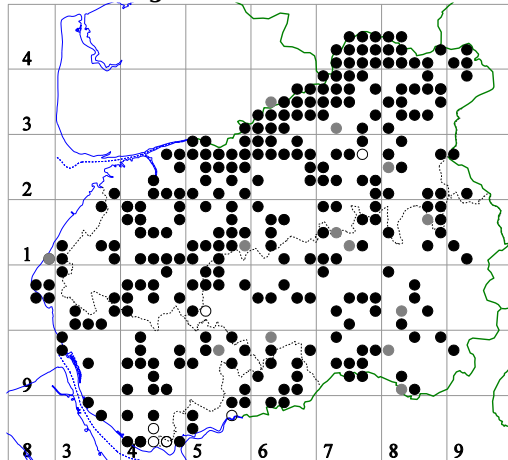


PRIMULACEAE

Primrose family

***Primula vulgaris* Huds.**

Primrose



Churchtown J Somerville 2008

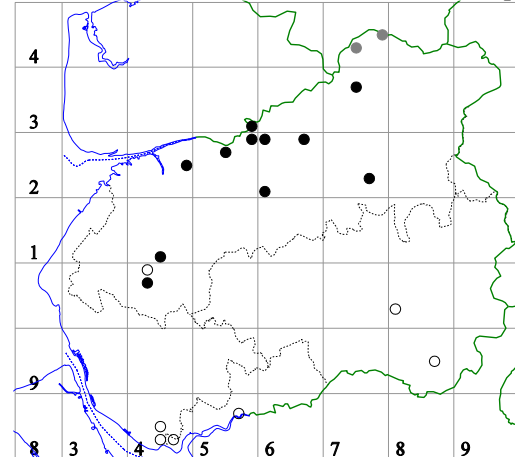
Distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiphyte; widespread, seldom common but locally frequent in the Ribble Valley.

Habitat: Woods, woodland borders, hedgebanks, un-improved meadows, railway and roadside banks.

Comments: Native populations are much reduced with the improvement of meadows. Clearly planted in some areas near habitation and possibly forming hybrids with *Polyanthus* near houses and in churchyards. The pink-flowered variety is frequently found especially in suburban areas and has been referred to as subsp. *rubra* (Sm.) Arcang.

Primula* x *polyantha* Miller = *P. vulgaris* x *P. veris

False Oxlip



Longton DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Axiphyte; scattered plants occur mainly along the Ribble Valley catchment but also at Westhead (SD4307); Scutcher's Acres (SD4410, J Watt); St Barnabas churchyard, Heapey (SD6020); by Oglet Brook (SD7722, P Jepson, 2002).

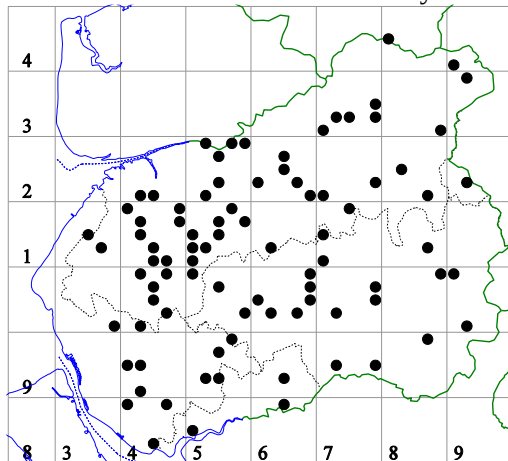
Former distribution: Woods at Speke (SJ48L); Hale (SJ48R) & Penketh (SJ58T) Fisher & Webb 1872; Levenshulme (SJ89S) & Prestwich (SD80B) Grindon 1859. There is a record limited to 10km precision for SD71.

Habitat: Woods, woodland borders, meadows and hedgebanks.

Comments: Usually occurring with one, or both parent species and increasing in frequency because of the introduction of the parent species to areas such as Preston Junction Nature Reserve.

