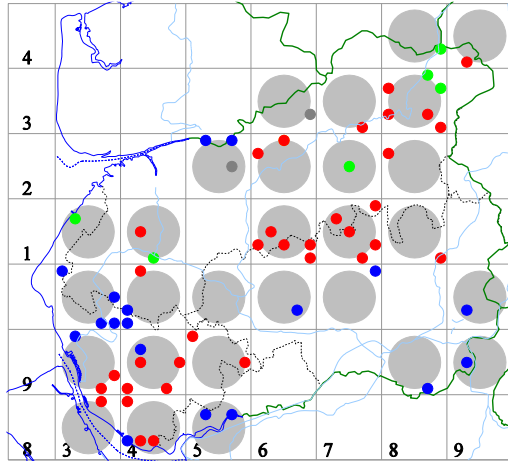


GERANIACEAE Crane's-bill family

Subgenus 1 - GERANIUM

***Geranium endressii* Gay**

French Crane's-bill



Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; widely recorded but the true distribution is uncertain.

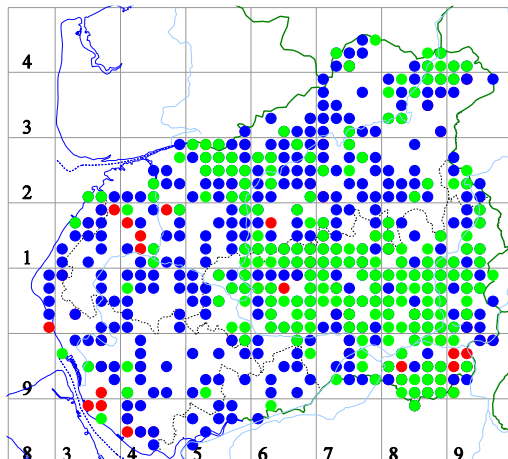
Earliest record traced: Listed as present in SD52 & SD82 prior to 1950.

Habitat: Waste ground, roadsides, railway banks, etc.

Comments: Native to the Pyrenees. Many records are assumed to originate from garden refuse disposal. Considered to be over-recorded and confused with the widely established hybrid *G. x oxonianum*.

Geranium x oxonianum* Yeo = *G. endressii* x *G. versicolor

Druce's Crane's-bill



Ainsdale PH Smith 2012

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; now well established near habitation.

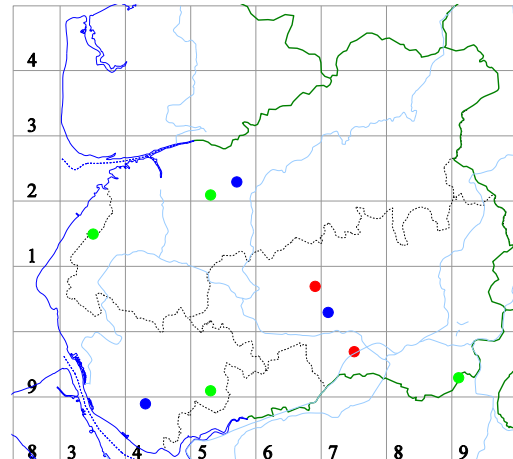
Earliest record traced: Roadside by Wilpshire Reservoir (SD6932, A Hitchon, Savidge *et al*, 1963).

Habitat: Roadsides, railway banks, woodlands, waste ground, tips and sand-dunes bordering houses.

Comments: Of horticultural origin. Many of the records for *Geranium endressii* may belong here.

***Geranium versicolor* L.**

Pencilled Crane's-bill





Cuerden DP Earl 2011

Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving/naturalised and increasing.

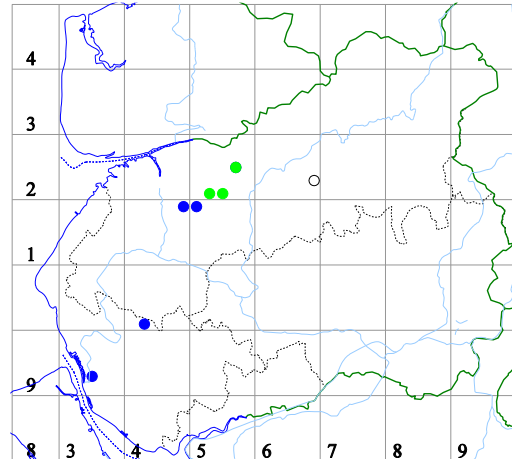
Earliest record traced: Manchester Ship Canal Mineral Line, Peel Green (SJ79N, DP Earl, 1991).

