

***Chenopodiastrum hybridum* (L.) S. Fuentes, Uotila & Borsch**
Maple-leaved Goosefoot

Archaeophyte

GB & England: Least Concern

VC5 Rare; VC6 Rare

An annual of disturbed waste and arable ground and gardens, always a rare casual in Somerset. In VC5, recorded at Dunster [SS94] by W.H. Coleman in 1849 (Roe, 1981), but not seen again until 2003, when a single plant was found by Jeanne Webb on disturbed ground at Washford. In 2013 this species turned up at two new sites: in an amenity flower bed in Taunton and beside the bypass at Cannington. In VC6, there are old records for Weston-super-Mare [ST36], noted by St Brody in his 1856 flora (White, 1912); Beckington [ST85], collected by H.F. Parsons in 1870 (specimen in **TTN**); Corston [ST66], found in 1896 as a garden weed by D. Fry (White, 1912) and Bath [ST76], where A.E. Burr and D. Fry recorded it as plentiful on waste ground in three places in 1892 (White, 1912) and A.E. Burr collected it in 1895 (specimen in **SHYB**). There were no subsequent records for VC6 until 1984, when A.L. Grenfell and J.H. Scott found a single plant on Brislington Tip [ST67]. In 1996, Ian Green found three plants on a newly made road verge in Wells and in 2012 a single plant appeared in a garden in Bath. This species has a largely southern and eastern lowland distribution in Britain; sites in Somerset are towards the western edge of its main range.



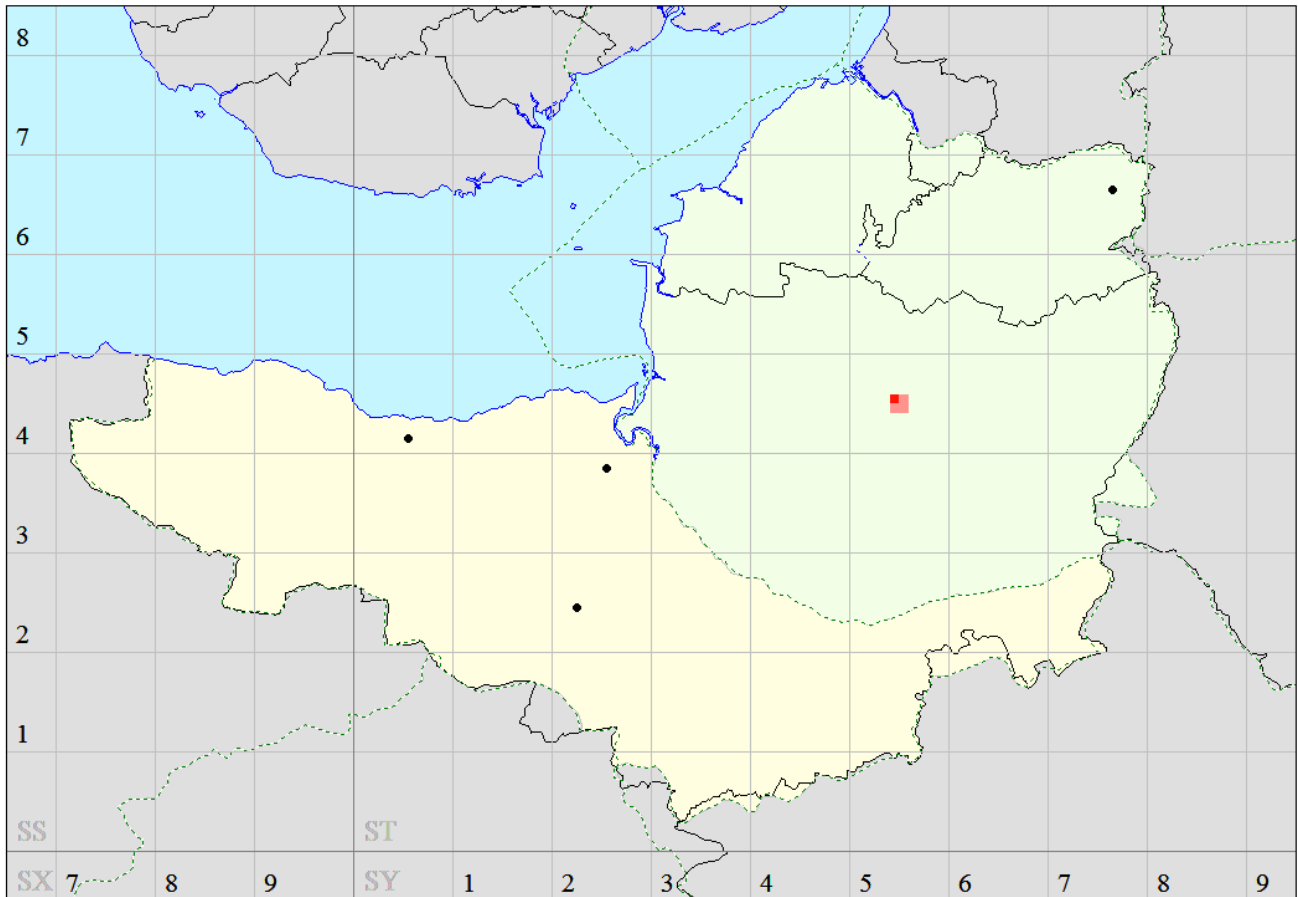
Chenopodiastrum hybridum in Bath (2012). Photo: HJC

VC5

Washford	ST052417	2003	JW	1 plant on site of new pipeline in field near river
Taunton	ST22342471	2013	JMcG	1 large plant in flower bed in Clarence Street
Cannington	ST259389	2013	EJMcD, CML	1 plant only on north side of bypass

VC6

Wells	ST542457	1996	IPG	3 plants on verge of new road
Bath	ST76186613	2012	HJC, RDR	1 plant in newly created garden border



Distribution of *Chenopodium hybridum* in Somerset, mapped using MapMate.
Black dots are post-2000 records; red squares are 1987-1999 records.