***Primula* 'Polyanthus' varieties**

Polyanthus



Preston Junction DP Earl 2020

Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; frequently found as garden outcasts.

Earliest records traced: Whitebank Industrial Estate (SD7030) & Holme Road (SD7432) DP & J Earl, 2004.

Habitat: Tips, railway banks, grassland, scrub near houses and in churchyards.

Comments: Of horticultural origin.

[*Primula elatior* (L.) Hill

Oxlip

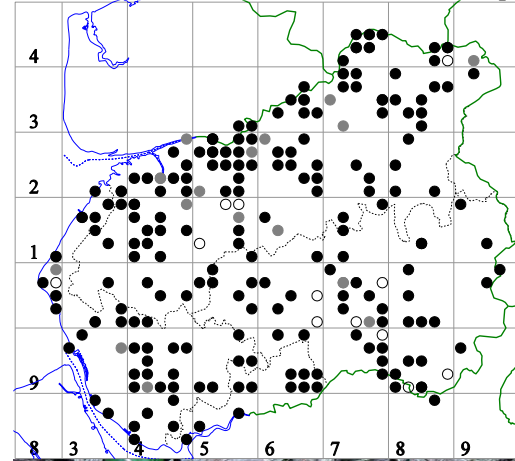
Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; Martin Mere (SD41H, comm. PJ W isniewski, c. 1990).

Habitat: Unknown.

Comments: This species is known to have been confused with *P. x polyantha* in the past. The Martin Mere record may possibly be correct as a deliberately introduced, planted exotic.]

***Primula veris* L.**

Cowslip



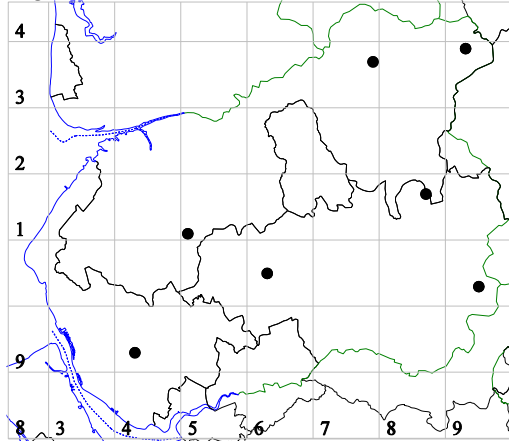
Preston Junction DP Earl 2020

Distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; now widespread and locally frequent where introduced, seldom in any numbers as a native plant except in the Ribble Valley.

Habitat: Meadows, field and woodland borders, roadsides, railway banks and ditch banks on clay and calcareous soils; commonly planted in country parks and along roadsides.

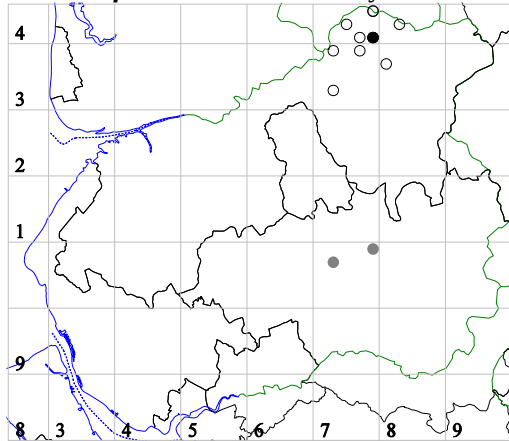
Comments: Considered to have declined as a native plant but in outstanding numbers where it has been included in wildflower seed mixes such as along parts of the M65 and M61. These plantings may be of a non-native subspecies.

***Primula x pruhonicensis* Zemann ex Bergmans Krecz. x *P. vulgaris* Hudson x *P. juliana* Kusn. *Primula* 'Wanda'**



Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; first noted at Sabden (SD7837, 2004) and subsequently found at Hall Lane (SD5110, 2006); Park Bridge (SD9402, 2009); Woolfall Heath (SJ4392, 2010); Whitworth (SD8717, 2012); Hindley (SD6205, 2013); Wycoller Village (SD9339, 2015) DP & J Earl.
Habitat: On banks by roadsides and footpaths as a garden outcast.
Comments: Of horticultural origin.

