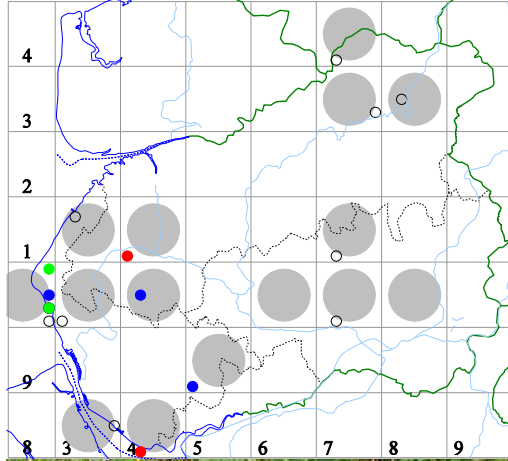


BORAGINACEAE Borage family

SUBFAMILY 1 - BORAGINOIDEAE

***Lithospermum officinale* L.**

Common Gromwell



Hightown PS Gateley 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); Rare; long known and persisting at Hightown dunes and occurring along the southern boundary of Altcar Rifle Range (SD20W) and as a single plant along the Fisherman's Path, Freshfield (SD2809, 2021).

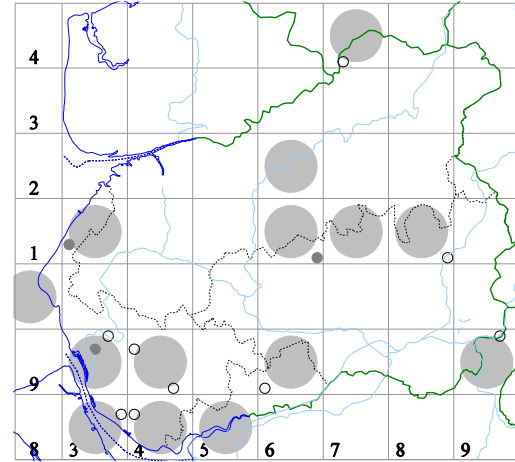
A short-lived casual elsewhere with populations numbering just a few plants along at the canal towpath, Heaton (SD41A, DP & J Earl, 1995); Long Lane (SD40H, 2002) & St. Helens (SJ5190, 2008) DP Earl.

Former distribution: Often a casual, especially at the historic inland locations.

Habitat: Sand-dunes, arable fields and open well-drained ground.

***Buglossoides arvensis* (L.) I.M. Johnst.**

Field Gromwell



Status & distribution: Archaeophyte-colonist, **Endangered (Red List for England)**; once a localised plant of arable districts and considered a casual elsewhere

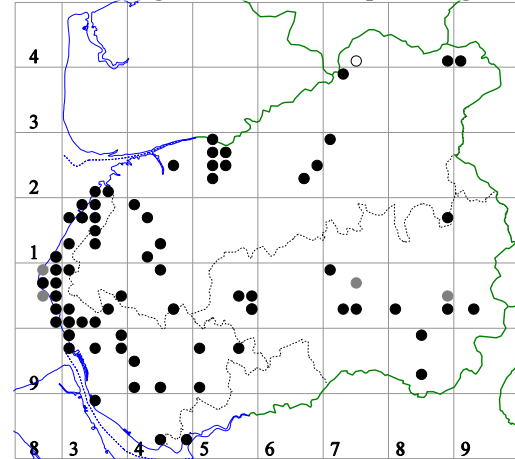
Last records traced: Doffcocker (SD6810, Rev CE Shaw, 1954 & 1959).

Habitat: Arable fields, railway sidings and disturbed ground.

Comments: A record of this species from Oglet Shore to Ramsbrook (SJ4381, B McWilliams, 1989) was perhaps *Lithospermum officinale*.

***Echium vulgare* L.**

Viper's-bugloss





Farington DP Earl 2020

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

Habitat: Sandy ground, railway ballast, roadside verges and industrial waste ground.

Comments: Increasing and known to be deliberately introduced at some locations via wildflower seed mixtures.

***Echium plantagineum* L.**

Purple Viper's-bugloss



Bamber Bridge DP Earl 2021

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual and sown; Switch Island, Maghull (SD30Q, RF Goodchild, 2006); waste

ground between Barrow Lodge and Whalley Road (SD7338, S Wynne, 2010); Withy Grove Park (SD5625, DP & J Earl, 2017).

Habitat: Recently disturbed ground.

Comments: This species is classed as native to Cornwall, The Scillies and Jersey. The Maghull and Withy Grove plants were introduced via wildflower seed mixtures.