Habitat: On ballast and along roadsides and in woodlands sometimes originating from disposed garden refuse.

Comments: Native to the central Mediterranean.

Geranium rotundifolium L.

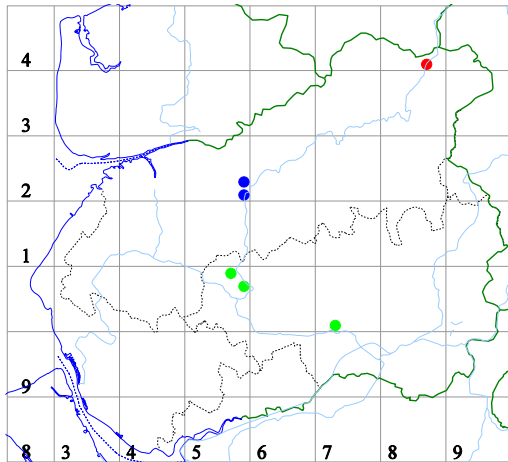
Round-leaved Crane's-bill



Bamber Bridge DP Earl 2011

Geranium nodosum L.

Knotted Crane's-bill



Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; Priestfield Avenue, Colne (SD8740, Anon., 1998); Top o' th' Lane (SD5923, DP & J Earl & SP Toone, 2003); Whittle-le-Woods (SD5821, DP & J Earl, 2012); Wigan (SD5806, N Bethan, 2020); Worsley (SD7300, D Holland, 2022); Duddon Close, Standish (SD5609, D McAllister, 2024).

Habitat: Roadsides close by to cottages and housing.

Comments: Native to southern Europe.



Leyland DP Earl 2020

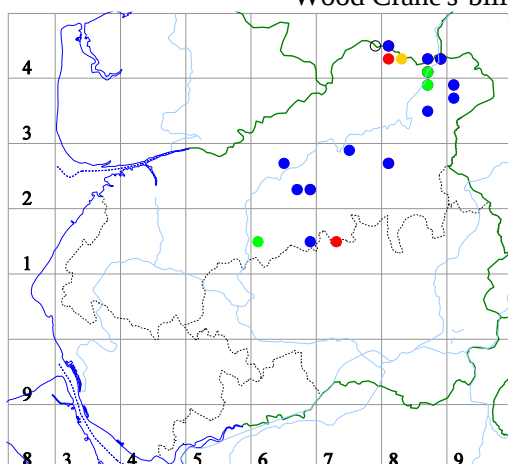
Status & distribution: Naturalised in South Lancashire; SCINWE, surviving or casual; Kirkby (SD40F, RF Goodchild, 2006); Everton (SJ3592, 2009); spreading along Moor Road, Croston (SD4919, 2011 & SD5019, 2018); Bamber Bridge (SD5625, 2011-2025); Leyland (SD5321, 2020-2022); A49, Leyland (SD5521, 2021).

Earliest record traced: Darwen (SD62W, WH Western, 1929).

Habitat: Along roadsides, on bare ground, waste heaps and as a garden weed. Plants can be lost to development and succession.

***Geranium sylvaticum* L.**

Wood Crane's-bill



Colne DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, [Near Threatened \(Red List for England\)](#); SCINWE, Scarce, very local in the West Pennine Moors, occasional to locally frequent in the far north-east with the main populations occurring along the former Colne-Earby railway.

Habitat: Now virtually restricted to roadside banks and disused railways; formerly an upland hay meadow species. Several populations as at Adlington (SD6014) are of garden origin.

