

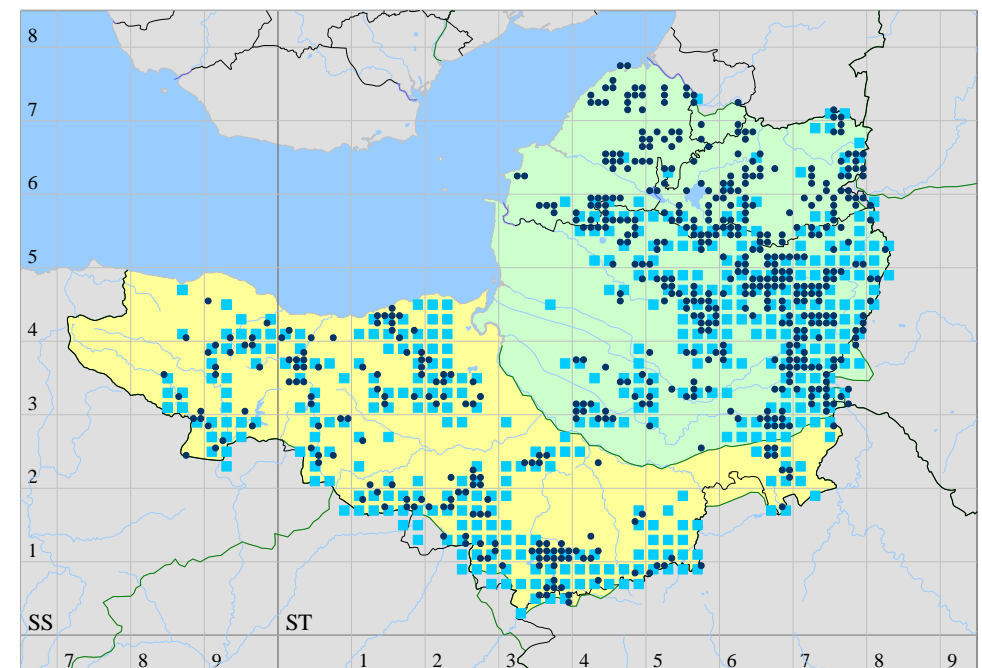
Five Spring Woodland Plants to Record – March – June

These species are not particularly rare and may be locally frequent, but our database shows that they are probably under-recorded in some areas. They are mainly woodland species and may possibly grow together in some types of woodland, so you may be able to record more than one at some sites. The maps of all 5 species show earlier records as blue squares and post-2000 records as black dots, so it is easy to see areas to be particularly targeted, but all records from any sites are welcome. Four-figure (1km square) or six-figure (100m square) grid references will be sufficient for these relatively common species.

Wood Anemone, Wind-flower (*Anemone nemorosa*) is familiar to all of us and is common in Woods and hedgerows. It is common in the east of the county, but absent from the Levels and higher parts of Exmoor, however, there are some gaps in our records since 2000, so send all of your records to update our maps and try to fill in some of the gaps.