***Primula farinosa* L. Bird's-eye Primrose**



Status & distribution: Native, Nationally Scarce, Near Threatened (Red List for England); thought to be extinct as a native plant in the north-east of the vice-county. There was a recent transplantation to a former site, Mearley Clough (SD74V) but plants did not survive. A member of the Nelson Naturalists recently indicated that plants known as 'Bird's-eye' occurred at Barley (SD84A).
Former distribution: Harwood (SD73G, Gerard 1597); Higham (SD83D, G Chadwick, 1850); Mearley Clough

(SD74V, Miss Becker, Fl. Preston 1865); between Whalley & Chatburn (SD73 or SD74, Fl. Preston 1865); Twiston Moor (SD84G, H Robinson, 1909); Hardhill Common (SD73J, T Hargreaves, n.d.); Allsprings and Great Harwood (SD73G, Accrington Natural History Society, n.d.); Kempstones Farm, between Clitheroe & Chatburn (SD74L, T Hargreaves, n.d.).
Habitat: Formerly found in basic flushes, damp meadows and railway banks; planted on alkaline waste beds in the Bolton and Bury districts.
Comments: The first British record is thought to be from Harwood Gerard (1597).

***Primula denticulata* Sm.**

Drumstick Primrose



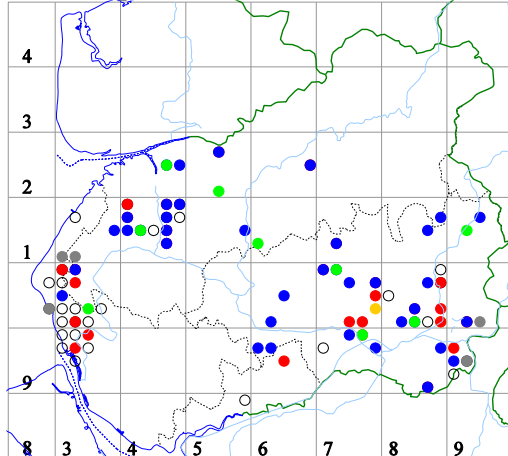
Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; grassy bank along a pathway, Over Hulton (SD6804, DP & J Earl, 2012).
Comments: Native to China, Afghanistan, Myanmar and the Indian subcontinent.

***Primula japonica* A. Gray**

Japanese Cowslip

Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; Otterspool Park North (SJ3788, A Slade, 1988).
Comments: Native to Japan.

Hottonia palustris L. Water-violet



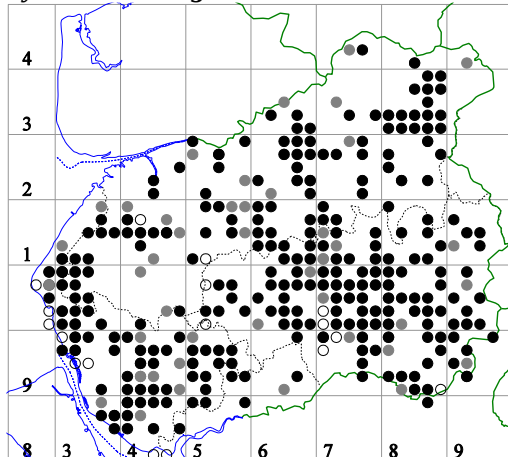
Downholland Moss M Dean 2012

Status & distribution: Native, Nationally Uncommon, Vulnerable (Red List for England), Axiophyte; occasional to locally frequent in the lowland districts especially from Formby to Croston and in the Greater Manchester area, rare elsewhere.

Habitat: Ditches, marl pits, shaded woodland ponds.

Comments: Increasing in urban areas as an introduced species via enhancement schemes.