***Geranium psilostemon* Ledeb.**

Armenian Crane's-bill



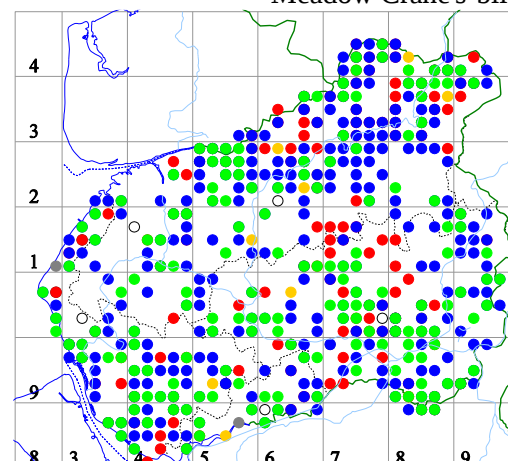
Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; Top o' th' Lane (SD5923, DP & J Earl, 2019).

Habitat: Pavement cracks at base of a wall.

Comments: Native to the borders of Caucasus & Turkey.

***Geranium pratense* L.**

Meadow Crane's-bill



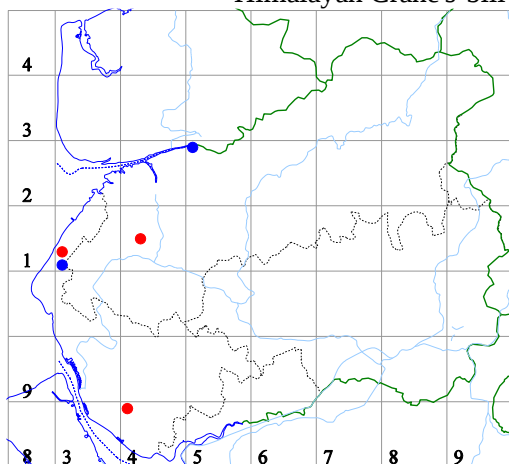
Calderstones DP Earl 2009



Greaves Hall, Banks DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); widespread, most frequent in the east.
Habitat: Meadows especially in river valleys, roadside banks and old railways.
Comments: Plants have frequently been introduced to country parks and amenity areas where grassland wildflower seed mixes have been sown.

***Geranium himalayense* Klotzsch**
 Himalayan Crane's-bill



Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; Childwall (SJ48E, V Gordon, 1995); Martin Mere (SD4214, C Tomlinson, 1996); Kenilworth Road dunes, Ainsdale (SD3012, PH Smith, 1997); bank of Ribble, Penwortham (SD52E, DP & J Earl & SP Toone, 2001); Falklands Way (SD3011, PH Smith, 2013).

Habitat: Grassy places.

Comments: Native to the Himalayas.

***Geranium himalayense* Klotzsch x *G. pratense* L.**
 Johnson's Blue

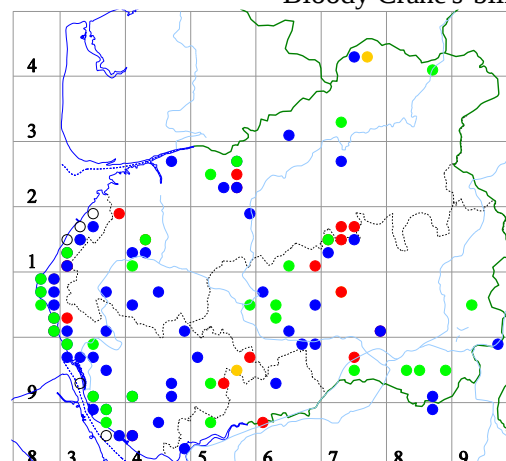
Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; (SJ59P, V Gordon, 1997);

Royley (SD90D, 2003) & Marine Drive, Southport (SD32Q, 2005) DP Earl.

Habitat: Rank grassland where tipping had taken place in the past.

Comments: Of horticultural origin.

***Geranium sanguineum* L.**
 Bloody Crane's-bill



Hightown DP Earl 2008

Status & Distribution: Native? **Near Threatened** (Red List for England); SCINWE, Axiphyte, occasional to locally frequent, some populations on the Sefton coast and about Clitheroe might possibly be native; plants often occur nearby to houses as established garden outcasts.

Habitat: Sand-dunes, limestone quarries, roadsides and tips.

Comments: The var. *striatum* Weston has recently been recorded from Altcar (SD20X, PH Smith).