***Cerinthe minor* L.**

Lesser Honeywort

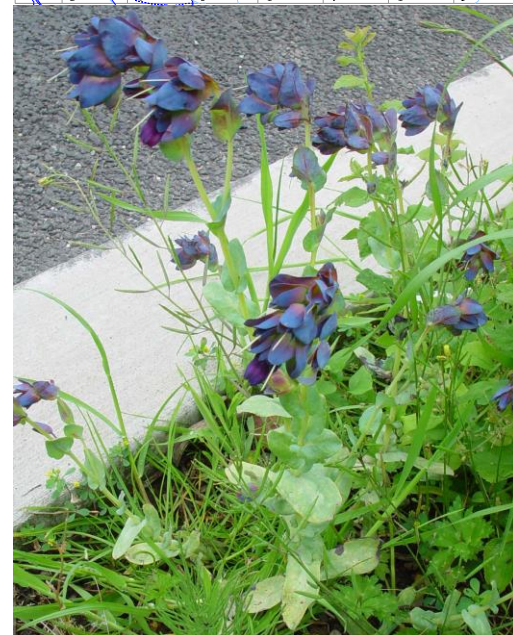
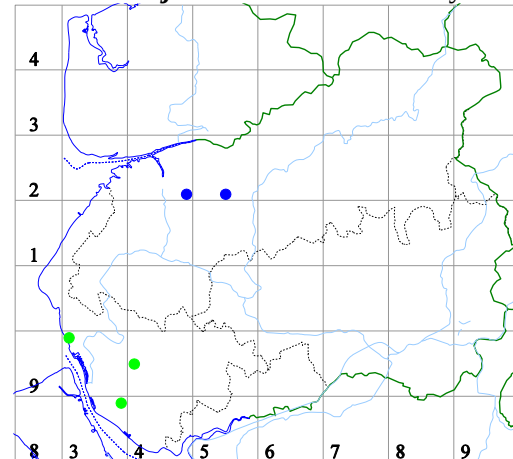
Status & former distribution: Neophyte-casual; Birkdale (SD31H, C Bailey, 1907).

Habitat: Old fowl run.

Comments: Native to Mediterranean Europe, Ukraine and Turkey.

***Cerinthe major* L.**

Greater Honeywort



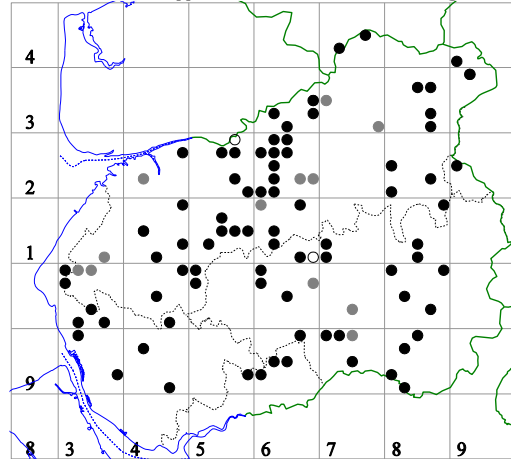
Bretherton DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; roadside verge, Bretherton (SD4820, DP

Earl, 2008); Balcarres Road, Leyland (SD5421, DP & J Earl, 2016); Croxteth Country Park (SJ4094, Liverpool Botanical Society, 2022); Beach Bank, Crosby (SJ3198, S Cross, 2023); Thingwall Allotments (SJ3989, plot_58a, 2023).

Comments: Native to southern and eastern Europe, North Africa and Turkey. A short-lived casual, the plants occurred after road works had been carried out.

***Pulmonaria officinalis* L.** Lungwort



Dalton DP Earl 2006

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; an occasional but widespread garden escape.

Earliest record traced: Smithills (SD61V, T Greenlees, 1937, BON).

Habitat: Woodland borders, railway banks and roadside hedgerows.

Comments: Native to mainland Europe. Plants generally occur where garden refuse is disposed. Note that several species of *Pulmonaria* are grown in cultivation and some of the records may be other taxa.

***Pulmonaria rubra* Schott** Red Lungwort



Birchwood DP Earl 2012

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised-surviving; Clitheroe Beck (SD7441, MP Wilcox, 2007); Birchwood Walled Garden (SJ6491, B Shaw, 2011); Brownhill Lane, Colne (SD8941, H Beck, 2019).

Habitat: Shaded streamside near habitation and a wooded garden.

Comments: Native to south-eastern Europe.

***Pulmonaria* ‘Mawson’s Blue’**

Mawson’s Lungwort



Birchwood DP Earl 2012

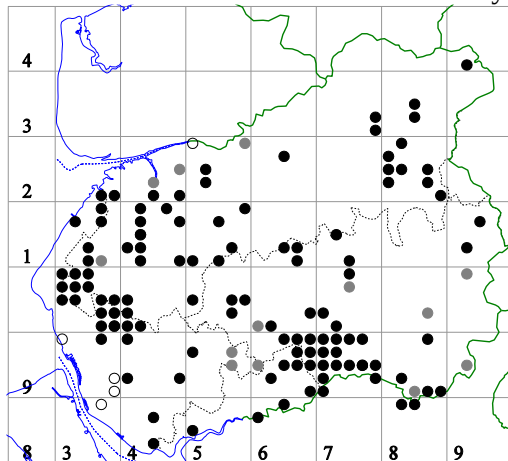
Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; Birchwood Walled Garden (SJ6491, B Shaw, 2011).

