

## ***Crambe maritima* L.**

## **Sea-kale**

Native

GB & England: Least Concern

VC5 Lost; VC6 Lost

A succulent perennial herb of shingle beaches, occasionally on sand, rocks and cliffs. In Somerset first recorded by J.C. Collins on the coast near the church at Burnham (Watson, 1837) and seen there later by T.B. Flower (Murray, 1896). Reported at Brean by St. Brody (1856), but declared by Miller (1933) to be “certainly not there or elsewhere now”. The last record for this species in VC6 was in 1950 when it was found by I.W. Evans as an adventive on a tip at Corston (Sandwith & Sandwith, 1951). In VC5 this species was unknown until 2015 when a single plant was discovered by Graham Lavender on stable shingle on Bossington Beach (SS88554807). Although still present in July 2016, the plant perished. *Crambe maritima* is found at sites around the coast, particularly along the south coast of England, East Anglia, the north of Wales and the north-west of England, with scattered sites elsewhere. Sites in Somerset were within its historical distribution, but this species has been lost from many areas due to destruction of habitat by sea defence work.