***Geranium columbinum* L.**
 Long-stalked Crane's-bill

Status & former distribution: Probably a rare casual; Allerton (SJ48D, J Shepherd, Hall 1839); lane between Stretford and Chorlton (SJ89B, Wood 1840); lane near

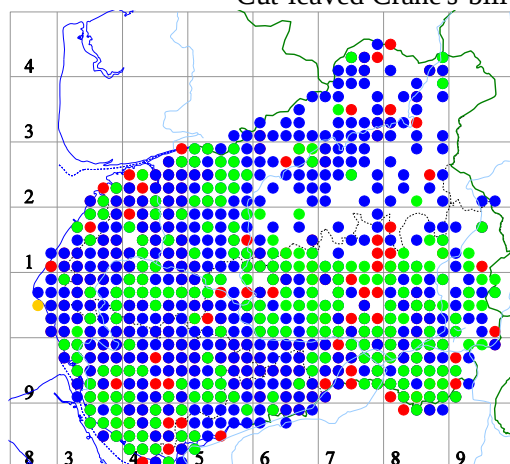
Hough End (SJ89G, Wood 1840); lane near Simonswood Moss (SJ49P, T Williams, *Dickinson* 1855); bye road from Rufford to Martin Mere (SD41M, *Flora of Preston* 1865); Southport (SD31I, JB Wood, 1872); Euxton Lane (SD51U, WS Lacey, 1948).

Habitat: Lane-sides.

Comments: A record for Risley Moss supplied in 1984 to Biological Record Centre may be from a historic checklist or an identification error. A record from Staly Brushes (SJ99, F Collier, 1913) is from vice-county 58.

***Geranium dissectum* L.**

Cut-leaved Crane's-bill



Haskayne DP Earl 2008

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

Habitat: Waste ground, disturbed ground, arable fields and roadsides.

***Geranium ibericum* Cav.**

Caucasian Crane's-bill

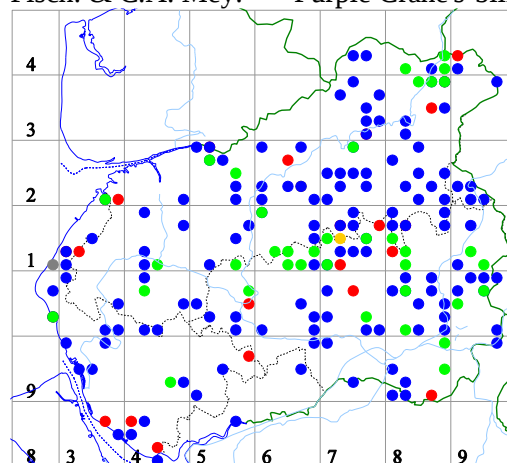
Status & distribution: Neophyte; Salesbury (SD62R, 1974).

Comments: Native to Caucasus.

***Geranium* x *magnificum* N. Hylander**

= *G. ibericum* Cav. x *G. platypetalum*

Fisch. & C.A. Mey. Purple Crane's-bill



Ainsdale DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; now widely established, especially nearby to habitation.

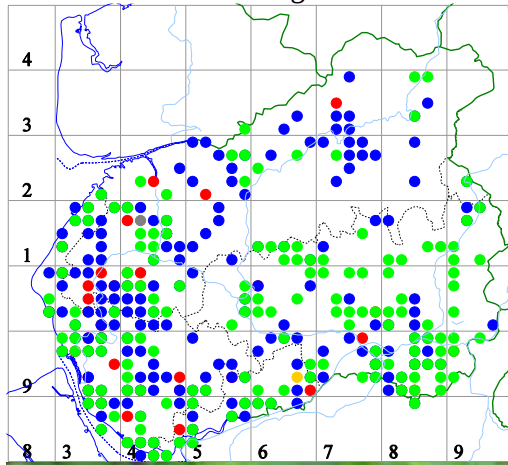
Earliest record traced: Darwen (SD62R, P Jepson, 1975).

Habitat: Waste ground, roadsides, railway banks and sand-dunes.

Comments: Of horticultural origin.