Habitat: Surviving beside a wooded pathway.

Comments: Of horticultural origin.

***Symphytum officinale* L.**

Common Comfrey



Leigh DP Earl 2009

Status & distribution: Native or naturalised, Least Concern (Red List for England); at present records suggest this species is widespread and locally common especially in the rural mossland areas but most of the plants recorded may be horticultural derivatives or back-crosses with *S. x uplandicum* rather than the true species.

Habitat: Ditch banks and rank grassland on damp soils. **Comments:** There are a limited number of historic records prior to the introduction of *S. x uplandicum* c. 1870.

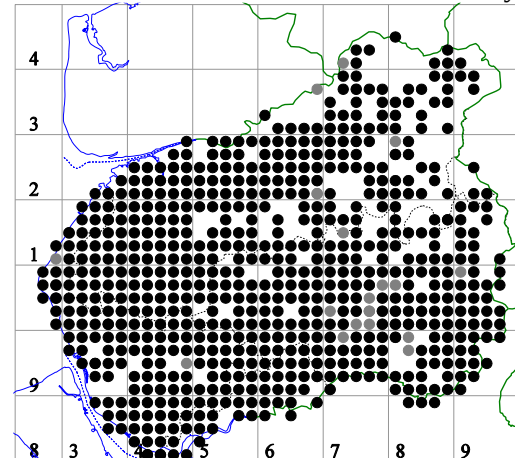
***Symphytum officinale* L. ssp. *uliginosum* Kern**

Status & distribution: Neophyte; Sefton Park (SJ38T, C Bailey, 1874).

Comments: Native to Ukraine, Hungary and Romania. There may be a specimen as *S. uliginosum* Kern at MANCH.

***Symphytum* x *uplandicum* Nyman = *S. officinale* x *S. asperum* Lepechin**

Russian Comfrey



Pool Hey DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised, especially near habitation. **Earliest record traced:** Maghull (SD30Q, JA Wheldon, 1901).

Habitat: Rank grassland, waste ground, riverbanks, roadsides and railway banks.

Comments: There are probably several clones that are within the range of this hybrid with some populations being similar but not identical to *Symphytum officinale*.

***Symphytum asperum* Lepechin**

Rough Comfrey

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; The Perimeter Road, Simonswood (SJ49J, V Gordon, 1996).

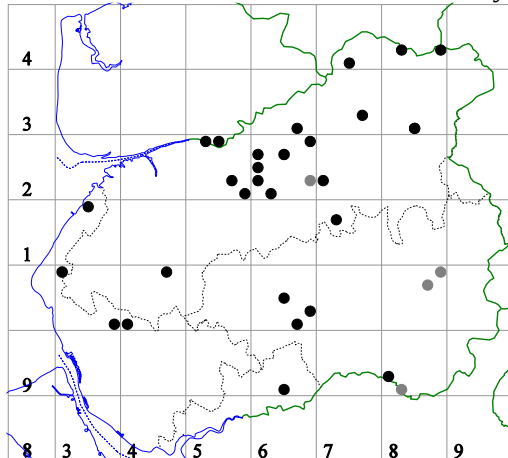
Former distribution: By the railway, Woodvale (SD30A, Liverpool Botanical Society, 1913); ditch bank, West Derby (SJ39W, JA Wheldon, 1916).

Habitat: Roadside verge.

Comments: Native to western Asia and the Caucasus, the earliest records may well be errors for *S. x uplandicum*.

***Symphytum tuberosum* L.**

Tuberous Comfrey



Hesketh Park DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native or naturalised; widely scattered but increasing.

Earliest record traced: Townley Hall Woods (SD83K, CR Ritching, 1928, det. FJ Sutcliffe).

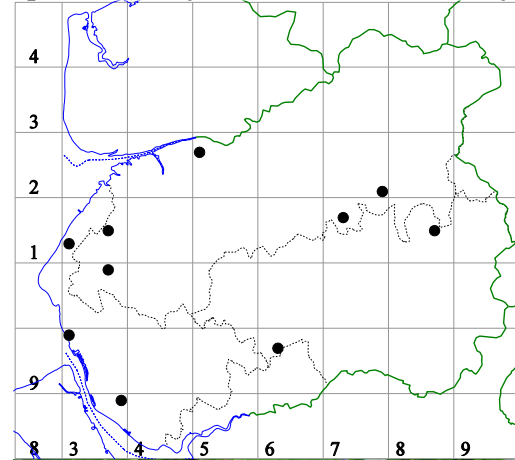
Habitat: Riverbanks, banks of ponds and roadsides.