Lysimachia vulgaris L. Yellow loosestrife



Earlstown J Somerville 2008

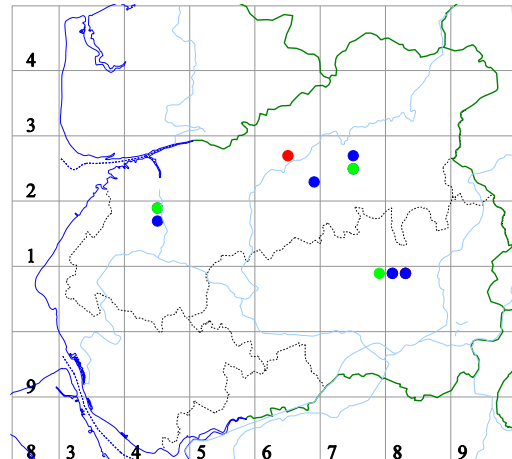
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); widespread and often locally frequent.

Habitat: Meadows, grassy banks, woodland borders, ditches, ponds, canals and reservoirs especially on damp clay soils.

Comments: A var. *angustifolia* H.C. Watson was recorded from Formby (SD20T, WW Mason); and a var. *maculata* Druce from dune-slacks, Freshfield (SD20U, B Hopkins, 1950).

Lysimachia thyrsiflora L.

Tufted Loosestrife





Rufford DP Earl 2020

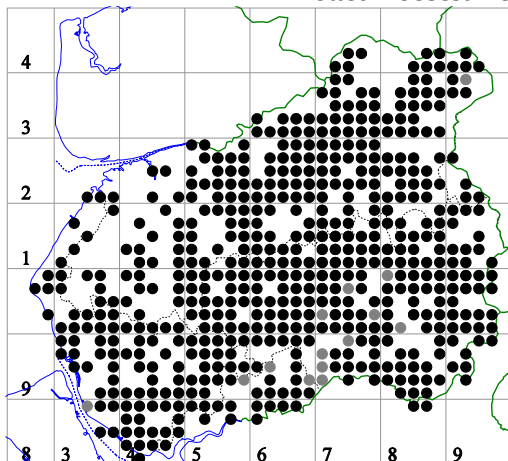
Status & distribution: Native?; **Critically Endangered (Red for List England)**; long established by fishing lodges at Pilsworth (SD81E & SD81J); also at Pleasington (SD62N, 1995); Goose House Pond (SD62W, 2002) & Jackhouse Nature Reserve (SD72N, 2002) P Jepson; discovered in the Rufford Branch of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal at Sollom (SD4518, M Chappell, 2013) & South of Fearn's Bridge (SD4517, DP & J Earl, 2019).

Habitat: Tall herb vegetation in wet meadows and along the margins of mill lodges and reservoirs.

Comments: The Pilsworth populations have been extant since at least 1877 (RH Alcock, MANCH).

Lysimachia punctata L.

Dotted Loosestrife



Farington DP Earl 2020

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; now widely established across the vice-county usually near habitation.

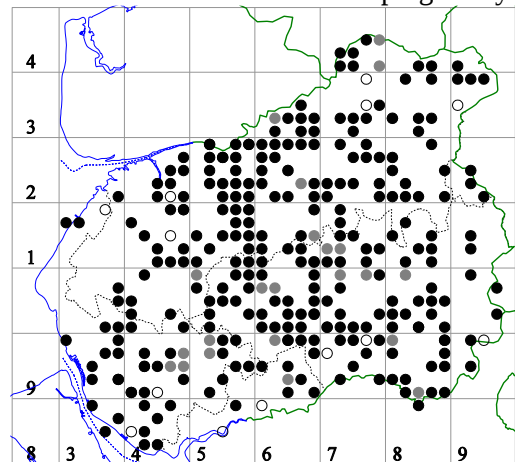
Earliest records traced: Known to be established in South Manchester (SJ89, pre-1950, BSBI 10km Listings) with the earliest defined record being from Worsley Woods (SD70K, J Timson, 1959).

Habitat: Mainly a feature of waste ground, urban greenspace, roadside verges and disturbed rank grassland but occasionally naturalised in damp tall herb meadows.