Subgenus 2 - ROBERTIUM Picard

***Geranium pyrenaicum* Burm. f.**
Hedgerow Crane's-bill



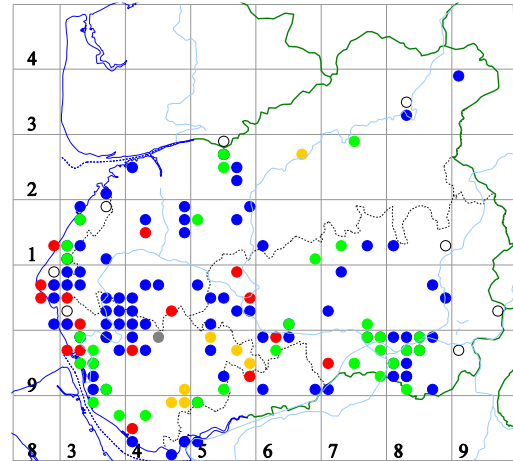
Southport DP Earl 2008



Rainford DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Neophyte-denizen; widespread, most frequent in lowland areas especially in the west.
Habitat: Roadsides, hedgebanks, arable field margins and a weed of gardens on well-drained soils.

***Geranium pusillum* L.**
Small-flowered Crane's-bill



Southport DP Earl 2008

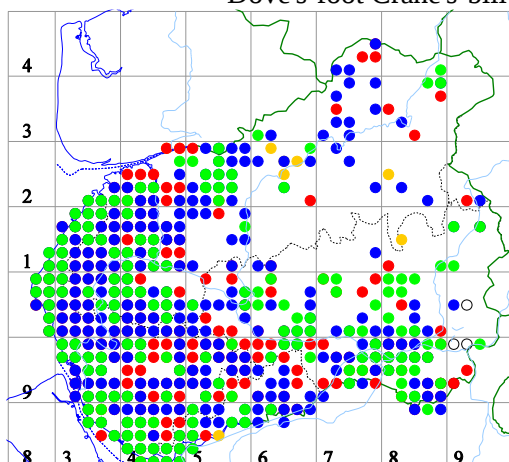
Status & Distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); SCINWE, Axiophyte, frequent in the west, occasional elsewhere.

Habitat: Lawns, turf, flowerbeds and bare ground on well-drained soils.

Comments: Increasingly a feature of shortly maintained verges by trunk roads.

***Geranium molle* L.**

Dove's-foot Crane's-bill



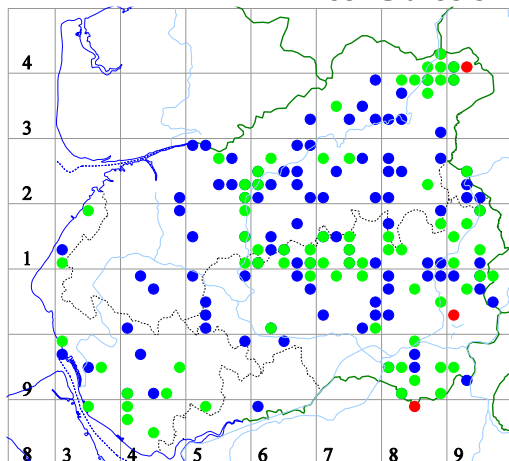
Woodvale PS Gateley 2008

Status & Distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); common in the west and increasingly in frequency in recent times in the lowland areas further to the east.

Habitat: On sand-dunes, open ground, arable field margins and shortly mown roadside verges.

***Geranium macrorrhizum* L.**

Rock Crane's-bill



Ainsdale DP Earl 2008

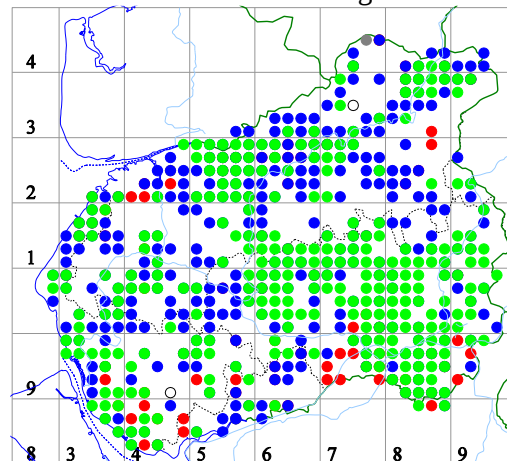
Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; increasingly established especially in the east.

Earliest record traced: Blackburn area (SD62, P Jepson, pre-1987).

Habitat: Grassy places by waysides, roadsides and on waste ground.

