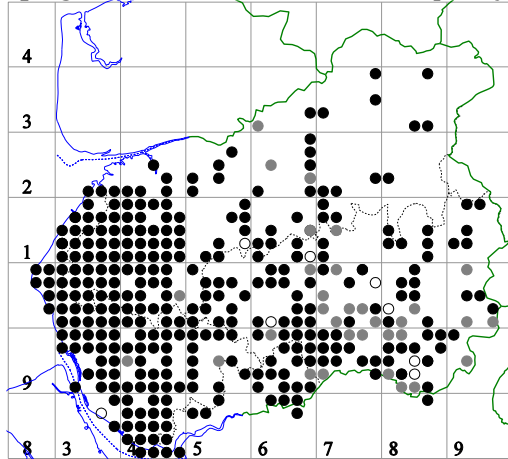
Four-leaved Allseed

Status & distribution: Casual in South Lancashire; Crown Wallpaper Tip (SD7019, BW Fox, 1958, BON).

Habitat: Wallpaper waste tip.

Comments: JE Lousley is associated with this record, and he may have determined the specimen or have seen the plant in the field.

Spergula arvensis L. Corn Spurrey



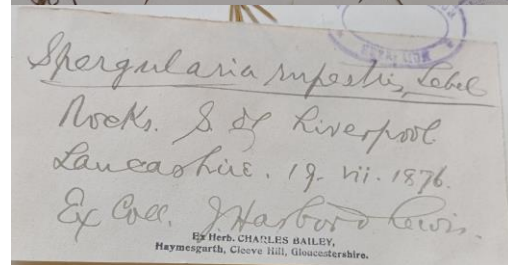
Burscough DP Earl 2009

Status & distribution: Native, **Vulnerable (Red List England)**, Axiophyte; still widespread in the lowlands, especially in the arable districts, increasingly frequent as a weed of urban areas, very local in the north-east. The var. *arvensis* has been recorded from a set-aside field, near Ormskirk (SD4209, 2005) & Clitheroe (SD7341) Mp Wilcox & the Martinscroft roundabout system (SJ6589, J Clarke & M Chappell, 2008).

Habitat: Arable fields, gardens and disturbed ground; sandy areas on reservoir draw-down zones.

Comments: Plants appear to be introduced via wildflower seed mixtures in urban areas and only persist at such locations for a few years.

Spergularia rupicola Lebel ex Le Jolis
Rock Sea-spurrey

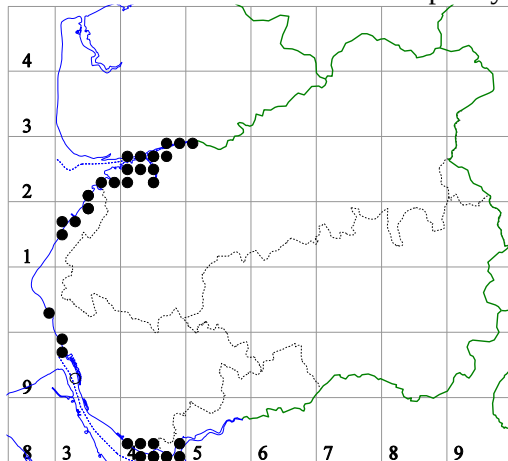


Status & former distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Extinct in South Lancashire; Dingle Point (SJ38N, WG Travis, 1908).

Habitat: Bunter sandstone rocks in reach of salt spray drift.

Comments: The Dingle Point site was partly destroyed by the cutting away of the rocks and the construction of a jetty for oil tankers. Records have been traced to 1927 but these may be literature dates relating to Travis's manuscripts rather than actual field records.

Spergularia media (L.) C. Presl
Greater Sea-spurrey



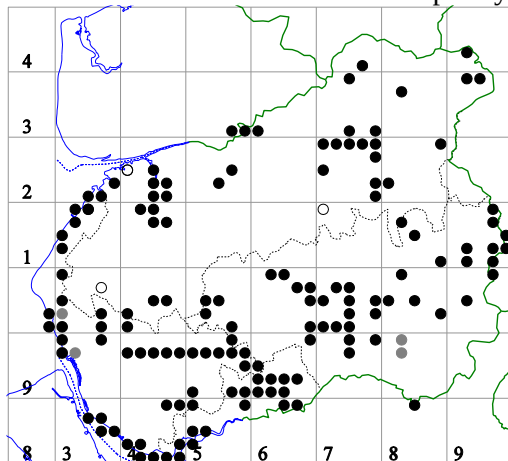
Hightown DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; frequent in the estuaries and along the coast.