Comments: Probably of garden origin in South Lancashire.

***Symphytum x hidcotense* P.D. Sell**

= *S. grandiflorum* DC. x? *S. x*

uplandicum Nyman Hidcote Comfrey



Hutton DP Earl 2009

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised, scattered but increasing established.

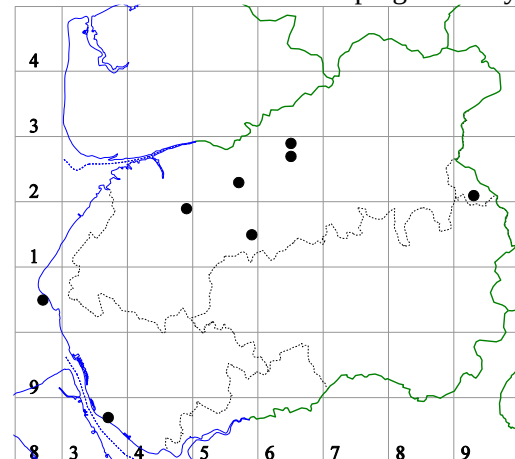
Earliest records traced: Kenyon (SJ69I, DP & J Earl, 1995).

Habitat: Rank grassland, roadside verges, railway banks and sand dunes.

Comments: Of horticultural origin.

***Symphytum grandiflorum* DC.**

Creeping Comfrey



Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised-surviving; widely scattered but increasing.

Earliest record traced: Cuerden Country Park (SD5623, Anon., 1999).

Habitat: Woods and roadsides near habitation.

Comments: Native to Caucasus.

***Symphytum orientale* L.** White Comfrey



Marshside DP Earl 2010

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; Southport Sand-works (SD3520, DP & J Earl, 1997) Hindsford (SD6802, 2004) & Duke Street Cemetery (SD3415, 2010) DP Earl.

Earliest record traced: Southport (SD31I, DE Allen, c. 1950).

Habitat: Rank grassland.

Comments: Native to Turkey and the Caucasus.

***Symphytum bulbosum* C. Schimper**
Bulbous Comfrey

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; by Formby bypass, (SD30B, V Gordon, 2001, LIV).

Habitat: Possibly along a lane side.

Comments: Native to central and south-eastern Europe.

***Brunnera macrophylla* (Adams) I.M. Johnston** Great Forget-me-not



Bispham DP Earl 2009

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; banks of River Irwell by the Student Village, Salford (SD80A, DP Earl, 1992). Faulkner Square, Toxteth (SJ38U, V Gordon, 1995); Bispham (SD41W, DP Earl, 1995); Osbaldstone Green (SD63L, SJ Bungard, 1996); Sandy Pool (SJ6798, DP & J Earl & P & A Bowdler, 2010); Cuncough (SD4002, DP & J Earl, 2013).

Former distribution:

Habitat: On a shaded riverbank; roadsides near habitation.

Comments: Native to the Caucasus.

***Anchusa officinalis* L.** Alkanet

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Arpley, Warrington (SJ68E, 1857, *Dunlop* 1908); fowl run, Birkdale (SD31H, C Bailey, 1907, MANCH); dunes close by to houses, Hightown (SD20W, JD Massey, 1928, WG Travis, 1945); amongst planted *Ammophila arenaria* with *Mercurialis annua* & *Armeria arenaria* at The Lido, Ainsdale (SD21W, AG Holder & Mrs H Duckett, 1941); Harmoss, Haslingden (SD72W, A Hitchon, 1959).

Habitat: Sand-dunes, waste ground, fowl run.

Comments: Native to mainland Europe.

***Anchusa azurea* Mill.** Garden Anchusa

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; near Billinge (SD50G, EM Stephenson, 1995-1999).

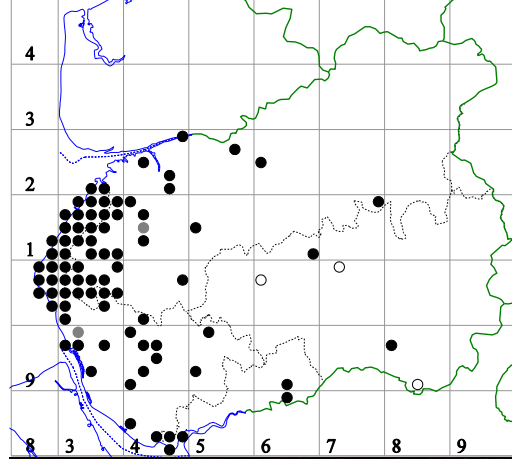
Former distribution: Waste heaps between Great Crosby & Hall Road (SJ39E, JA Wheldon, 1912, *BEC Report* 1915 p. 358); Birkdale (SD31C, H Britten 1927); Freshfield (SD20Z, JD Massey, n.d.); Hightown (SD20W, JD Massey &

WG Travis, 1937); shore tip, between Hall Road & Hightown (SD20V, V Gordon, 1954).

