

***Mibora minima* (L.) Desv.**

Early Sand-grass

Alien

GB: Least Concern

England: Near Threatened

GB: Rare

VC5 Lost; VC6 Absent

A small winter-annual grass, growing on nutrient-poor substrates which are damp in winter. As a native, restricted to a few coastal dunes and cliff slopes, but also found occasionally as a casual at inland sites, particularly as a weed of nurseries and gardens. In Somerset, only ever found once, at Muchelney Ham (ST438238) in 1988, by Ian and Paul Green [reported as 1989 in Green *et al.* (1997), but 1988 on original recording card]. A single plant appeared in a small stone plant tub filled with building sand, in which *Herniaria*, grown from bought seeds, was being grown. There have been no further records in Somerset. As a native, *Mibora minima* is confined to cliff slopes on the Channel Islands and a few dunes in Wales (Gower and Anglesey), Studland in Dorset, the Sefton coast in Lancashire, Cannawee Dunes in West Cork, where it was discovered new to Ireland in 2005 by Tony O'Mahony and Baleshare Island in the Outer Hebrides, where it was found by Oli Pescott in 2015, the first native record for Scotland. These recent records have extended the known British and Irish distribution considerably.