## *Euphrasia anglica* Pugsley x *nemorosa* (Pers.) Wallr. (*E.* x *glanduligera* Wettst.)

## Native VC5 Absent; VC6 Rare

An annual hemiparasitic hybrid of downland and woodland rides. Changes in nomenclature and our understanding of *Euphrasia* species over the last century make it difficult to interpret past records. White (1912) included records for the hybrids E. kerneri x rostkoviana and E. curta x rostkoviana. The former was found at Cheddar Gorge in 1900 by Mrs Gregory and at Rowberrow Bottom, at the base of Blackdown, by C. Bucknall; both named by Townsend. Roe (1981) considered records for E. kerneri to be almost certainly forms of E. nemorosa (although a specimen from Shipham, mentioned as a site for this species by White, has been determined as E. pseudokerneri). E. rostkoviana sensu Bucknall non Hayne is now interpreted as E. anglica (Metherell & Rumsey, 2018), thus records for E. kerneri x rostkoviana are likely to have been E. anglica x nemorosa. In addition, White (1912) included a record for E. curta x rostkoviana, also recorded at Rowberrow Bottom, at the base of Blackdown, by C. Bucknall, again named by Townsend. Metherell & Rumsey (2018) give E. curta pro parte as a synonym of E. nemorosa, so this record is also likely to have been E. anglica x nemorosa. In 2011, this hybrid was found in limestone grassland at Cheddar Gorge by Helena Crouch, the specimens determined by Chris Metherell. Euphrasia anglica x nemorosa is apparently rather rare, occurring from Hampshire to Kent, with a few recent records from Wales and one site in Staffordshire; it is considered extinct in Devon (Smith et al., 2016). The single Somerset site is now the most south-westerly.

## VC6

Cheddar Gorge SSSI ST483535 2011 HJC In limestone grassland