

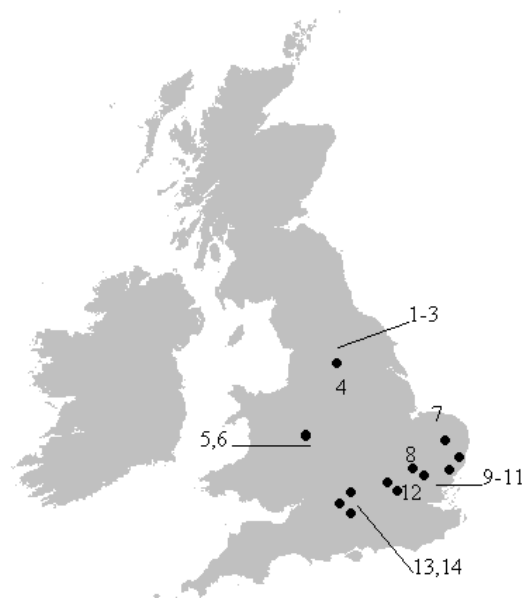
# *Galium tricornutum* Dandy

Corn Cleavers

Key:

**Dots** refer to the native sites of the species

**Numbers** refer to the nearby Botanical Collections



## *Starting references*

### **Family**

Rubiaceae

### **IUCN category (2001)**

Critically Endangered

(Archaeophyte)

### **Habit**

Herb (annual).

### **Habitat**

Cereal fields and disturbed ground, on dry calcareous soils.

### **Associated uncommon species:**

At the remaining Hertfordshire site, Corn Cleavers grows with Spreading Hedge-parsley, Corn Buttercup, Shepherd's-needle and Prickly Poppy.

### **Reasons for decline**

Corn Cleavers is a much less competitive species than Cleavers, and has probably been affected by the use of highly competitive crop varieties and high levels of nitrogen applications. The early decline may have been a result of improved seed cleaning technology.

### **Distribution in Britain**

Country	Locality & Vice County	Sites (10km <sup>2</sup> occurrences)	Population (plants)
England	Yorkshire	1	2
	Staffordshire	1	4
	E Norfolk	1	
	Suffolk	2	
	Essex	1	
	A roadside verge in Cambridgeshire	1	
	Rothamsted, Hertfordshire	1	
	Bedfordshire	1	
	Berkshire	2	

### *Ex situ Collections*

#### **Gardens close to the region of distribution of the species**

- 1 RHS Harlow Carr
- 2 Harewood House
- 3 Yorkshire Museum & Gardens
- 4 Sheffield Botanical Gardens
- 5 University of B'ham Botanic Garden, Winterbourne
- 6 B'ham Botanical Gardens & Glasshouses, Westbourne
- 7 Roamer House
- 8 Cambridge University Botanic Garden
- 9 Mark Hall Arboretum
- 10 RHS Hyde Hall
- 11 Writtle College
- 12 University of Hertfordshire
- 13 The Harris Garden
- 14 Windsir, The Savill & Valley Gardens

#### **Gardens of specialisation on family Rubiaceae or genus *Galium***

None

**Potential to grow the species in *ex situ* Collections**

Probably short-lived seed-bank (*British Red Data Book*, 1999).

Information obtained from Cambridge University Botanic Garden, *Conservation Collection* from the 1970s to the 1990s:

Appears to have a critical chilling requirement. Seed sown in March and chilled gave 55% germination as compared to 0% for unchilled seed (Annual report, 1981).

**Conservation information****Linkages to BAPs**

A Species Action Plan has been produced for *G. tricornutum*, lead partner is Dominic Price, Plantlife Tel:01722 342749

The LBAP working on the species is Teignbridge BAP.

**Habitat Management**

The sites have received beneficial management for several years.

Protected sites with records for *Galium tricornutum* are listed on <http://www.searchnbn.net>

**Conservation programmes**

At Broadbalk field, Rothamsted, the species grow in an experimental plot which has never received chemical fertiliser.

Re-introduction into protected sites is occasionally attempted using seed of English origin.

**Web References**

- UK Species Action Plan: <http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=320>
- NBN Gateway database: <http://www.searchnbn.net>
- Arable Plants – a field guide:  
[http://www.arableplants.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species\\_account&SPID=14&SHC=2&PSD=2](http://www.arableplants.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=14&SHC=2&PSD=2)