

Ranunculus arvensis L.

Corn Buttercup

Key:

Dots refer to the native sites of the species

Numbers refer to the nearby Botanical Collections

Starting references

Family

Ranunculaceae

IUCN category (2001)

Critically Endangered
(Archaeophyte)

Habit

Annual herb.

Life cycle

Flowers from early May to mid-June. Seed is short-lived on regularly cultivated land, deeply-buried seed may survive longer. Germination is in autumn and winter.

Habitat

Arable land on loams, sands, clay and chalk. Sometimes on disturbed waste ground, in gardens or new roadside verges on former arable land.

Associated uncommon species

It occurs at some sites with Shepherd's-needle, Spreading Hedgeparsley, Broad-leaved Spurge and Broad-fruited Cornsalad.

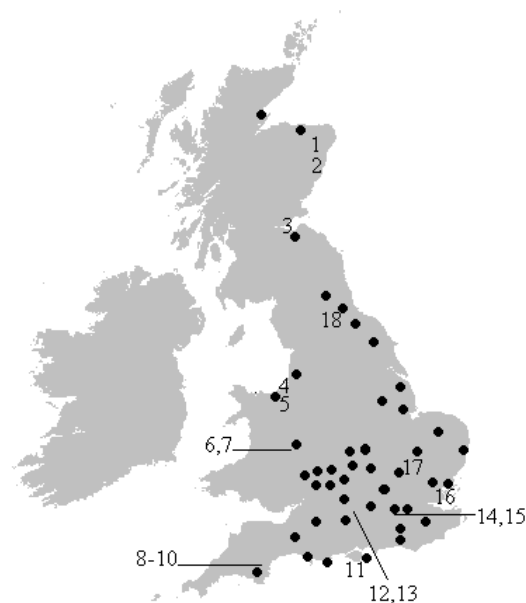
Reasons for decline

Intensification of arable farming, and in particular improved seed screening.

Susceptible to most broad-spectrum herbicides. Increasing nitrogen application and the development of nitrogen demanding crop varieties are likely to have played a role in its decrease.

Distribution in wild

Country	Locality & Vice County	Sites (10km ² occurrences)	Population (plants)
Scotland	Banffshire	1	
	East Ross	1	
	Midlothian	1	
Wales	Flintshire	1	
England	Widely distributed	153	



Ex situ Collections

Gardens close to the region of distribution of the species

- 1 Pitmedden Garden (NT)
- 2 Cruickshank Botanic Garden
- 3 RBG Edinburgh
- 4 Ness Botanic Gardens
- 5 Chester Zoological Gardens
- 6 Birmingham Botanical Gardens & Glasshouses, Westbourne
- 7 University of B'ham Botanic Garden, Winterbourne
- 8 Paignton Zoological & Botanical Gardens
- 9 Exeter University
- 10 Bicton Park Botanical Gardens
- 11 Ventnor Botanic Garden
- 12 Oxford University Botanic Garden
- 13 The Harris Garden
- 14 RHS Wisley
- 15 RBG Kew
- 16 RHS Hyde Hall
- 17 Cambridge University Botanic Garden
- 18 University of Durham Botanic Garden

Gardens with specialisation on family Ranunculaceae

Cliveden

Exeter University

RBG Kew

Sissinghurst Castle Garden

University of Oxford Botanic Garden

Potential to grow the species in *ex situ* Collections

From Plants For A Future

- Propagation

Seed - sow spring in situ. You are very unlikely to need to encourage this plant.

- Cultivation details

Autumn cultivation. A weed of arable land, preferring calcareous soils. A greedy plant, inhibiting the growth of nearby plants, especially legumes.

Conservation information

Linkages to BAPs

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

Habitat Management

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

Conservation programmes

Unknown

Web References

- Arable Plants – a field guide:
http://www.arableplants.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=5&SHC=9&PSD=2
- NBN Gateway database: <http://www.searchnbn.net>
- Plants For A Future: http://www.ibiblio.org/pfaf/cgi-bin/find_lat?LAT=ranunculus+arvensis