Comments: Native to southern Europe.

***Geranium lucidum* L. Shining Crane's-bill**



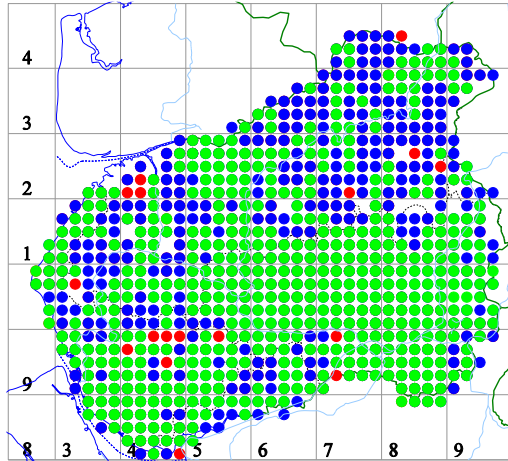
Southport DP Earl 2008

Status & Distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); considered native on the limestone but now widespread as a colonist or garden escape.

Habitat: Rocks, walls, rubble, pavements, shaded banks, old railways and tips.

Comments: Increased significantly in the urban areas in recent times.

***Geranium robertianum* L.** Herb-robert



Southport DP Earl 2008

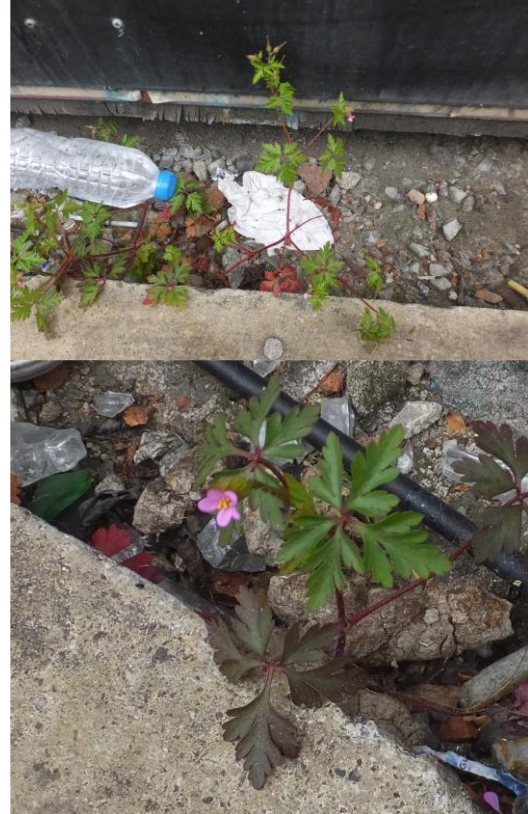


Martholme DP Earl 2008

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

Habitat: Woods, shaded banks, rocks, walls and railway ballast.

***Geranium purpureum* Vill.** Little-Robin



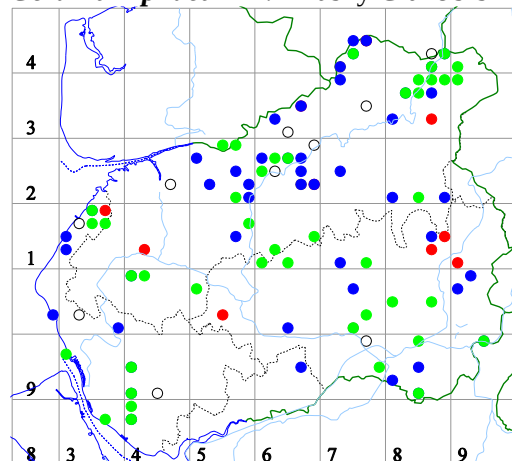
Status & Distribution: Native or adventive, Least Concern (Red List for England); five plants by the pavement between Jack Rosenthal Street and the roundabout west of it at Whitworth Street West, Manchester (SJ837974, CD Preston, 2022).

Habitat: On concrete.

Comment: Several records have been submitted over the years but have been considered to be within the range of variation of *Geranium robertianum*.

Section 3 - ERODIOIDEA Yeo

***Geranium phaeum* L.** Dusky Crane's-bill





Padiham DP Earl 2008



Sefton Park SJ McWilliam 2022

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

Earliest record traced: Manchester area (J Dugdale, 1850, BON).

