

Euphrasia arctica Lange ex Rostrup x ***E. nemorosa*** (Pers.) Wallr.

Native

VC5 Scarce; VC6 Scarce

This hybrid most closely resembles *E. nemorosa*, but has larger flowers and broader floral leaves with the short glandular hairs of its other parent. It is believed to be widespread in Britain and Ireland (Sell & Murrell, 2009). In VC5 it was unknown until found by Graham Lavender in 2015 at County Gate, at the western edge of the Somerset, the specimens determined by Chris Metherell. It has since been found at Smalla Combe, Culbone Hill, North Common and Yenworthy Farm, all in the same area of Exmoor; on rides or verge in Monkham Wood and Druid's Combe Wood in the Brendons; and on cliffs at Blue Anchor Bay and Warren Bay. In VC6 first recorded by Miss Roper (as *E. nemorosa* x *borealis*), who found it with the parents in rough pasture on Failand (White, 1912); there were then no records for a century. Since 2012 this hybrid has been found at Stockhill, Priddy Mineries and Ubley Warren on Mendip, in a field at Langridge to the north of Bath and in grassland by a disused quarry at Downhead, all identifications confirmed by Chris Metherell. As one of the commoner hybrids, this is likely to be more frequent than records suggest.



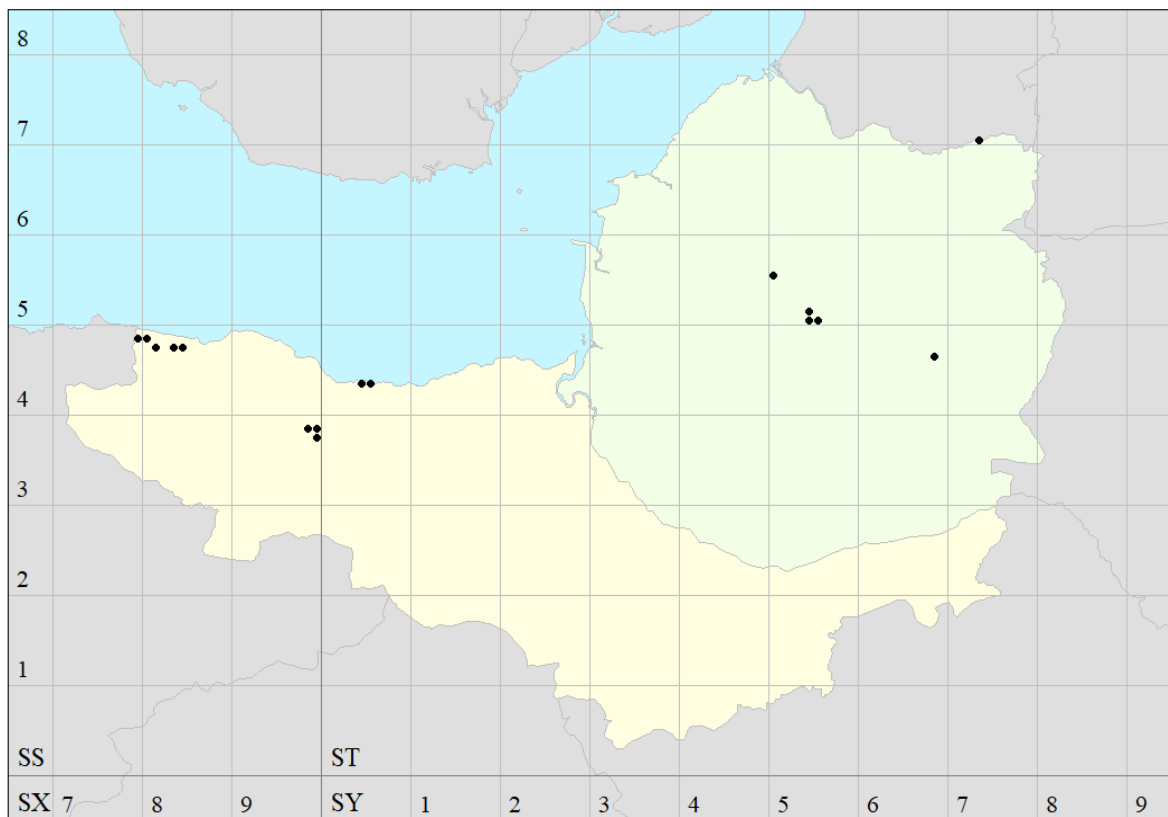
Euphrasia arctica x *nemorosa* at Langridge (2014). Photo: FJR

VC5

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|--------------------|------|------------|------|--------------|---|
| County Gate | SSSI | SS79514857 | 2015 | GL | Beside path across road from car park |
| Yenworthy Farm | | SS80224861 | 2016 | GL | |
| North Common | SSSI | SS81794744 | 2016 | GL | |
| Culbone Hill | | SS83414727 | 2016 | GL | |
| Smalla Combe | | SS84064713 | 2017 | GEL | 70 plants, grassy footpath edge |
| Monkham Wood | | SS98593875 | 2018 | GEL | 200 plants, woodland ride |
| Monkham Wood | | SS99213849 | 2018 | GEL | Many plants on woodland ride |
| Druid's Combe Wood | | SS99773796 | 2018 | GEL | 50 plants on road verge in woodland |
| Blue Anchor | SSSI | ST04064370 | 2019 | GEL, ITS, JW | 300 plants at small site on cliffs |
| Warren Bay Cliffs | SSSI | ST05654333 | 2018 | GEL, ITS, JW | 100 pl, very dry site near base of bare cliff |

VC6

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|---|------|------------|------|------------|---|
| Ubley Warren | SSSI | ST50845529 | 2016 | HJC | Many pl in grassland in NE part of reserve |
| Priddy Mineries | SSSI | ST54465055 | 2015 | HJC, CM | On slag heaps at S end of site |
| Priddy Mineries | SSSI | ST54555054 | 2015 | HJC, CM | Few pl on stony bank by ruined buildings |
| Priddy Mineries | SSSI | ST54825137 | 2015 | HJC, CM | Many pl beside Monarch's Way, near road |
| Stockhill, Mendip | | ST553509 | 2012 | HJC, CVWG | Many pl beside broad forest ride |
| Downhead Quarry Manor Farm, Langridge | | ST68924607 | 2015 | HJC, EJMCD | In species-rich grassland at edge of quarry |
| | | ST73877007 | 2014 | FJR | Several plants in Home Field |



Distribution of *Euphrasia arctica* x *nemorosa* in Somerset, mapped using MapMate. Black dots are post-2000 records