Habitat: Waste heaps and sand-dunes.

Comments: Native to southern Europe.

Lycopsis arvensis L. Bugloss

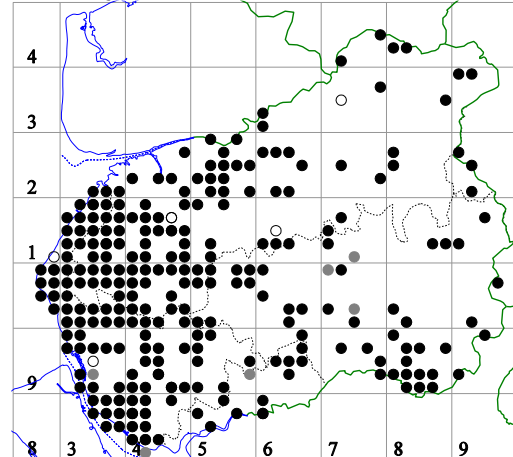


Southport DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Archaeophyte-denizen, Least Concern (Red List for England); locally common on sandy soils near the coast, an occasional casual inland.

Habitat: Sand-dunes, open sandy ground and arable fields.

Pentaglottis sempervirens (L.) Tausch ex L. Bailey Green Alkanet



Southport DP Earl 2020

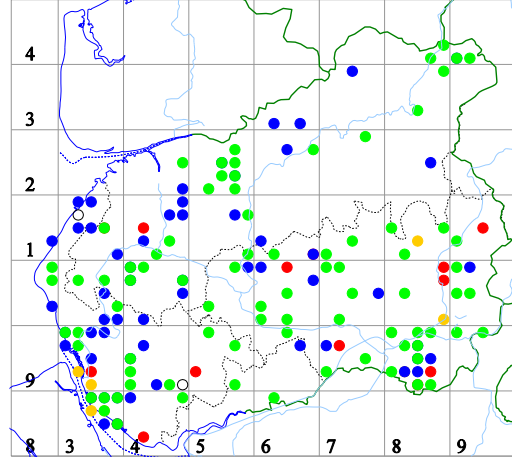
Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; well established in South Liverpool, along the coast near houses from Crosby to Crossens, the western lowlands and south Manchester; occasional to very local elsewhere.

Earliest record traced: Whalley Nab (SD73I, 1809, S Hailstone).

Habitat: Woods, shaded sand-dunes, roadsides, railway banks, waste ground and tips, generally close to houses.

Comments: Readily germinating from seed and increasing in frequency.

***Borago officinalis* L.** Borage



Hightown PH Smith 2012

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; widely distributed.

Earliest record traced: Rainhill (SJ49V, Rev. M Toohey, 1910).

Habitat: Waste ground, tips, roadside verges and hedgebanks.

Comments: Native to southern Europe. Formerly rare, but now a frequent casual near habitation although seldom persisting.

***Trachystemon orientalis* (L.) Don**

Abraham-Isaac-Jacob



Worsley DP Earl 2012

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; by Old Warke Dam, Worsley (SD7500, Manchester Field Club, 1992 onwards) and now spreading downstream to the Bridgewater Canal (DP Earl, 2012); 'The Elms', Darwen (SD6925, P Jepson, 1997); Pleasington Walled Garden (SD6427, Bio-diverse Society Project, 2016).

Habitat: Woodland.

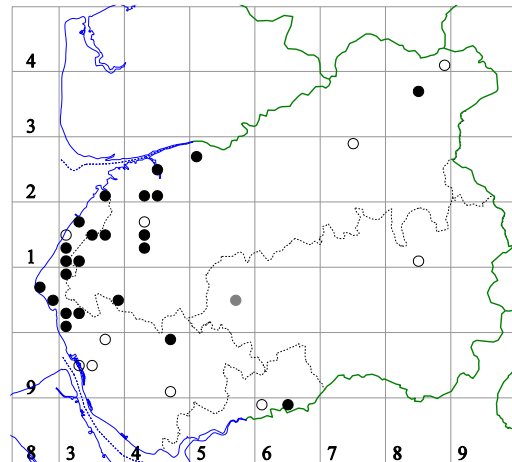
Comments: Native to Turkey and the Caucasus.

SUBFAMILY 2 –

CYNOGLOSSIODEAE

***Amsinckia micrantha* Suksd.**

Common Fiddleneck





Formby Hall DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; frequent in the west, rare elsewhere.