Habitat: Roadsides, hedgerows, riverbanks, streamsides and along canal towpaths.

Comments: Native to central Europe. Plants initial occur as a few isolated plants but can rapidly become established.

***Geranium cinereum* Cav.**

Ashy Crane's-bill



Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; off Upbrooks Road, Clitheroe (SD7542, MP Wilcox, 2010).

Habitat: Waste ground and church walls.

Comments: Native to south-western France and northern Spain. The plant

found was var. *subcaulescens* and was growing with *Veronica peregrina* and *Veronica agrestis*.

***Erodium maritimum* (L.) L' Hér.**

Sea Stork's-bill

Status & Distribution: Native; Critically Endangered at the vice-county level if correctly identified; Ainsdale NNR (SD31A, P Green, 2006).

Former distribution: A single record from between Birkdale and Southport (SD31C, T Williams, *Fisher* 1855).

Habitat: A sandy hillock.

Comments: The above records require confirmation. Plants which may be this species are planted by a pond at Liverpool Festival Gardens (SJ3686, LBS, 2013).]

***Erodium botrys* (Cav.) Bertol.**

Mediterranean Stork's-bill

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; (SD52, *BSBI Map Scheme* 1950); Stake Hill Wool Tip (SD80Z) & Micklehurst Tip (SD90R) Rev CE Shaw, 1961; Law's Woollen Factory, Littleborough (SD91I, Shaw 1971).

Habitat: Wool tips.

Comments: Native to the Mediterranean. This species was considered by Rev CE Shaw to be common on the wool tips.

***Erodium brachycarpum* (Godron) Thell.**

Hairy-pitted Stork's-bill

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Stake Hill Wool Tip (SD80Z) & Micklehurst Tip (SD90R) Rev CE Shaw, 1961; Law's Woollen Factory, Littleborough (SD91I, Shaw 1971).

Habitat: Wool tip.

Comments: Native to the western Mediterranean, this species was recorded in Travis as *E. obtuse-plicata*.

Erodium cygnorum* Nees ssp. *cygnorum

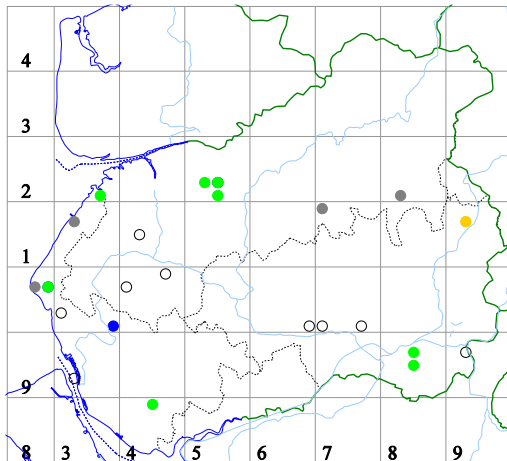
Western Stork's-bill

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Swan River wool tip (SD70D, Rev CE Shaw, 1961); Law's Woollen Factory, Littleborough (SD91I, Shaw 1971).

Habitat: Wool tips.

Comments: Native to Western Australia.

***Erodium moschatum* (L.) L'Her.**
Musk Stork's-bill



Leyland DP Earl 2020

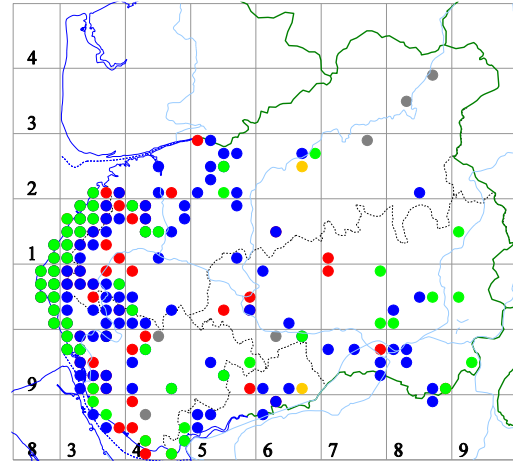
Status & distribution: Archaeophyte-denizen, Least Concern (Red List for England); established at Duke St. Park, Formby (SD2906, M Dean, 2014) Melling (SD3800, Liverpool Botanical Society, 2014); School Lane, Leyland (SD5422, DP & J Earl, 2016) and since increased especially about Leyland with additional finds at the Marine Drive, Crossens (SD3720, DP & J Earl, 2021); Netherley (SJ4288, J Styles, 2021) and about Whitworth Park and Manchester University (DP Earl, 2021).

