

# *Hyoscyamus niger* L.

Henbane

Key:

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

**Numbers** refer to the nearby Botanical Collections

## *Starting references*

### **Family**

Solanaceae

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

Vulnerable

(Archaeophyte)

### **Habit**

Biennial herb.

### **Habitat**

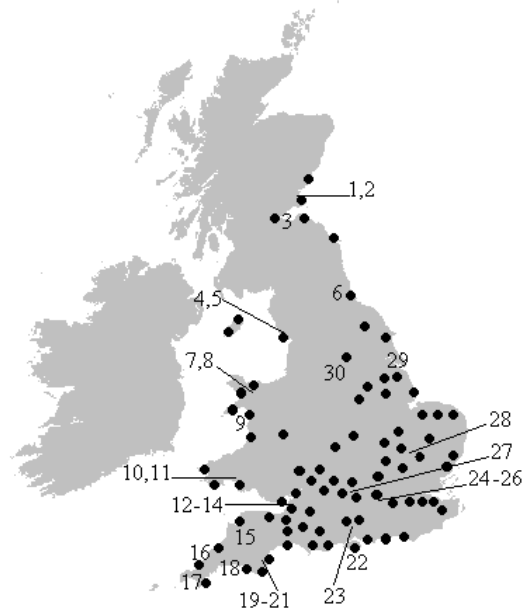
Calcareous soils, coastal sandhills, sandy open areas and waste ground; prefers disturbed ground, including rabbit warrens and building site. Lowland.

### **Reasons for decline**

Increased use of herbicides.

### **Distribution in wild**

Country	Locality & Vice County	Sites (10km <sup>2</sup> occurrences)	Population (plants)
Wales	Widely distributed		
Scotland	Widely distributed		
England	Widely distributed		



## *Ex situ Collections*

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

- 1 St Andrews Botanic Garden
- 2 University of Dundee Botanic Garden
- 3 RBG Edinburgh
- 4 Holehird Gardens
- 5 Sizergh Castle (NT)
- 6 University of Durham Botanic Garden
- 7 Treborth Botanic Garden
- 8 Bodnant (NT)
- 9 Portmeirion Gardens
- 10 National Botanic Garden of Wales
- 11 Swansea Botanic Garden
- 12 Bristol Zoo Gardens
- 13 University of Bristol Botanic Garden
- 14 Wildwalk @ Bristol
- 15 RHS Rosemoor
- 16 Duchy College
- 17 Trebah Garden Trust
- 18 The Eden Project
- 19 Paignton Zoological & Botanical Gardens
- 20 Exeter University
- 21 Bicton Park Botanical Gardens
- 22 Ventnor Botanic Garden

- 23 Sir Harold Hillier Garden
- 24 RHS Wisley
- 25 RBG Kew
- 26 The Harris Garden
- 27 University of Oxford Botanic Garden
- 28 Cambridge University Botanic Garden
- 29 University of Hull Botanic & Experimental Garden
- 30 Sheffield Botanical Gardens

**Gardens with specialisation on family Solanaceae**

University of Oxford Botanic Garden

Belfast Botanic Gardens

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

From Plants For A Future

- Propagation

Seed - sow summer in a cold frame and pot on as soon as possible before the taproot is too long.

- Cultivation details

Prefers a sunny position and a dry soil. Succeeds in ordinary garden soil but prefers an alkaline soil. Plants succeed in sandy spots near the sea. Cultivated commercially as a medicinal plant, only the biennial form is considered officinal.

Grows well in maritime areas, often self-sowing freely. Older plants do not transplant well due to a brittle taproot. The growing plant inhibits the growth of clover. The flowers emit a sickly fishy smell.

***Conservation information***

**Linkages to BAPs**

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

**Habitat Management**

Protected sites with records for *H. niger* is listed on <http://www.searchnbn.net>

**Conservation programmes**

Unknown

**Web References**

- Images: [http://www.ukwildflowers.com/Web\\_pages/hyocyanus\\_niger\\_henbane.htm](http://www.ukwildflowers.com/Web_pages/hyocyanus_niger_henbane.htm)
- NBN Gateway database : <http://www.searchnbn.net>
- Plants For A Future, Database: [http://www.ibiblio.org/pfaf/cgi-bin/arr\\_html?Hyoscyamus+niger](http://www.ibiblio.org/pfaf/cgi-bin/arr_html?Hyoscyamus+niger)