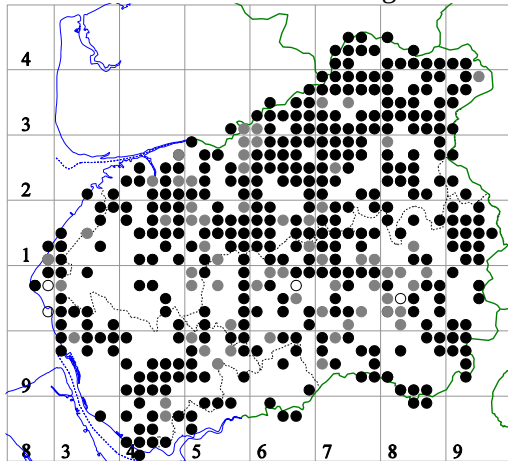
Earliest record traced: Sand-hills at Birkdale (SD31C, CR Billups, 1891).

Habitat: Waste ground, sand-dunes, and arable land, especially on sandy and peaty soils.

Comments: Native to north-western America, it is thought that the records former classed as *A. lycopsoides* (Lehm.) Lehm., *A. hispida* Ruiz & Pavon and *A. spectabilis* Fisch. & Mey. should be placed here.

***Myosotis scorpioides* L.**

Water Forget-me-not



Formby J Somerville 2008

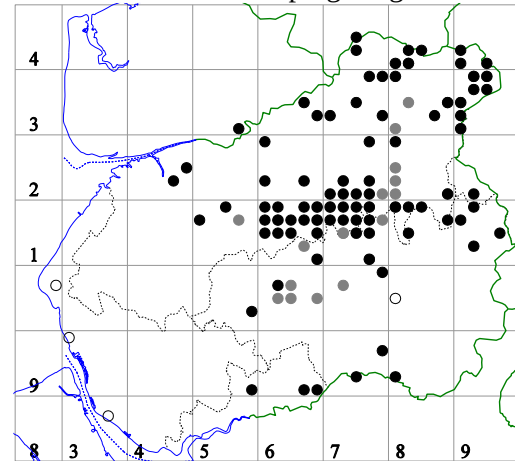
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); widespread and locally common, scarce in arable areas, at higher altitudes and in the densely populated areas away from the canal network.

Habitat: In ditches and by the margins of canals, ponds, reservoirs and mill lodges.

Comments: A var. *strigulosa* (Reicher) M & R has been regarded as frequent; there are records of var. *reichenbachiana* (Dunn) Wadl. for Hightown (SD21W, JH Lewis, n.d.); Formby (SD20T, HS Fisher, n.d.); Ince Blundell (SD30G, Rev WW Mason, n.d.).

***Myosotis secunda* A. Murray**

Creeping Forget-me-not



Southport J Somerville 2008

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

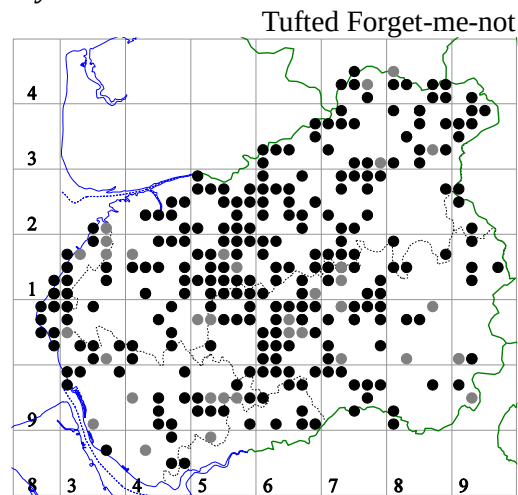
Axiophyte; locally common in the hill districts, very local in the lowlands.

Habitat: Moorland flushes, ditch sides, along streams and on wet rocks.

Myosotis stolonifera (DC.) Gay ex Leresche & Levier Pale Forget-me-not
Status & distribution: Native, **Nationally Scarce**, Least Concern (Red List for England), Scarce (4); a plant of the hill districts that was discovered at Pendleton Moor (SD73U, DS Bunn, det. P Jepson, 2000) with additional records from P Jepson for Cliviger (SD82T, 2005); Darwen Moors (62Q, 2008) & Dean Head Clough (SD6415, 2017).

Habitat: Flushes.

Myosotis laxa Lehm.



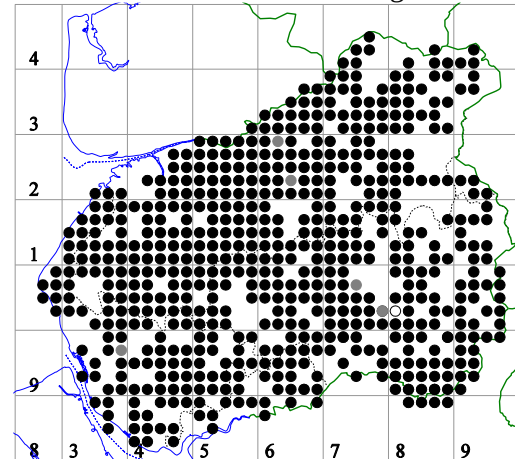
Martin Mere SJ McWilliam 2024

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); widespread and locally frequent, scarce in densely urban areas, arable districts and on the highest ground.

