

***Euphrasia arctica* Lange ex Rostrup x *pseudokernerii* Pugsley**

Native

VC5 Absent; VC6 Rare

A tall hemiparasitic annual, found on oolitic limestone with both parents. This hybrid resembles *E. pseudokernerii* in general form but with broader upper cauline and floral leaves, which have less aristate teeth than *E. pseudokernerii*. The hybrid has no long or short glandular hairs and capsules are a similar length to the calyx (Metherell & Rumsey, 2018). In Somerset, only known from Banner Down, northeast of Bath, where it was found in 2017 growing with both parents, the specimen determined by Chris Metherell as the first record of this hybrid ever. In 2019 it was found by Clive Lovatt at a second site in the Cotswolds, near Wooton-under-Edge (West Gloucestershire, VC34), the specimen determined by Chris Metherell. This is likely to be a very rare hybrid as the ranges of the parent species scarcely overlap.

VC6

Banner Down

ST78956827

2017

HJC, FJR

Many tall plants in species-rich grassland



Euphrasia arctica x *pseudokernerii* at Banner Down (2017). Photo: HJC