

Oxalis acetosella L.

Wood-sorrel

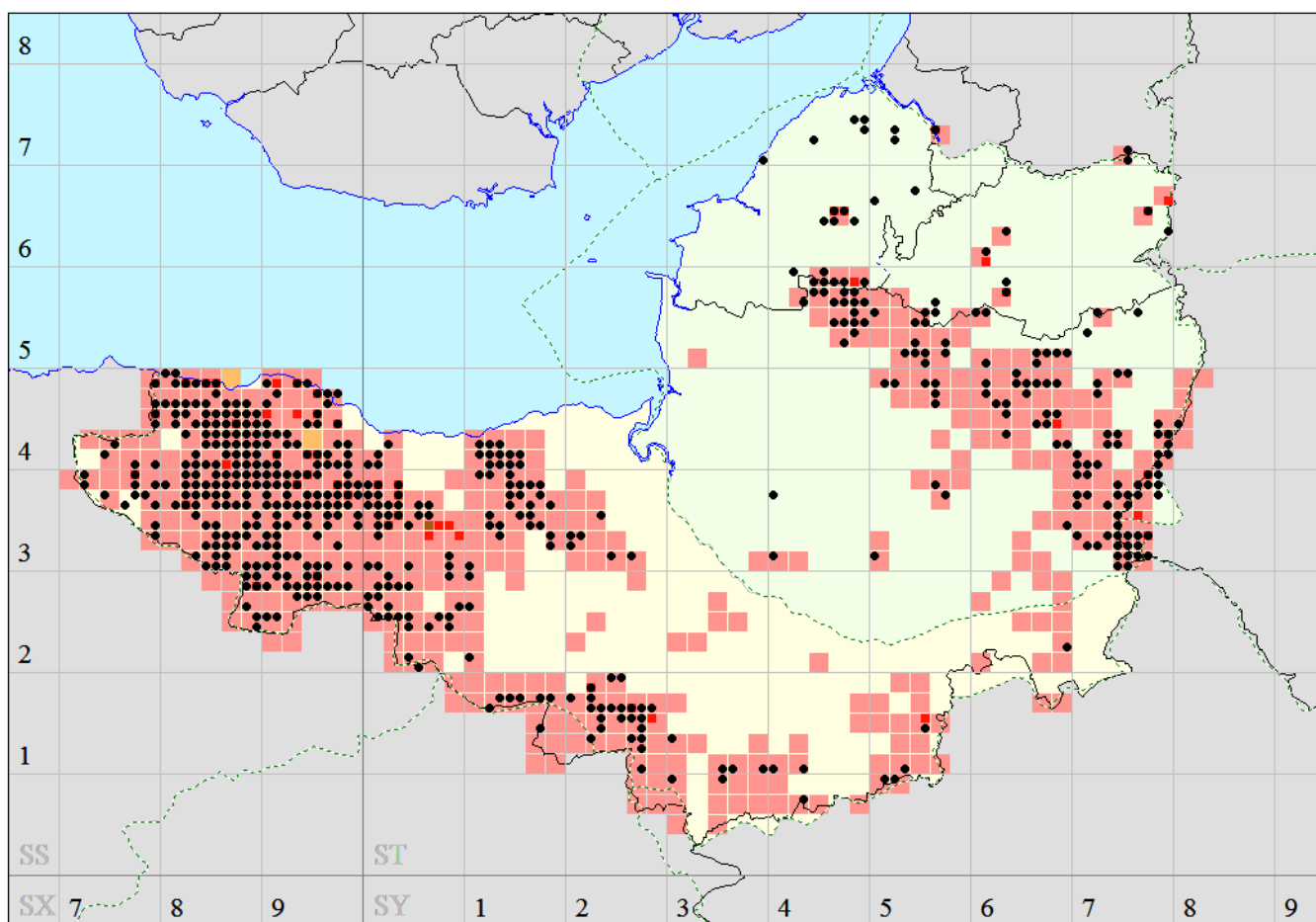
Native

GB: Least Concern

England: Near Threatened

VC5 Not Scarce; VC6 Not Scarce

A low creeping perennial herb of woodlands, hedgebanks, shady rocks and fallen trees. In Somerset this species is widespread, particularly on Exmoor, the Quantocks, the Blackdowns, the Mendips and the eastern (Lower Greensand) border; however it is almost absent from the centre of the county due to lack of suitable habitats (Green *et al.*, 1997). In the north of VC6 it is scattered but locally common, with more sites than indicated on the map below (see Green *et al.*, 2000). In England, *Oxalis acetosella* has suffered a reduction in Area of Occupancy of 20% (Stroh *et al.*, 2014), with most losses in the east (Preston *et al.*, 2002). This species has suffered a slight decline in Somerset; however the lack of post-2000 records shown on the map below probably largely reflects differences in recording effort more than loss of sites.



Distribution of *Oxalis acetosella* in Somerset, mapped using MapMate.
Black dots are post-2000 records; red squares are 1987-1999 records;
sepia squares are pre-1987 records