Habitat: Ponds, canal and reservoir margins, ditches, wet meadows, flashes and dune-slacks.

Myosotis sylvatica Hoffm.

Wood Forget-me-not



Halsall DP Earl 2008



Southport DP Earl 2008



Sabden DP Earl 2008

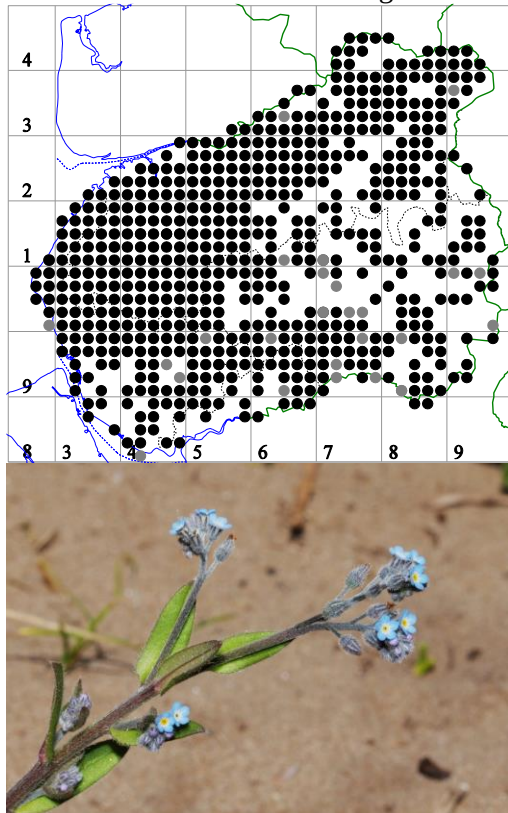
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte as a native plant; widespread and common as a garden escape, now very local as a native.

Habitat: Old woods as a feature of the indigenous ground flora; railway banks, woods near houses, stream banks, roadsides, waste ground and tips.

Comments: Greatly increased in frequency as naturalised plants close to habitation.

Myosotis arvensis (L.) Hill

Field Forget-me-not



Ravenmeols PH Smith 2012

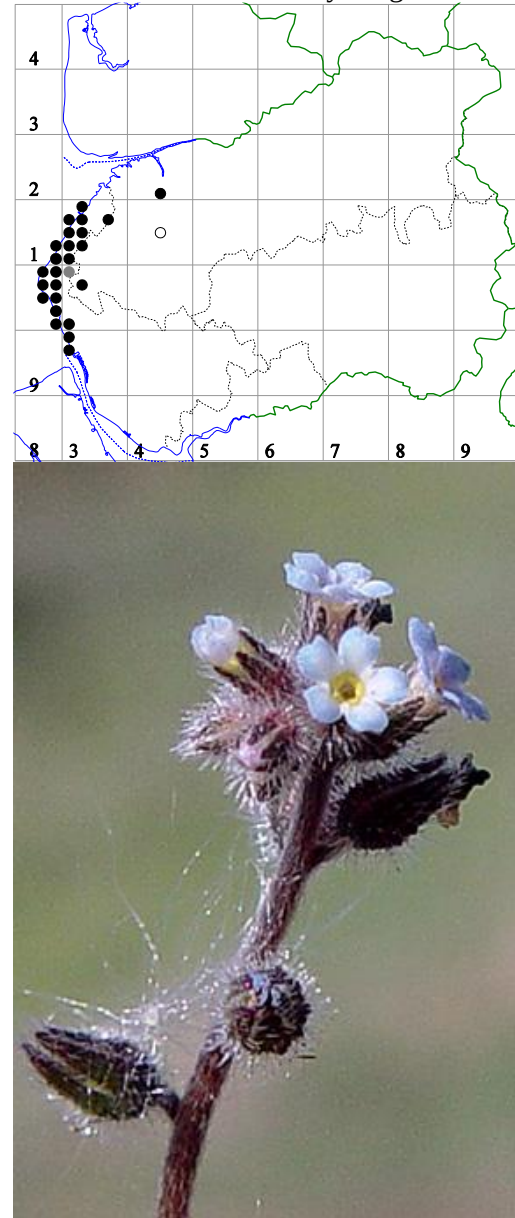
Status & distribution: Archaeophyte-denizen, Least Concern (Red List for England); widespread and locally common.

Habitat: Arable fields, sandy soils, disturbed ground, flowerbeds and roadsides.

