

# *Silene gallica* L.

## Small-flowered Catchfly

Key:

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

**Numbers** refer to the nearby Botanical Collections

### *Starting references*

#### **Family**

Caryophyllaceae

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

Endangered.

(Archaeophyte)

#### **Habit**

Winter-annual herb.

#### **Life cycle**

Flowers from June to October. Seed is thought to be long-lived.

Germination in both spring and autumn.

#### **Habitat**

Cultivated and disturbed ground, mainly in arable fields on (often acidic) sandy and gravelly soils, and on old walls and waste ground. Also in open, drought-prone coastal grassland on banks and cliffs.

#### **Associated uncommon species:**

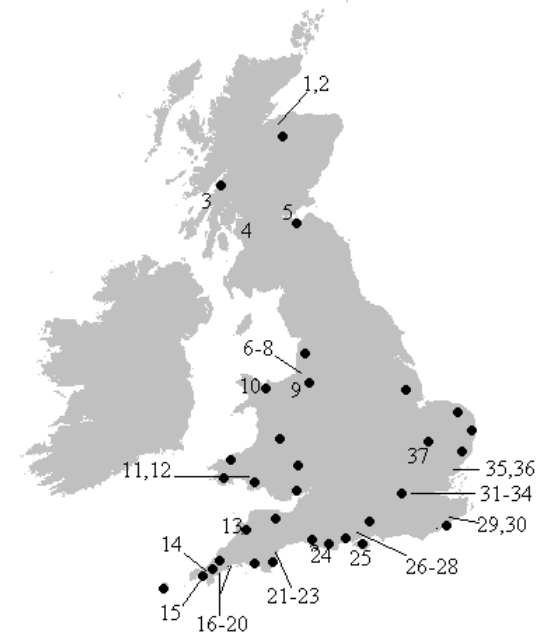
Small-flowered Catchfly is often found in species-rich communities with Weasel's-snout and Corn Marigold. At two sites it occurs with Broad-fruited Cornsalad.

#### **Reasons for decline**

This poorly-competitive species has been badly affected by increases in levels of nitrogen applied and improved crop varieties. Other related species are very susceptible to a wide range of herbicides.

#### **Distribution in wild**

Country	Locality & Vice County	Sites (10km <sup>2</sup> occurrences)	Population (plants)
Scotland	Midlothian	1	
	Moray	1	
	Stirlingshire	1	
	Main Argyll	1	
Wales	N & S	16	
England	Mainly Cornwall, Hampshire and East Anglia	73	



### *Ex situ Collections*

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

- 1 Brodie Castle (NTS)
- 2 Cawdor Castle Gardens
- 3 Arduaine Garden (NTS)
- 4 Glasgow Botanic Gardens
- 5 RBG Edinburgh
- 6 University of Manchester Botanical & Exp. Grounds
- 7 Firs Botanical Grounds
- 8 Ness Botanic Gardens
- 9 Chester Zoological Gardens
- 10 Treborth Botanic Garden
- 11 National Botanic Garden of Wales
- 12 Swansea Botanic Garden
- 13 RHS Rosemoor
- 14 Duchy College
- 15 St Michael Mount (NT)

- 16 Trebah Garden Trust
- 17 Glendurgan Gardens (NT)
- 18 Treliassick (NT)
- 19 Tregothnan Botanic Garden
- 20 Eden Project
- 21 Paignton Zoological & Botanical Gardens
- 22 Exeter University
- 23 Bickton Park Botanical Gardens
- 24 Abbotsbury Sub-Tropical Garden
- 25 Ventnor Botanic Garden
- 26 Sir Harold Hillier Garden
- 27 Longstock Park Gardens
- 28 Mottisfont Abbey Garden (NT)
- 29 Sissinghurst Castle
- 30 Bedgebury National Pinetum
- 31 Buckingham Palace
- 32 Chelsea Physic Garden
- 33 Hyde Park
- 34 London & Whipsnade Zoos
- 35 RHS Hyde Hall
- 36 Writtle College
- 37 Cambridge University Botanic Garden

**Gardens with specialisation on family Caryophyllaceae**

B'ham Botanical Gardens, Westbourne

Exeter University

Fletcher Moss Botanical Gardens

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**

From Plants For A Future

- Propagation

Seed - sow spring *in situ*.

- Cultivation details

Prefers a well-drained moisture retentive light loamy soil in a sunny position.

***Conservation information***

**Linkages to BAPs**

Cairngorms Lbap

Highland

Living Shetland Project

Local Biodiversity Action Plan For Argyll And Bute

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

**Habitat Management**

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

**Conservation programmes**

Unknown

**Web References**

- Images :

[http://www.ukwildflowers.com/Web\\_pages/silene\\_gallica\\_small\\_flowered\\_catchfly.htm](http://www.ukwildflowers.com/Web_pages/silene_gallica_small_flowered_catchfly.htm)

[http://www.arableplants.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species\\_account&SPID=12&SHC=2&PSD=2](http://www.arableplants.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=12&SHC=2&PSD=2)

- Plants For A Future Database : [http://www.ibiblio.org/pfaf/cgi-bin/arr\\_html?Silene+gallica](http://www.ibiblio.org/pfaf/cgi-bin/arr_html?Silene+gallica)
- NBN Gateway database: <http://www.searchnbn.net>