Habitat: Saltmarshes and along the Promenade at Crosby.

Comments: Plants have not been seen along inland roadsides.

Spergularia marina (L.) Griseb.
Lesser Sea-spurrey



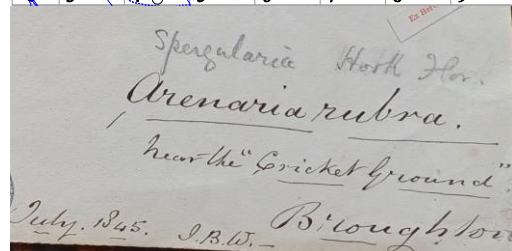
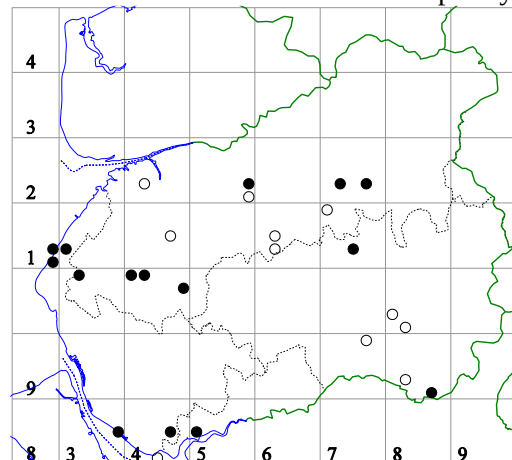
Birkdale Green Beach PH Smith 2008

Status & distribution: Native & Adventive, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; frequent in the estuaries and along the coast, now becoming locally abundant inland along the motorways, trunk roads and salted hillside roads.

Habitat: Saltmarshes, walls subject to salt spray, salted roadsides.

Comments: Under-recorded along the motorway system because of access difficulties.

Spergularia rubra (L.) J.S. & C. Presl
Sand Spurrey





Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; widely distributed but now localised and seldom found in quantity.
Habitat: Sandy ground and old quarries.
Comments: Formerly considered more frequent and widespread, lost from many of the former locations possible due to nitrification.

urban areas. There is an un-localised record for SD71.

Habitat: Wildflower seed areas; formerly in arable fields and on tips.

Comments: "Common and fine at Southport" (SD31, *Grindon* 1859). Travis commented "Declined as a feature of wheat crops being more frequent amongst barley and rye and more likely to be seen as a casual on tips" (*Card Index System*).

***Agrostemma gracilis* Boiss.**



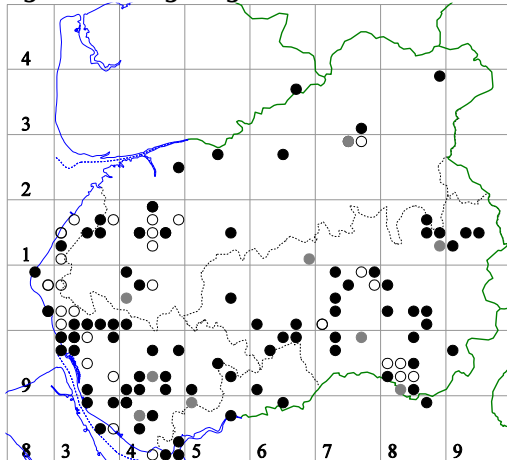
Ainsdale PH Smith 2012

Status & distribution: Neophyte-planted; edge of former works compound, Hightown dunes (SD2902, 2012); Ainsdale Village Park (SD3112, 2012) & Crosby Marine Park (SJ3198, 2014) PH Smith.

Habitat: Wildflower seed areas.

Comments: Native to the eastern Mediterranean.

***Agrostemma githago* L. Corncockle**



Blowick, Southport DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Archaeophyte-colonist but widely sown particularly in

***Silene nutans* L. | Nottingham Catchfly**



Status & former distribution: Casual or alien in South Lancashire; along the north shore between Mill House and the Dog Kennels, Liverpool (SJ39F, J Shepherd 1792, LIV); introduced to Martin Mere Wildfowl Trust Reserve (SD41H, 1993).

Habitat: Dry banks by the sea, wildflower areas.

Comments: A recent record for a new embankment to a bird hide, Marshside (SD32K, MP Wilcox, 2004) requires verification and may have originated from the sowing of a wildflower mixture.