Comments: Native to south-east Europe and Asia.

Lysimachia nummularia L.

Creeping Jenny





Farington DP Earl 2020

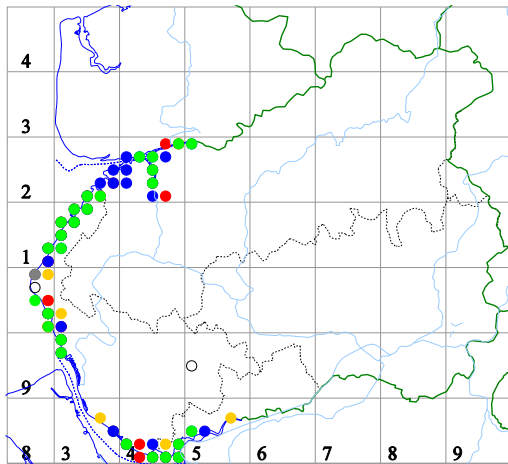
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England) and naturalised, Axiophyte; occasional as a native plant; now widely established as a garden escape close to habitation.

Habitat: Native plants usually grow in damp meadows, woods and cloughs, often along stream banks and in flushes. Established on waste ground, rubbish tips and shaded banks usually near houses.

Comments: Considered a rather rare plant by Travis and this holds true for the native populations.

Lysimachia maritima (L.) Galasso

Sea-milkwort



Southport DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; coastal fringe extending along the tidal reaches of the river estuaries.

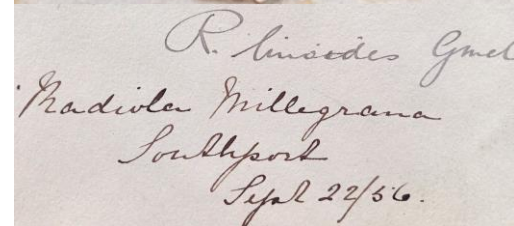
Habitat: Saltmarshes and dune-slacks.

Comments: The historic record from St. Helens (SJ59C, 1888, LIV) may not relate to the vice-county.

Lysimachia minima (L.) U. Manns &

Anderb.

Chaffweed



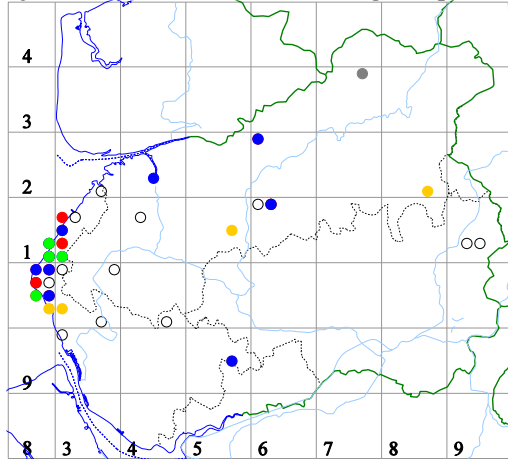
Manchester Museum

Status & former distribution: Native, **Nationally Uncommon, Endangered (Red for List England)**, Extinct; Ainsdale dunes (SD21V, Biological Record Centre, 1978); Formby (SD20T) & close to Ainsdale Station (SD31B) *Dickinson* 1851; shore, Southport (SD31I, *Buxton*); Amberswood Common, Wigan (SD60C, *Grindon* 1859).

Habitat: Open damp sandy ground of dune-slacks and wet heaths.

Comments: Plants should be looked for on winter wet open sandy ground amongst the dune-slacks.

