

Melampyrum cristatum L.

Crested Cow-wheat

Key:

Dots refer to the native sites of the species

Numbers refer to the nearby Botanical Collections



Starting references

Family

Scrophulariaceae

IUCN category (2001)

Vulnerable

Habit

Annual hemiparasite of various woody and herbaceous species.

Habitat

Margins of ancient *Quercus robur* woodlands, their clearings and rides and in associated field hedge banks on chalky boulder-clay soils; very rarely found in open grassland. Lowland.

Reasons for decline

Cessation of traditional woodland management and herbicide spraying of verges and field-borders.

Distribution in wild

Country	Locality & Vice County	Sites (10km ² occurrences)	Population (plants)
England	W Norfolk	1	
	W Suffolk	2	
	Cambridgeshire	2	
	Huntingdonshire	3	
	Bedfordshire	1	
	Northamptonshire	1	
	N Essex	5	

Ex situ Collections

Gardens close to the region of distribution of the species

- 1 Roamer House
- 2 University of Leicester Botanic Garden
- 3 Cambridge University Botanic Garden
- 4 Mark Hall Arboretum
- 5 RHS Hyde Hall
- 6 Writtle College

Gardens with specialisation on family Scrophulariaceae

B'ham Botanical Gardens, Westbourne

Exeter University

The Harris Garden

RBG Kew

University of Bristol Botanic Garden

University of Oxford Botanic Garden

Ventnor Botanic Garden

Potential to grow the species in *ex situ* Collections

Conservation information

Linkages to BAPs

Wiltshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Habitat Management

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

Conservation programmes

Unknown

Web references

- NBN Gateway database: <http://www.searchnbn.net>
- Images:
http://www.ukwildflowers.com/Web_pages/melampyrum_cristatum_crested_cow_wheat.htm