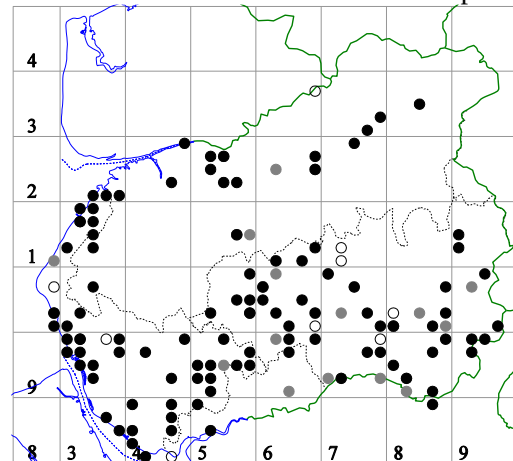
***Silene otites* (L.) Wibel** Spanish Catchfly

Status & distribution: Alien in South Lancashire with a single plant persisting by to the entrance to Ainsdale NNR (SD3011, c.1985 - 1995).

Habitat: Hollow between fixed dunes.

Comments: Endangered. Perhaps accidentally introduced to the above location and now appears to be extinct.

Silene vulgaris* Garcke ssp. *vulgaris
Bladder Campion



Atherton J Somerville 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; widespread at lower altitudes and most frequent in the urban areas with a strong association with the railway network.

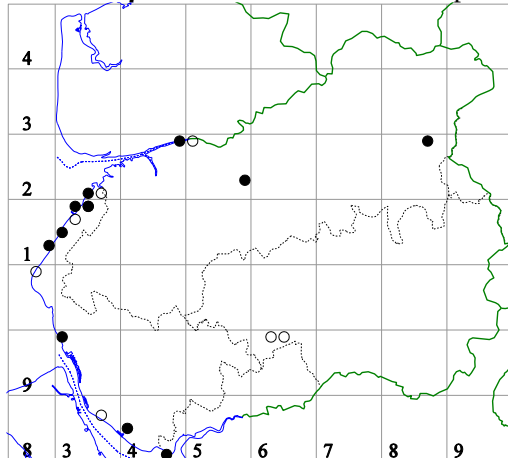
Habitat: Railway ballast and banks, waste ground, sandy ground and derelict industrial land.

Silene vulgaris* Garcke ssp. *macrocarpa
Turill

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Walton (SJ39M, JA Wheldon, 1913).

Comments: Native to the Mediterranean.

***Silene uniflora* Roth** Sea Campion



Marshside DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Scarce (9); occasional along the coast from Garston to Preston, most frequent in the Southport area, rare as a casual or garden escape inland.

Habitat: Shingle, strandlines and frontal dunes, casual on ash tips, railway banks and as seedling from gardens inland.

Comments: Semi-established plants did persist for several years by Rochdale Town Hall (*Shaw* 1971).

***Silene armeria* L.** Sweet-William Catchfly



Skelmersdale DP Earl 2009

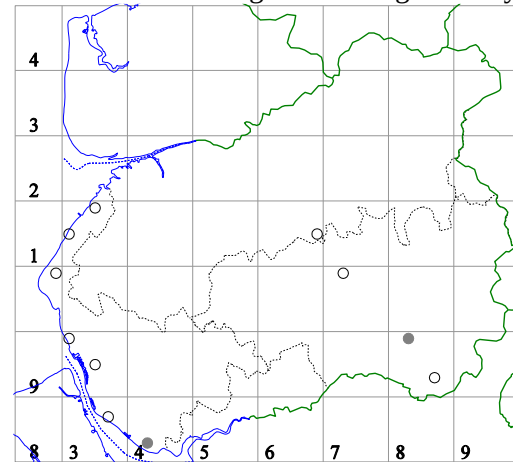
Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Bower Street, Blackburn (SD6626, E Stones, 1990); Collyhurst (SJ89P, AR Franks, c. 1995); Switch Island (SJ3699, SD3600 & SD3700, RF Goodchild, 2006); Skelmersdale (SD4605, DP & J Earl, 2009); Pennington Flash Country Park (SJ6499, DP Earl, 2010).

Habitat: Disturbed ground, sown with wildflower mixture.

