

Monotropa hypopitys L.

Yellow Bird's-nest

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

Starting references

Family

Monotropaceae

IUCN category (2001)

Endangered.

Habit

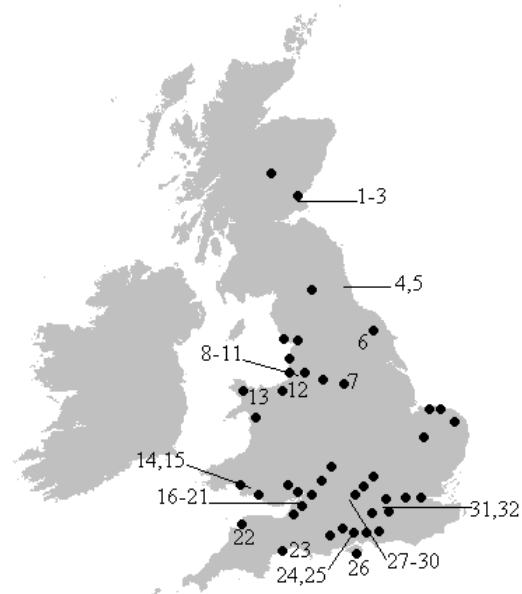
Saprophytic ± chlorophyll-less perennial herb.

Habitat

Leaf litter in shaded woodlands, most frequent under *Fagus* and *Corylus* on calcareous substrates, and under *Pinus* on more acidic soils. Also in damp dune-slacks, where it is usually associated with *Salix repens*. From 0-395 m.

Reasons for decline

Distribution in wild



Country	Locality & Vice County	Sites (10km ² occurrences)	Population (plants)
Scotland	East Perth	1	
	Fife & Kinross	1	
England	North-east Yorkshire	1	
	West Lancashire	1	
	S. Northumberland	1	
	Leicestershire	1	
	Nottinghamshire	2	
	Derbyshire	2	
	S. Lancashire	5	
	Westmorland	2	
	South Devon	1	
	N. Somerset	3	
	S. Wiltshire	2	
	Dorset	1	
	Isle of Wight	2	
	Hampshire	10	
	Sussex	3	
	Kent	3	
	Surrey	6	
	Berkshire	5	
	Oxfordshire	5	
	Buckinghamshire	4	
	Suffolk	2	
	Norfolk	5	
	Bedfordshire	1	
	Northamptonshire	1	
	Gloucestershire	7	
	Monmouthshire	3	
	Herefordshire	1	
	Worcestershire	1	
	Warwickshire	1	
	Staffordshire	2	
	Shropshire	1	

Wales	Glamorgan	1	
	Carmarthenshire	4	
	Merioneth	2	
	Denbighshire	2	
	Anglesey	4	

Ex situ Collections

Gardens close to the region of distribution of the species

- 1 University of Dundee Botanic Garden
- 2 Branklyn Garden (NTS)
- 3 St Andrews Botanic Garden
- 4 Moor Bank Garden
- 5 University of Durham Botanic Garden
- 6 Yorkshire Museum & Gardens
- 7 Sheffield Botanical Gardens
- 8 Firs Botanical Grounds
- 9 University of Manchester Botanical & Exp. Grounds
- 10 City of Liverpool Botanic Gardens
- 11 Ness Botanic Gardens
- 12 Chester Zoological Gardens
- 13 Treborth Botanic Garden
- 14 National Botanic Garden of Wales
- 15 Swansea Botanic Garden
- 16 Batsford Arboretum
- 17 Hidcote Manor Garden
- 18 Highgrove House
- 19 Westonbirt National Arboretum
- 20 Bristol Zoo Gardens
- 21 University of Bristol Botanic Garden
- 22 RHS Rosemoor
- 23 Abbotsbury Sub-Tropical Gardens
- 24 Longstock Park Gardens
- 25 Sir Harold Hillier Garden
- 26 Ventnor Botanic Garden
- 27 University of Oxford Botanic Garden
- 28 The Harris Garden
- 29 Windsor Gardens
- 30 Cliveden (NT)
- 31 RBG Kew
- 32 RHS Wisley

Gardens with specialisation on family Monotropaceae

None

Potential to grow the species in *ex situ* Collections

Plants For A Future (details for *Monotropa uniflora*)

- Propagation

This is going to be an exceedingly difficult plant to propagate. The seed will need to be sown close to its host plant so one way would be to sow it in the leaf litter under established beech or coniferous trees. Alternatively, you could try sowing the seed in a cold frame in a pot that already contains a potential host plant. If successful, grow the young plant on in the cold frame for a couple of years before planting it out close to an established beech or coniferous tree.

- Cultivation

We have very little information on this plant but it should be hardy in this country. It is likely to require shady woodland conditions in a humus-rich moist soil.

It is a saprophytic plant, quite devoid of chlorophyll and depending totally on its host plant for nutrient.

Conservation information

Linkages to BAPs

Designated LBAP Areas are listed on <http://www.searchnbn.net>

Habitat Management

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

Conservation programmes

Unknown

Web References

- Images:

http://www.ukwildflowers.com/Web_pages/monotropa_hypopitys_yellow_birds_nest.htm

<http://www.bioimages.org.uk/HTML/R159442.HTM>

- NBN gateway database: <http://www.searchnbn.net>
- Plants For A Future database: http://www.ibiblio.org/pfaf/cgi-bin/arr_html?Monotropa+uniflora&CAN=LATIND