Lysimachia tenella L. Bog Pimpernel

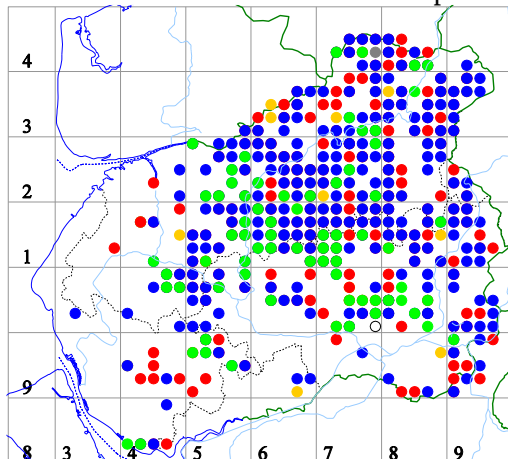


Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; very local and mainly coastal; localised populations occur inland at White Coppice (SD61J, P Jepson, 2000); Hesketh Bank Churchyard (SD42L, DP Earl, 2000) where not seen recently; Newton-le-Willows (SJ59S, EM Stephenson, 2004) & near Samlesbury Bottoms (SD6128, T Harwood, 1990 & S Gorman, 2010).

Habitat: Dune-slacks, bogs, moorland flushes, wet grasslands on clay soils.

Comments: Difficult to spot when not in flower and therefore possibly under-recorded.

Lysimachia nemorum L. Yellow Pimpernel

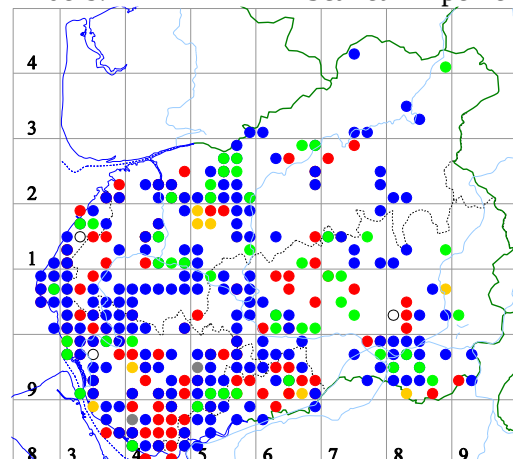


Padiham DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); most frequent in the wooded river valleys systems and in the hill districts, occasional elsewhere.

Habitat: In woods where often growing along path sides and in flushes; shaded banks, wet meadows, cloughs and moorland flushes.

Lysimachia arvensis (L.) U. Manns & Anderb. Scarlet Pimpernel

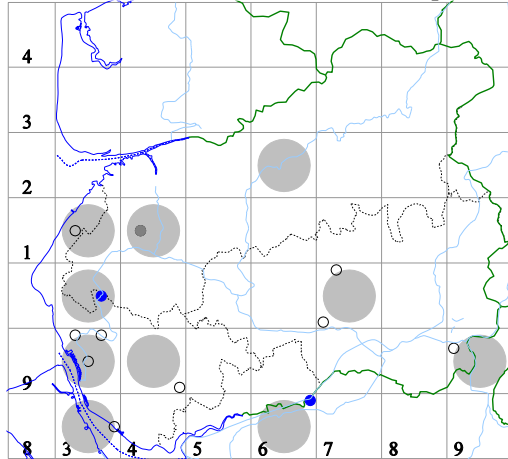


Southport DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; most frequent at lower

altitudes especially in the west, more casual to the east and rare in upland areas.
Habitat: Arable fields, cultivated ground, allotments, sand-dunes, waste ground and a garden weed, especially on sandy soils.

***Lysimachia foemina* (Mill.) U. Manns & Anderb.** Blue Pimpernel



Status & distribution: Archaeophyte-colonist, Data Deficient (Red List for England), casual; on the edge of a tip, Rixton (SJ68Z, DP Earl, 2003); Lydiate (SD3604, RF Goodchild, 2006). Formerly more frequent.

Habitat: Arable fields, cultivated and waste ground, tips.

Comments: It is possible that this subspecies has been confused with the blue-flowered variant of Scarlet Pimpernel forma *carnea*. Note that this subspecies has oval acute petals and lacks glandular hairs along the margins.