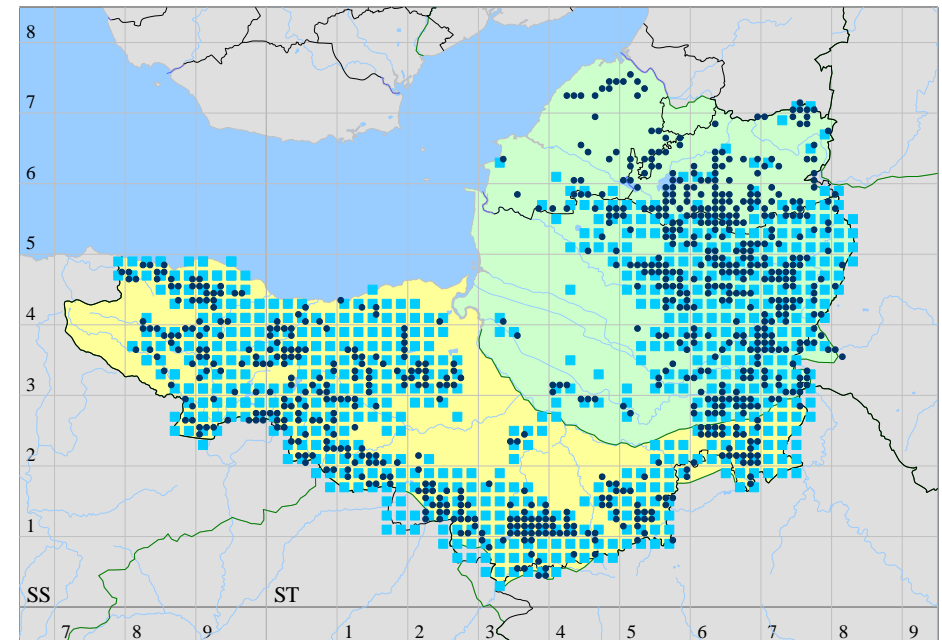
Anemone nemorosa (Wood Anemone)



Moschatel, Town-hall Clock (*Adoxa moschatellina*) is a low-growing delicate plant which likes damp ancient woodland and old hedge-banks. It disappears completely later in the year, so early Spring is the best time to spot this tiny green-flowered plant, as it can get overtopped by Wild Garlic and other more vigorous plants as the season develops. The plant is known from most suitable woodlands in Somerset, but pre-2000 records have not always been updated. The map shows many areas of the county where we do not have post-2000 records, but all records are needed so that we can see if the gaps in the black dots are under-recording efforts or a genuine decline in this ephemeral plant.



Adoxa moschatellina (Moschatel)

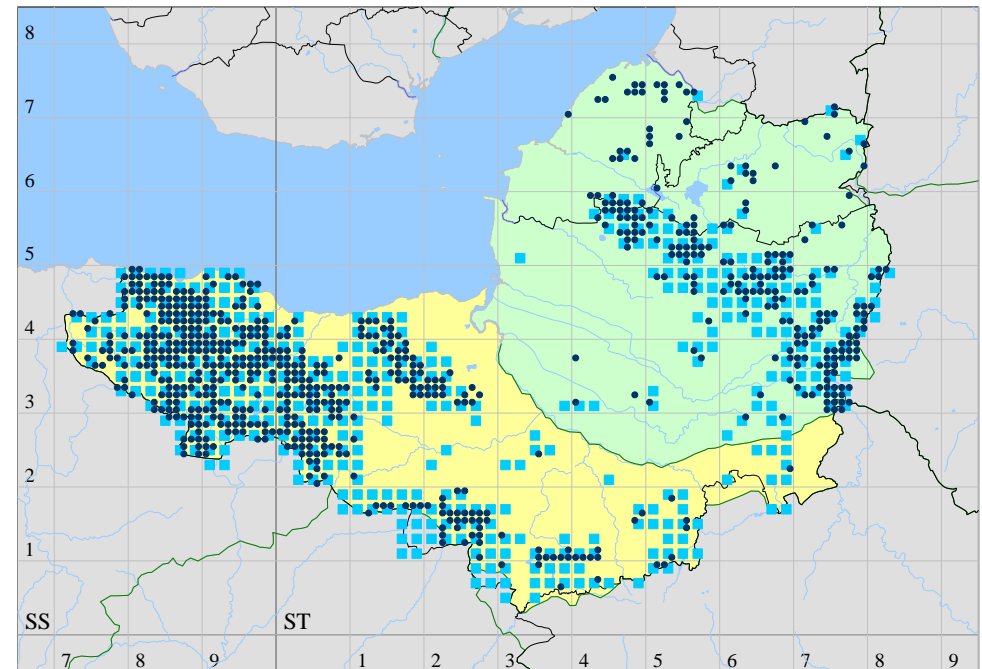


Wood-sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*)

This prefers well-drained, humus-rich soils of woodlands, hedge-banks and shady rocks and is often found as an epiphyte on damp mossy logs. In Somerset, it is frequent in Exmoor, Quantocks, Blackdown Hills, Mendip Hills and the eastern border, but almost absent in the centre of the county and the Somerset Levels. It is on our Somerset Rare Plant Register due to its decline in England. There are still areas in Somerset where it has not been seen since 2000, so all records welcome.