Comments: Native to mainland Europe

***Silene noctiflora* L.**

Night-flowering Catchfly

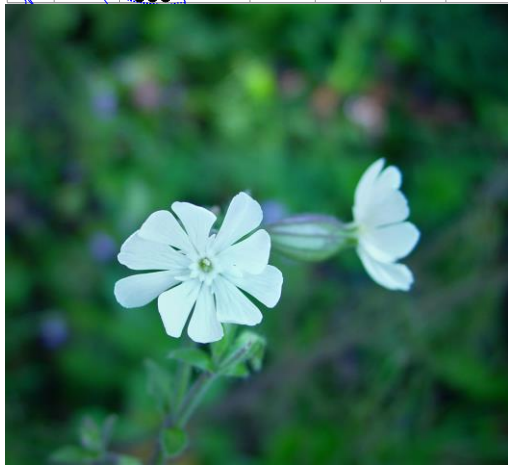
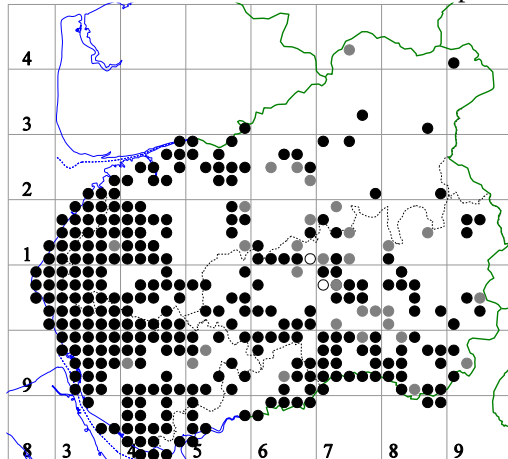


Status & distribution: Archaeophyte-colonist, Nationally Uncommon, Vulnerable (Red List for England); once considered a frequent casual, but the only recent records are from Speke (SJ48G, S Fletcher, 1990) & Longridge House, Corporation St., Manchester (SJ8398, AR Franks, 1991). There is an un-localised record for SD60.

Earliest record traced: In fields of grain, Crosby (SJ39E, Mrs J Gibson Jnr., 1864, MANCH).

Habitat: Arable fields cultivated and waste ground, slag heaps, roadsides and railway banks.

***Silene latifolia* Poir. ssp. *alba* (Mill.)**
Greuter & Burdet White Campion



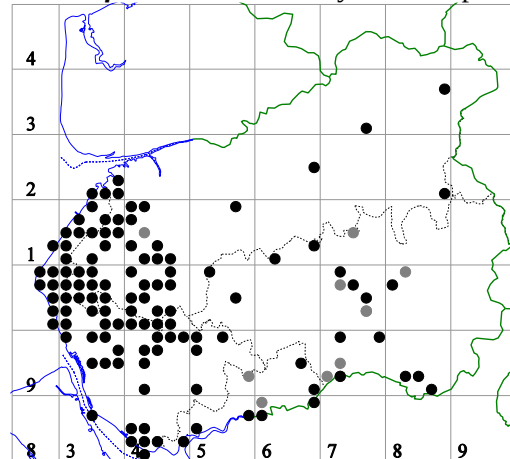
Walton-le-Dale DP Earl 2019

Status & distribution: Archaeophyte-denizen, Least Concern (Red List for England); a mainly lowland species most frequent in the west especially on sandy soils near the coast and in the arable districts.

Habitat: Arable fields, lane sides, disturbed and waste ground.

Comments: *S. latifolia* ssp. *latifolia* Poir. occurred near Walton (SJ39M, JA Wheldon, c. 1913 Druce 1916) and was known to have been present for several years.

***Silene* x *hampeana* Muesel & K. Werner.**
= *S. latifolia* x *S. dioica* Hybrid Campion



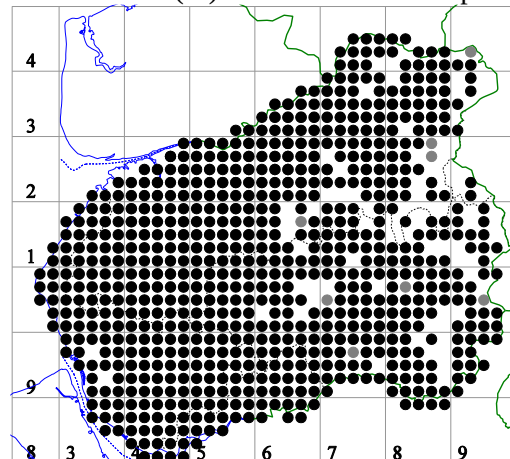
Ainsdale DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Archaeophyte-denizen x Native; frequent in lowland districts especially in the west.

Habitat: Arable field margins, roadsides and waste ground.

Comments: Often occurring with both parent species. Possibly over-recorded, particularly in regions where *S. latifolia* is scarce due to confusion with pink forms of *S. dioica*.

***Silene dioica* (L.) Clairv.** Red Campion





Martholme DP Earl 2006

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); common and widespread, although absent from the highest ground.

