

Euphrasia anglica Pugsley x ***E. micrantha*** Rchb.

Native

VC5 Rare; VC6 Absent

An annual hemiparasitic hybrid of damp heathlands and heathy grassland. This hybrid was discovered by P.F. Yeo in 1952 near Withypool (SS8236), on a heath at 365m elevation, near both parents. A population of diploid hybrid plants was found, intermediate between *E. anglica* and *E. micrantha*, growing in longer grass than the dwarf *E. anglica*. A single triploid individual was also found (Yeo, 1956). There were no subsequent records for Somerset until 2015, when a specimen collected on Withypool Common by Chris Metherell, Fred Rumsey and Helena Crouch was later identified as this hybrid. The species *E. vigursii*, restricted to sites in Devon and Cornwall, is believed to have arisen as a stabilised segregate of this hybrid (Metherell & Rumsey, 2018); however in *E. vigursii* the corollas are intensely purple. Hybrids not regarded as *E. vigursii*, including those found in Somerset, have smaller white or lilac corollas. This hybrid is restricted to Cornwall, Devon and South Somerset.

VC5

Withypool Common SSSI SS83643493 2015 HJC, CM, FJR On roadside bank