

Iberis amara L.

Wild Candytuft

Key:

Dots refer to the native sites of the species

Numbers refer to the nearby Botanical Collections

Starting references

Family

Brassicaceae

IUCN category (2001)

Vulnerable

Habit

Annual, rarely biennial herb.

Habitat

Bare, open ground on S-facing slopes on chalk, in bare places in grassland, particularly rabbit scrapes, and in quarries; also occurs as an arable weed, and as a casual in a wide variety of ruderal habitats. Lowland.

Reasons for decline

More intensive cultivation of field-edge habitats. There has been little decline in non-arable habitats. Some sites were lost after myxomatosis and subsequent lack of grazing.

Distribution in wild

Country	Locality & Vice County	Sites (10km ² occurrences)	Population (plants)
England	Cambridgeshire	1	
	Bedfordshire	3	
	Hertfordshire	4	
	Buckinghamshire	7	
	Oxfordshire	2	
	Berkshire	5	
	Surrey	1	
	N Hampshire	1	



Ex situ Collections

Gardens close to the region of distribution of the species

- 1 Cambridge University Botanic Garden
- 2 University of Hertfordshire
- 3 RBG Kew
- 4 RHS Wisley
- 5 The Harris Garden
- 6 Windsor, The Savill & Valley Gardens
- 7 University of Oxford Botanic Garden
- 8 Akely Wood Farmhouse
- 9 Cliveden (NT)
- 10 Longstock Park Gardens
- 11 Mottisfont Abbey Garden (NT)
- 12 Sir Harold Hillier Garden

Gardens with specialisation on family Brassicaceae

None

Potential to grow the species in *ex situ* Collections

From Plants For A Future

- Propagation

Seed - sow spring in situ for summer flowering or late summer in situ for a spring flowering. The seed germinates within 3 weeks.

- Cultivation

Easily grown in a good, well-drained ordinary garden soil in a sunny position. Prefers a calcareous soil but tolerates mildly acid soils. Succeeds in poor soils and on dry walls. A very ornamental plant. A fast growing plant, do not grow the plants too close together. The flowers are sweetly scented.

Conservation information

Linkages to BAPs

Designated LBAP Areas sites with records for *Iberis amara* are listed on <http://www.searchnbn.net>

Habitat Management

Protected sites with for *Iberis amara* are listed on <http://www.searchnbn.net>

Conservation programmes

Unknown

Web References

- Plants For A Future database: http://www.ibiblio.org/pfaf/cgi-bin/arr_html?Iberis+amara&CAN=LATIND
- NBN Gateway database: <http://www.searchnbn.net>
- Arable plants – field guide:
http://www.arableplants.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=9&SHC=2&PSD=2