

***Apera spica-venti* (L.) P. Beauv.**

**Loose Silky-bent**

Archaeophyte

GB: Near Threatened

England: Least Concern

VC5 Absent; VC6 Lost

An annual grass of sandy arable fields, tracks and waste ground. In Somerset, only ever found as a casual, in VC6. Recorded in a lane near Keynsham in 1898 by D. Fry, on a dust-heap at Bath in 1899 and at Portishead station-yard in 1904 (White, 1912). Last seen by H.S. Thompson in 1931 at Berrow sands (ST25), on the strand-line at high water mark, (specimen in **BIRM**, see <http://herbariaunited.org/specimen/286321/?image>). This species is now mainly to be found around London and in East Anglia, Lincolnshire and South Yorkshire.