***Lysimachia europaea* (L.) U. Manns & Anderb** Chickweed Wintergreen

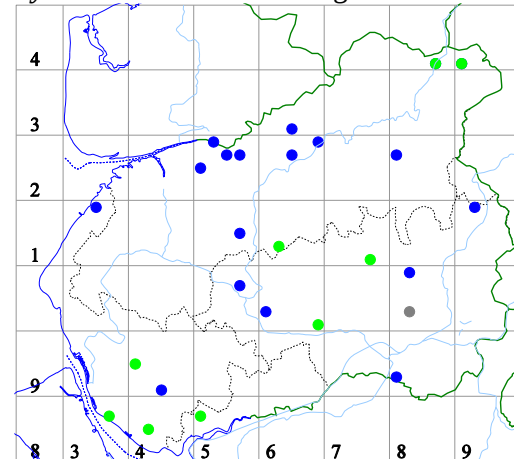


Status & distribution: Dubious. A single doubtful record based on specimens collected from a location named Formby Wood in 1818.

Habitat: Planted pine woods on sand-dunes.

Comments: Identified herbarium sheets have been seen in Herb. Shillito. It was thought that records for South Lancashire were quite improbable in Travis's manuscript Flora and that the specimens were collected from a Formby Wood outside of the vice-county. Recently however we had the case of *Listera cordata* growing under pines at Ainsdale. In addition, several Scottish pine wood species grow in planted pinewoods, far from the Scottish Highlands particularly on coastal sand-dunes, so the occurrence of this species at Formby should not be completely ruled out.]

***Lysimachia ciliata* L.** Fringed Loosestrife



Bamber Bridge DP Earl 2011

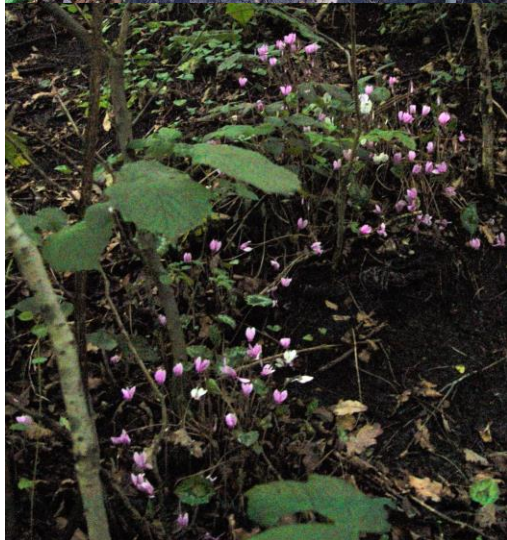
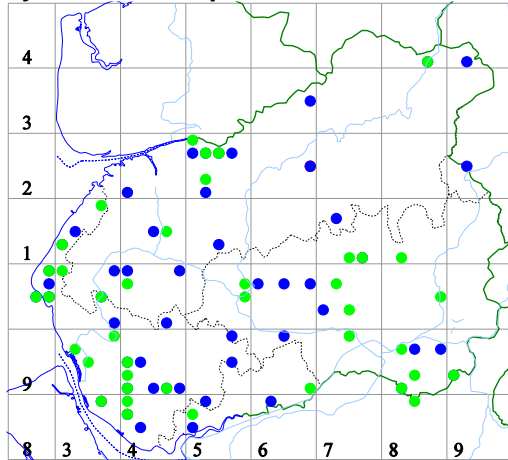
Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; increasing as a garden escape and locally frequent in some districts where more widely cultivated.

Earliest record traced: Heaton Park (SD8303, A Hitchon, 1964).

Habitat: Path sides, wood borders and open spaces near habitation.

Comments: Native to North America, most established plants are the purple-leaved variety.

***Cyclamen hederifolium* Aiton** Sowbread



Preston Junction DP Earl 2019

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised and regenerating; widely established and increasing.