Oxalis acetosella (Wood-sorrel)

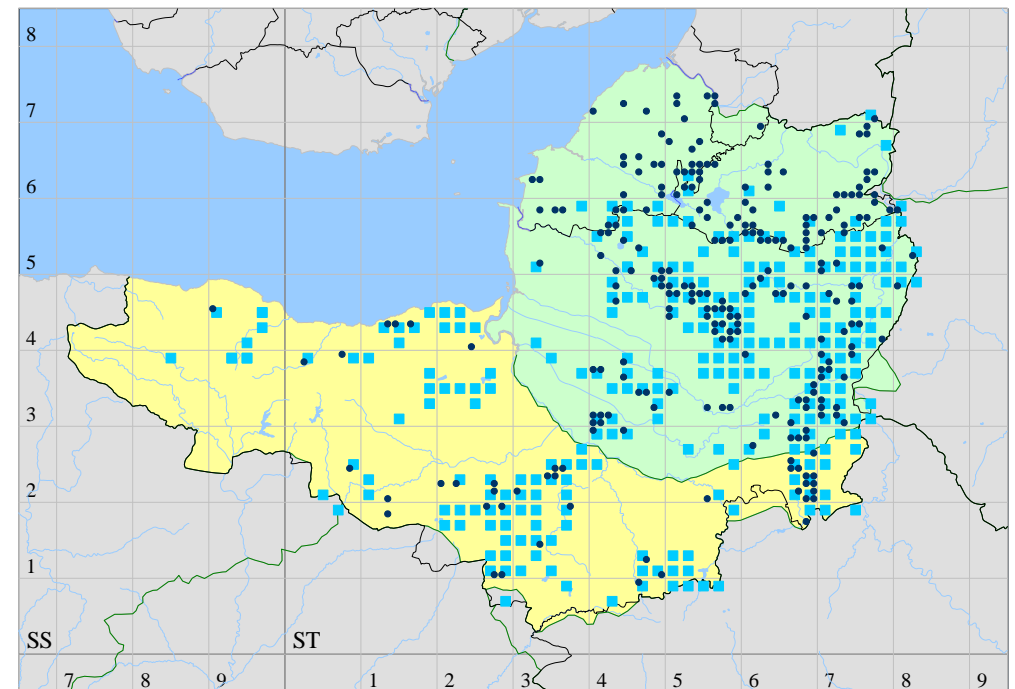


Goldilocks Buttercup (*Ranunculus auricomis*)

This is a buttercup that occurs mainly in woodlands, although it is sometimes found on road verges and in grassland habitats. It flowers in April and May, but the lower leaves appear in March. These leaves are very variable in their dissection and are very different from the stem leaves which are narrowly lobed. The flowers are fairly small and often have missing petals, so it is not very conspicuous.



Ranunculus auricomis (Goldilocks Buttercup)



Toothwort (*Lathraea squamaria*)

This was one of the target species in 2019 and many new records came in for this under-recorded woodland species, however, it still needs searching for as there are still areas where it has not been recorded since 2000, especially in VC5. It is an easy species to spot, as it is without chlorophyll and has a pale pink flowering spike, without true leaves, which is parasitic chiefly on Hazel, but does occur beneath other trees and shrubs. It occurs in many of our species-rich ancient woodlands and old damp hedgerows and starts to appear in March. It can still be visible in early summer, but gets overtopped by more vigorous growth as the season develops.



Lathraea squamaria (Toothwort)