Comments: Appears to be increasing in frequency, especially in suburban areas; var. *sylvestris* Schldl. is occasionally found and is under-recorded.

Myosotis ramosissima Rochel

Early Forget-me-not



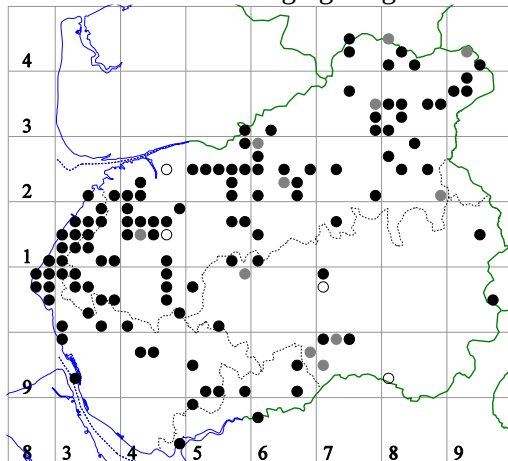
Southport J Somerville 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; locally common along the coast from Bootle to Marshside and extending a few kilometres inland. Note the record from the Holy Trinity Churchyard, Tarleton (SD4520, J Clarke & M Chappell, 2012) and the historic record from dry fields between Martin Mere and Rufford (*Ashfield*, 1860).

Habitat: Common on the sand-dunes; occasional on sandy soils and in arable fields.

***Myosotis discolor* Pers.**

Changing Forget-me-not



Ravenmeols PH Smith 2012

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), Axiophyte; frequent to locally common along the coast, in the arable districts and the hill districts.

Habitat: Arable fields, sandy soils, sand-dunes, poached ground in meadows in the hill pastures.

Comments: Probably more frequent than the map suggests, being overlooked when not in flower. The two subspecies have not been separated.

***Myosotis decumbens* Host**

Decumbent Forget-me-not

Status & distribution: Neophyte; Stockclough Lane (SD6424, P Jepson, 1997).

Habitat: Trace details from recorder.

Comments: Native to the European Alps.

***Lappula squarrosa* (Retz.) Dumort**

Bur Forget-me-not

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Aintree (SJ39U) & Walton (SJ39M) JA

Wheldon, 1891); Formby (SD20Y, C Bailey); Accrington (SD72P, JW Bamber, 1908); Mossley (SD90R, 1913) & Spring Hollow (SJ99U, 1914) F Collier; Hightown (SD20W, WG Travis & JD Massey, 1929); Crank (SJ59E, AG Landon, 1939).

Habitat: Disturbed ground, poultry runs and textile tips.

Comments: Native to mainland Europe and temperate Asia, formerly called *L. echinata* Gilib.

***Omphalodes verna* Moench**

Blue-eyed Mary

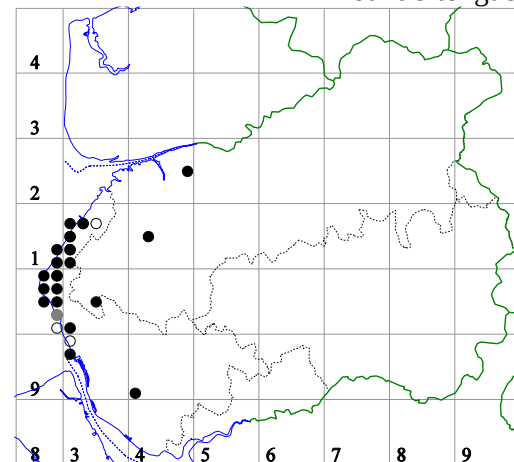
Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; a single plant at Old Post Office Row, Pendleton (SD7539, DP & J Earl, 2017) but the plant does not appear to have persisted.

Habitat: In a wall crevice.

Comments: Native to South-eastern Europe.

***Cynoglossum officinale* L.**

Hound's-tongue



Ainsdale DP Earl 2008



Waterloo M Jones 2020

Status & distribution: Native, Near Threatened (Red List for England), Axiophyte; locally common along the coast, scarce inland at Martin Mere (SD41H, PJ Wisniewski, 1997); Longton Brickcroft (SD4825, 2004 onwards); arable field margin (SD3504, DP & J Earl, 2008); Court Hey & National Wildflower Centre (SJ4190, D Young, 2010).

Habitat: Sand-dunes and sandy ground near the coast.

Comments: A casual or a deliberate introduction at some of the inland sites.

Cynoglossum amabile Stapf & J.R. Drumm. Chinese Hounds-tongue

Status & distribution: Neophyte-sown, Switch Island (SD3700; SD3600 & SJ3699; RF Goodchild, 2006).

Habitat: Recently sown disturbed ground.

Comments: Native to China & Bhutan.

Asperugo procumbens L. Madwort

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Aintree (SJ39U, JA Wheldon, 1901).

Comments: Native to mainland Europe.