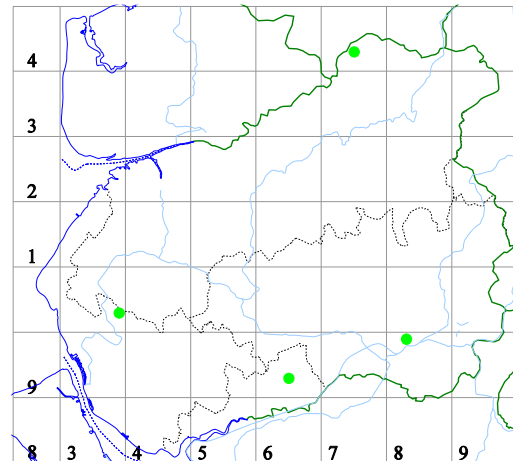
Earliest record traced: Lower Darwen (SD6825, P Jepson, 1976).

Habitat: Woods and shaded banks near habitation.

Comments: Native to southern Europe.

***Cyclamen coum* Link**

Greek Sowbread



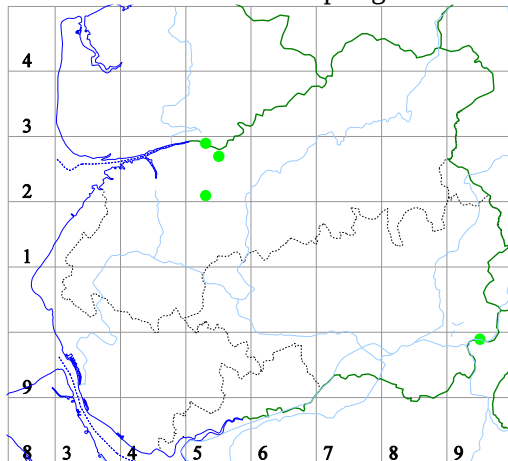
Maghull S Hartnett, 2023

Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; locations include Birchwood Park, Warrington (SJ6592, A Birchwood, 2020); Clitheroe (SD74L, G Hoch, 2020); Salford (SJ8298, MPP Wildlife, 2022); Millbank Lane, Maghull (SD3803, S Hartnett, 2023).

Habitat: In parks and along a lane-side.

Comments: Native to the eastern Mediterranean.

Cyclamen repandum Sibth. & Sm.
Spring Sowbread



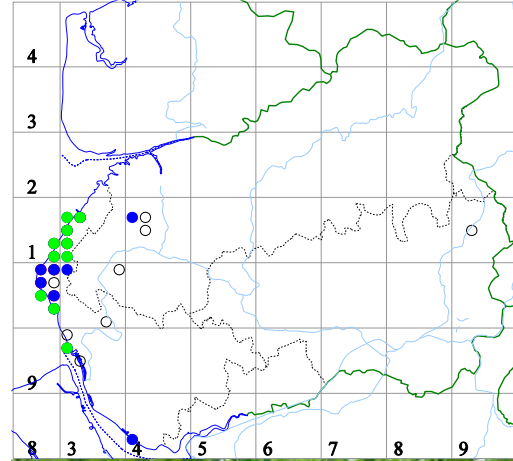
Worden Park DP Earl 2020

Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; observed by DP & J Earl, at Worden Park, Leyland (SD5320, 2020); by the River Ribble (SD5328, DP & J Earl, 2021); Todd Lane North, Lostock Hall (SD5526, 2022); Stamford Park (SJ9598, 2022).

Habitat: Wooded areas and a riverbank within parks and as a lawn weed at Todd Lane.

Comments: Native to Central & Eastern Mediterranean.

Samolus valerandi L. Brookweed



Birkdale Green Beach DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; frequent along the coast; formerly more widespread inland between Ormskirk and Halsall (SD30Z, 1853, LIV); Holmeswood, Martin Mere (SD41H & SD41J, FW Holder & R Wagstaffe,

n.d.); Hollingworth Lake (SD91H, B Belfield, n.d.); there is a record from Mere Brow (SD4017, Anon@LERN, 2007).

Habitat: Open moist sandy ground, silt and peat, where there is little competition in dune-slacks, brackish lagoons, ditches, coastal streams, flushes, ponds, embryonic saltmarshes, rare as a feature of open margins of pools and reservoirs inland.