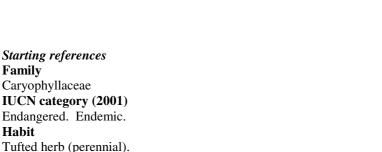
Cerastium nigrescens (H.C. Watson) Edmondston ex H.C. Watson

Shetland Mouse-ear

Key: Dots refer to the native sites of the species Numbers refer to the nearby Botanical Collections



Habit

Family

Habitat Hills on very exposed, sparsely-vegetated fell-field, between the

shattered angular rocks and stones.

Reasons for decline

| Distribution in wild | | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Country | Locality & Vice County | Sites (10km² occurences) | Population (plants) |
| Scotland | The Keen of Hamar & Muckle Heog and another smaller debris area on the island of Unst. Shetland Isles | 2 | 300-9,200 |

Ex situ Collections

Gardens close to the region of distribution of the species

- Cruickshank Botanic Garden
- University of Dundee Botanic Garden
- St Andrew Botanic Garden
- **RBG** Edinburgh

Botanical Collections with specialisation on family Caryophyllaceae

University of Oxford Botanic Garden

Potential to grow the species in ex situ Collections

Conservation information

Linkages to BAPs

Living Shetland Project

A Species Action Plan has been produced for C. nigrescens

No local implementation.

Habitat Management

Current management at existing sites (action: SNH).

The Keen of Hamar is a NNR and the other population is also on a site notified as an SSSI and subject to a management agreement.

Grazing animals have been excluded by agreement from key areas.

More protected sites are listed on http://www.searchnbn.net/speciesInfo/

Conservation programmes

A study of the population dynamics of C. nigrescens (and the other rarities of the serpentine debris) has been recently carried out at Stirling University, supported by SNH.

The species has been experimentally introduced to another SSSI on Unst by researchers.

Seed stored in the Millenium Seed Bank at Wakehurst Place should be made available for reintroductions, if necessary, (ACTION: RBG Kew, SNH).

Web References

- UK Species Action Plan: http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=200
 NBN Gateway database: http://www.searchnbn.net