

***Fumaria reuteri* Boiss.**

Martin's Ramping-fumitory

Neophyte or Archaeophyte
GB & England: Least Concern
Schedule 8
GB Rare
VC5 Absent; VC6 Rare

A scrambling annual of cultivated soil in allotments, gardens and potato fields, most usually found in spring- and summer- sown crops. It can also be found on eroded and thin soils of hedge banks. Absent from VC5 and only recorded twice in VC6. First found in a potato field on Combe Down, Bath in 1920 by Noel Sandwith, Mrs Cecil Sandwith and Rev. E. Ellman, specimens confirmed by C. Bucknall and H.W. Pugsley (Sandwith, 1921). This species was not recorded in Somerset again until 2011, when it was reported from a vegetable garden in Newbridge Gardens, Bath by Wendy Lambson, who had known it there for three years; the identification was confirmed by Rose Murphy. Until very recently, *Fumaria reuteri* could be found only in Cornwall and the Isle of Wight (Preston *et al.*, 2002); however since 2008 it has appeared at a number of new sites, particularly in southern England (see eg. Hounsome, 2011; Knass *et al.*, 2012), but also in Scotland (Teesdale, 2008, McHaffie, 2010). The Bath site is the most south-westerly of recent occurrences, the last record for Cornwall being in 1993.

VC6

Bath, Newbridge Gdns ST722655 2011 WAL Several plants in vegetable garden



Fumaria reuteri in Bath (2011). Photo HJC