Habitat: Woods, scrub, roadside banks, ditch sides, wooded railway banks and sand-dunes.

Comments: The var. *albiflora* Opiz. has been observed in recent times and was recorded from Scarisbrick Hall (SD31W, DE Allen) and a wood near Halsnead Park (SJ48U, Liverpool Botanical Society, 1918).

Silene coeli-rosa (L.) Godron

Rose-of-heaven



Hightown PH Smith 2012

Status & distribution: Neophyte-deliberately sown; by the Bridgewater Canal, Bedford (SJ6899, DP Earl & P & A Bowdler, 2012); track to sailing club, Hightown (SD2902, Manchester Field Club, 2012); Crosby Marine Park (SJ3197, DP & J Earl, 2014 & SJ3198, PH Smith, 2015).

Habitat: Disturbed ground sown with wildflower mixes.

Comments: Native to southwest Europe. Where sown several different flower-coloured cultivars are present from pink to

sky-blue.

Silene pendula L.

Nodding Catchfly



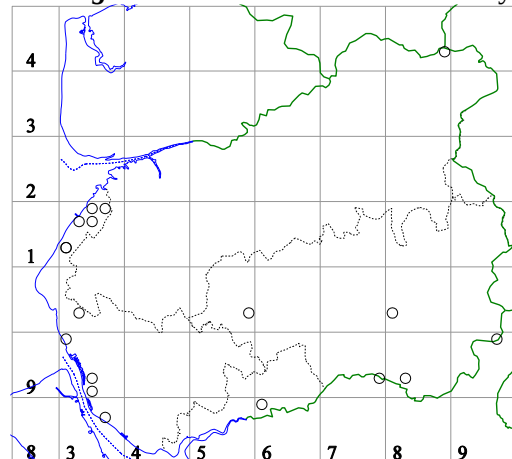
Hightown PH Smith 2012

Status & distribution: Neophyte-deliberately sown; track to sailing club, Hightown (SD2902, PH Smith, 2012).

Habitat: Disturbed ground sown with a 'wildflower' mix.

Comments: Native to southern Europe.

Silene gallica L. Small-flowered Catchfly



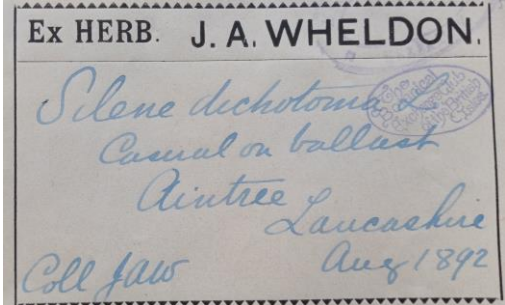
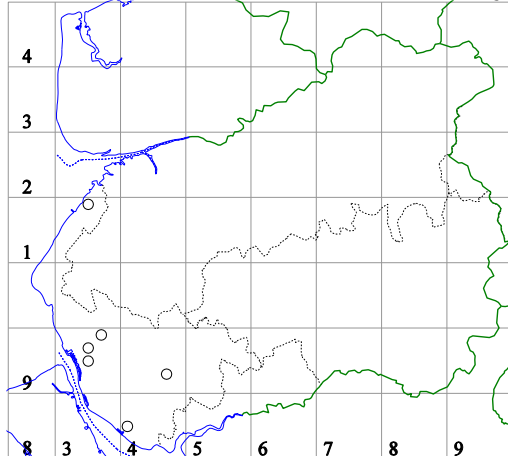
Status & former distribution:

Archaeophyte-denizen, **Nationally Uncommon, Endangered (Red List for England)**; once a widely scattered but occasional casual, although plants occurred frequently in the Southport district. There are un-localised records for SD60, SD61 & SD70.

Habitat: Sandy ground near the coast, cornfields, railway ballast and tips.

Comments: There are records for var. *anglica* (L.) Clapham has been recorded for Manchester Corporation tips, Withington (SJ89G, Rev CE Shaw Herb. BW Fox) and the var. *quinquevulnera* L. from Prestwich (SD80B) & Crosby (SJ39E).

***Silene dichotoma* Ehrh. Forked Catchfly**



S. dichotoma, L. Casual on ballast, Aintree, Lancashire. Previously unrecorded. August, 1892.—J. A. WHELDON. "I think correct."—Arth. Bennett. The authority for the above name is not Linnaeus. Ehrhart in the 'Beitrag.' vii. 144, first described it. It is a not unfrequent casual.—G. C. Druce.

