

# *Potamogeton compressus* L.

Grass-wrack Pondweed

Key:

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

**Numbers** refer to the nearby Botanical Collections

## *Starting references*

### **Family**

Potamogetonaceae

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

Endangered.

### **Habit**

Rhizomatous perennial herb.

### **Habitat**

Lakes, sluggish rivers, ditches, canals and flooded mineral workings. Sites share a tendency to be still or slowly flowing, mesotrophic and slightly to moderately base-rich. Lowland.

### **Reasons for decline**

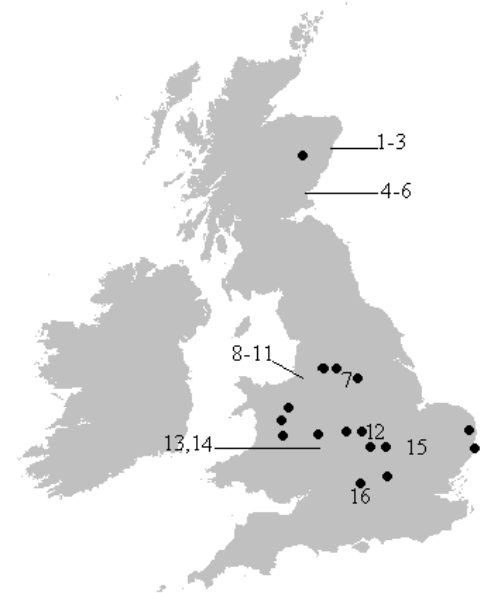
Eutrophication of its aquatic habitats.

Neglect and drying out of canals and ditches.

Increase in pleasure boat traffic and associated disturbance and pollution.

### **Distribution in wild**

| Country  | Locality & Vice County                    | Sites<br>(10km <sup>2</sup> occurrences) | Population<br>(plants) |
|----------|---|--|------------------------|
| England  | Montgomery branch, Shropshire Union Canal | 2  |                        |
|          | S. Lancashire                             | 2  |                        |
|          | SW Yorkshire                              | 1  |                        |
|          | Staffordshire                             | 1  |                        |
|          | Leicestershire                            | 4  |                        |
|          | Lincolnshire                              | 2  |                        |
|          | East Norfolk                              | 3  |                        |
|          | Suffolk                                   | 1  |                        |
|          | Northamptonshire                          | 4  |                        |
|          | Buckinghamshire                           | 1  |                        |
|          | Hertfordshire                             | 1  |                        |
|          | Oxfordshire                               | 1  |                        |
| Wales    | Montgomeryshire                           | 4  |                        |
| Scotland | South Aberdeenshire                       | 1  |                        |



## *Ex situ Collections*

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

- 1 Pitmedden Garden (NTS)
- 2 Cruickshank Botanic Garden
- 3 Crathes Castle Garden (NTS)
- 4 University of Dundee Botanic Garden
- 5 St Andrews Botanic Garden
- 6 Branklyn Garden (NTS)
- 7 Sheffield Botanical Gardens
- 8 Firs Botanical Ground
- 9 University of Manchester Botanical & Exp. Grounds
- 10 Ness Botanic Gardens
- 11 City of Liverpool Botanic Gardens
- 12 University of Leicester Botanic Garden

- 13 University of B'ham Botanic Garden, Winterbourne
- 14 B'ham Botanical Gardens & Glasshouses, Westbourne
- 15 Cambridge University Botanic Garden
- 16 University of Oxford Botanic Garden

**Gardens with specialisation on family Potamogetonaceae**

None

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

***Conservation information***

**Linkages to BAPs**

A Species Action Plan has been produced for *P. compressus*.

Lead partner is Jonathan Brickland, British Waterways Tel: 0113 284 5271

The following LBAPs working on the species are:

Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan

Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Norfolk Biodiversity Action Plan

Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull Local Biodiversity Action Plan

**Habitat Management**

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

**Conservation programmes**

Unknown

Off-line reserves have been created beside the Montgomery Canal (eastern Wales) for this and other species. However, the value of this measure in the long term is as yet unclear.

**Web References**

- UK BAP: <http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=529>
- Species Action Plan: <http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=529>