Former distribution: An infrequent widely scattered casual.

Earliest records traced: Wood-end, Tyldesley (SD60V); Chaddock Lane (SD70A); near the schools, Swinton (SD7701); J Shaw (*Grindon* 1859).

Habitat: Bare ground, waste heaps, disturbed ground, textile tips and the Crown Wallpaper Tip.

***Erodium cicutarium* (L.) L' Her**
Common Stork's-bill



Ravensmeols PH Smith 2012



Hightown S Cross 2024

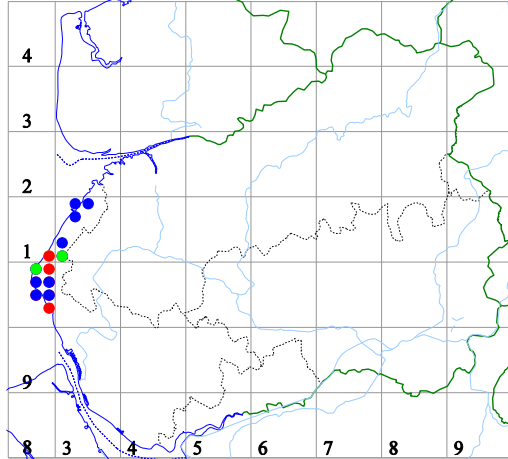
Status & Distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); Axiophyte, common along the coast, frequent on the coastal plain, occasional and casual further inland.

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

Comments: Plants formerly considered to be subsp. *dunense* Andreas were frequently recorded from the dune system

or sandy ground near the sea whilst plants occurring inland were classified as subsp. *cicutarium*.

Erodium x *anaristatum* Andreas =
Erodium cicutarium x *E. aethiopicum*

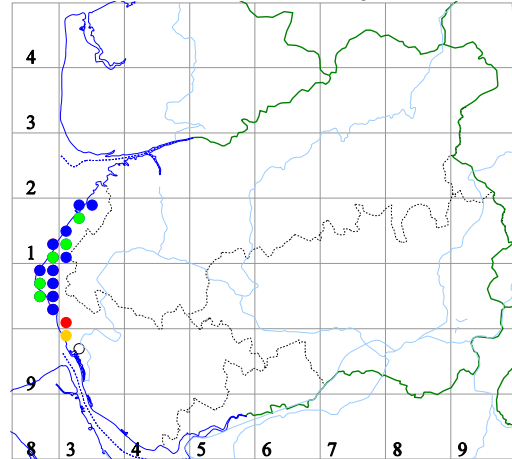


Formby M Knowles 2008

Status & Distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); Scarce (13), frequent on the Sefton coast from Hightown (SD20W) to Queen's Jubilee Nature Trail and locally abundant on the edge of the park-and-ride car park (SD31I).

Habitat: Sand-dunes and open sandy ground by the sea.

Erodium aethiopicum (Lam.) Brumhard
& Thell. Sticky Stork's-bill



Hightown J Somerville 2008



Ravensmeols PH Smith 2012

Status & Distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); SCINWE, Scarce (16), occasional to frequent along the coast from Crosby to Southport.

Habitat: Sand-dunes.

Pelargonium x *hybridum* Aiton = *P. inquinans* (L.) L'Hér. x *P. zonale* (L.) L'Hér. Bedding Geranium



Sherdley Park, St Helens DP Earl 2010

Status & distribution: Neophyte-casual; Crosby Marine Park (SJ319974, MP Wilcox & PH Smith, 2005); Parr Hall Millennium Green (SJ5296, M Pritchard & J Simons, 2017).

Comment: Of horticultural origin. This common garden bedding plant is occasionally seen as a garden outcast but is generally not recorded as plants are unlikely to survive the winter frosts. The parental ancestor species are native to South Africa.