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; potato fields at Marshside (SD31P, JA Wheldon & WG Travis, n.d.); ballast at Aintree (SJ39U, JA Wheldon, 1892); Garston (SJ48C, Rev S Gasking *Botanical Exchange Club Report* (1898) p. 567); in amongst potatoes, Walton Prison (SJ39N,

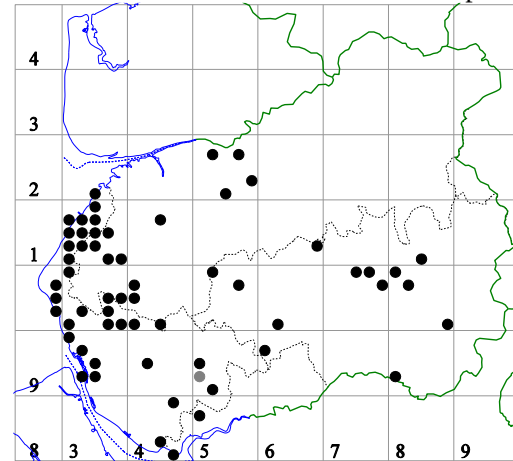
JA Wheldon, 1907); waste ground, Prescott (SJ49R, Rev. M Toohey, n.d.).

Habitat: Waste ground, ballast, in potato fields and on allotments.

Comments: This annual species is native to mainland Europe; records were clearly associated with potato growing.

***Silene coronaria* (L.) Clairv.**

Rose Campion



Ainsdale DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; widespread and increasingly established near the coast.

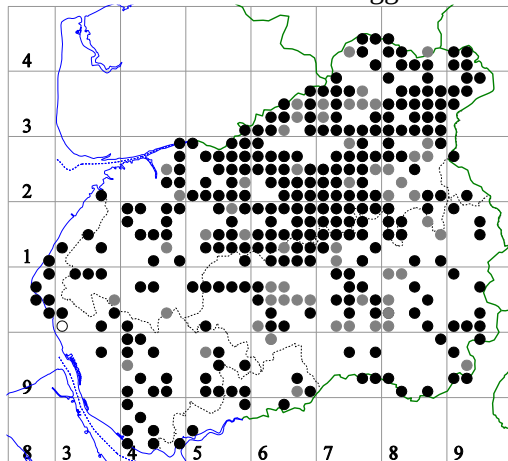
Earliest record traced: Land east of Chester Lane, St. Helens (SJ5192, Anon@Biobank, 1992).

Habitat: Sand-dunes, wall tops, waste ground and tips.

Comments: Native to the Balkans.

***Silene flos-cuculi* (L.) Clairv.**

Ragged-Robin



Croston DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, [Near Threatened \(Red List for England\)](#); widespread, most frequent in the hill districts and the adjoining valleys, occasional to locally frequent in the lowland districts.

Habitat: Wet meadows, flushed hill pastures, dune-slacks and damp habitats on brown field sites.

Comments: Declined significantly from the lowlands due to drainage but a frequent ingredient of sown wildflower mixes.

***Silene chalcedonica* (L.) E.H.L. Krause**
Maltese-Cross

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised, established by a railway footbridge south of Todmorden (SD9323, DP Earl & MP Wilcox, 2018).

Habitat: Mound of earth.

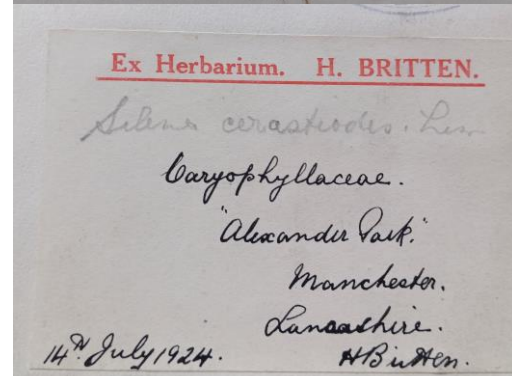
Comments: Native to east Europe and western Asia.

***Silene viscaria* (L.) Jess.** Sticky Catchfly

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual or sown; Mersey Valley, Chorlton (SJ89B, D Bishop, 1994); Martin Mere (SD4214, C Tomlinson, 1994 & 1996); Liverpool Loopline (SJ4090, R Duffy, 2016).

Habitat: Disturbed ground.

***Silene cerastiodes* L.**



***Silene diversifolia* Otth**

Various-leaved Catchfly

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; road to Rufford Station (SD41S, Lancashire Naturalists' Field Club, 1870 L.N.F.C. Proc. 1870-1871 p. 29).

Habitat: Waste ground.

Comments: Occurs as a native plant in the Holy Land. This is thought to be the species identity of a plant originally determined as *S. rubella* L.

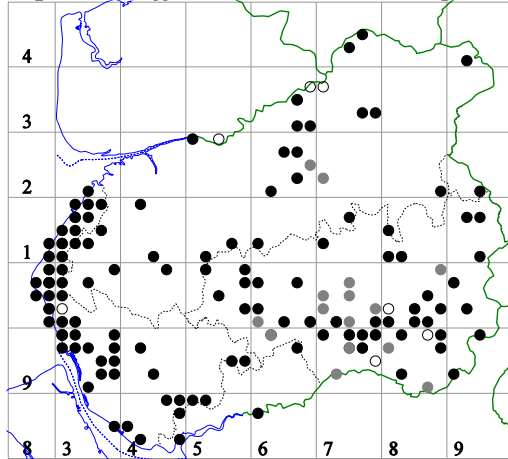
***Silene tatarica* Pers.** Tartar Catchfly

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; one plant found at Speke (SJ48C, JA Whellan & HF Dovaston, 1939 det., K).

Habitat: Railway sidings.

Comments: Native to mainland Europe.

***Saponaria officinalis* L.** Soapwort



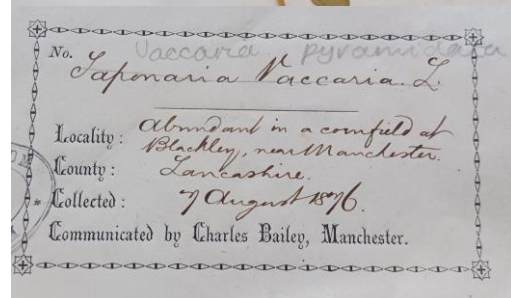
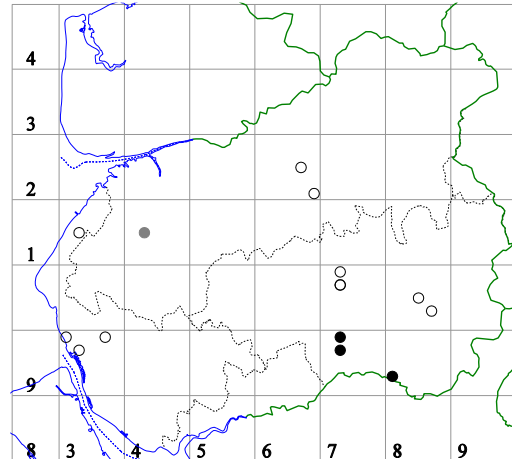
Birkdale DP Earl 2009

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; widespread and locally common particularly near habitation. Earliest records traced are from Preston (SD52, Saville, c.1801) and Southport (SD31, Glazebrook c. 1826).

Habitat: Waste ground, riverbanks, railway banks, rank grassland and sand-dunes.

Comments: The vars. *hirsuta* and var. *glaberrima* have been recorded in the past.

***Vaccaria hispanica* (Miller) Rauschert** Cowherb



Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Chat Moss (SJ79I & SJ79J, MPG Tolfree, 1995); about Chorlton Green (SJ8193, D Bishop, 2010); Leyland Station (SD5422, DP Earl, 2018).

Former distribution: In cornfields Crosby (SJ39E, T Green, 1863); Seaforth (SJ39I, T Green, 1864); Blackley (SD80R, C Bailey, 1876, MANCH); slag heaps, Bradford Park SD70J, T Greenlees, 1907);

on a tip, Darwen (SD62V, n.d.) on a tip, Blackburn (SD62S, n.d.) CA Howe; Martin Mere (SD41H, letter from PJ Wisniewski c.1990). There is an unlocalised record for SD82.

Habitat: Waste ground, tips and arable land.

Comments: Neophyte, casual, native to mainland Europe.

***Gypsophila paniculata* L.** Baby's-breath

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Crosby Marine Park (SJ3198, PH Smith & MP Wilcox, 2004).

Former distribution: Tip, Burnley (SD83L, CR Ritching); waste sandy ground, Birkdale (SD31H, JD Massey).

Habitat: Rubbish tip and waste ground.

Comments: Native to south-eastern Europe where plants occur on dry sandy and stony places.

***Gypsophila muralis* L.**

Annual *Gypsophila*

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; plants that may be this species have been recorded from Heaton Mersey (SJ89, DP Earl, 2005); between the library and pedestrian crossing, Rochdale Road, Todmorden (SD934241, AR Locksley, 2019).

Habitat: Pavements.

Comments: Native to central and eastern Europe

***Gypsophila elegans* Bieb.**

Annual Baby's-breath

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; sown areas particularly on disturbed coastal sand in the Sefton borough; by track to the Sailing Club, Hightown (SD2902, Manchester Field Club, 2012); Waterloo (SJ3197, DP & J Earl, 2014); (SD80M, C Walsh, 2015).

Former distribution: Aughton (SD30X, JD Massey, 1928); Weld Road, Southport (SD3216, V Gordon, 1988, LIV).

Comments: Native to Eastern Europe.

***Gypsophila pilosa* Hudson.**

Turkish Baby's-breath

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Walton (SJ39M, JA Wheldon, 1892); Whiston (SJ49Q, Rev. M Toohey, 1913).

Comments: Native to the Mediterranean region. This is thought to be the identity of a plant originally determined as *Gypsophila porrigens* (L.) Boiss.

***Petrorhagia saxifraga* (L.) Link**

Tunic-flower

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; by the Sands Pub, Ainsdale (SD3012, Wildflower Society, 2012, det. Royal Horticultural Society); possibly seen at Southport (SD3318, DP & J Earl, 2015).

Habitat: Grassy bank on sandy soil.

Comments: Native to mainland Europe.

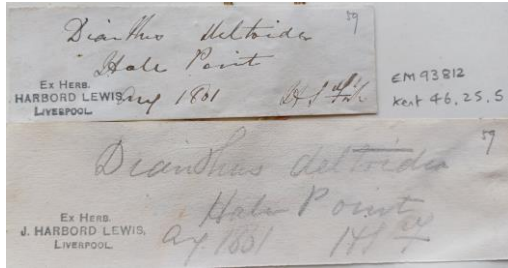
***Dianthus deltooides* L.**

Maiden Pink



Ainsdale DP Earl 2009





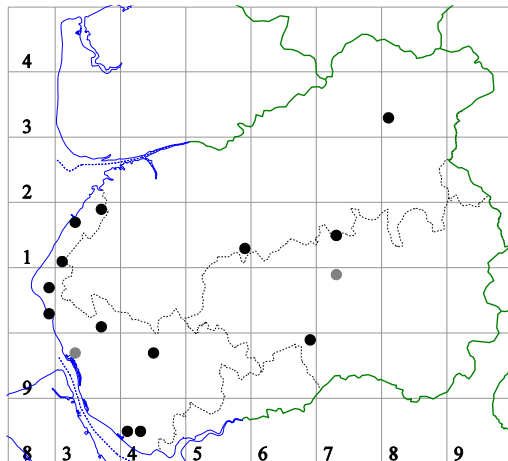
Status & distribution: Native, **Vulnerable (Red List for England)**, Rare (2); Falklands Way (SD31B, PH Smith, 2004); Ainsdale Cemetery and adjacent field (SD31G, DP & J Earl, 2009).

Former distribution: On the bank of River Mersey by the lighthouse, Hale Point (SJ48Q, CS Gregson 1863); Prestwich Hills (SD80B, JC Melvill, 1882).

Habitat: Well-drained banks and sand-dunes.

Comments: Assumed to have been a native at the historic locations; the recent records may be of established garden escapes. A record for Red Moss (SD61K, A Johnson & M Prescott, 1997) requires confirmation.

***Dianthus barbatus* L.** Sweet-William



Rose Grove DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; widely scattered.

Earliest record traced: Burden, Bolton (SD7208, SP & BM Garland, 1986).

Habitat: Casual on tips and established in grassland, on railway banks and sand-dunes close by to houses.

Comments: Native to southern Europe.

***Dianthus armeria* L.** Deptford Pink

Status & distribution: Neophyte; Huyton (SJ49K, V Gordon, 1997).

Former distribution: Sandy fields about Bootle (SJ39H, WS Skelthorne, 1846, Dickinson 1851); fields near Gill Moss Chapel (SJ49D, Dickinson 1851); near Anfield Cemetery (SJ39L, 1867 *Liverpool Nat. Journal*. p. 167).

Habitat: Fields and grasslands on sandy soils.

Comments: Endangered, it is not known whether historic records were casual plants.

***Dianthus chinensis* L.** China Pink



Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; Winewall (SD9140, H Beck, 2019).

Habitat: In unimproved grassland at the edge of a rough field above a dry-stone wall.

Comments: Native to East Asia. Possibly more widely naturalised.