

## *Trifolium fragiferum* L.

## Strawberry Clover

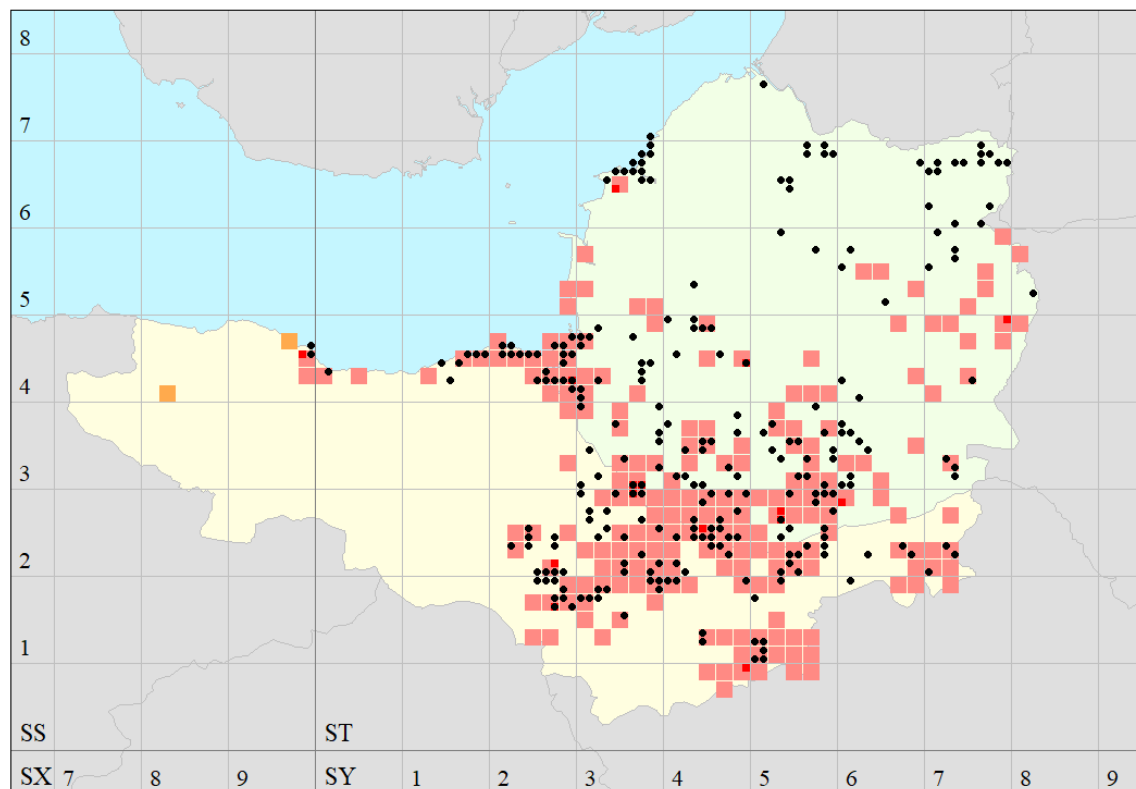
Native

GB: Least Concern

England: Near Threatened

VC5 Not Scarce; VC6 Not Scarce

A procumbent perennial herb of grassland, tracks and verges, usually on heavy neutral or calcareous soils, also on coastal grazing marshes and bunded sea walls. Murray (1896) regarded this species as common, but Roe (1981) noted that it is very rare west of Taunton except by the coast. It is almost absent from the acidic soils of Exmoor, the Blackdowns and the Quantocks, and also from the Mendip Hills. Still widespread in the centre of Somerset and around Bridgwater Bay and Woodspring Bay at the coast, and also in the north, particularly in old pastures on the Oolitic Limestone around Bath and on clay soils south of Bristol. Away from these areas, *Trifolium fragiferum* is found at scattered sites and appears to have been lost from many tetrads mapped by Green *et al.* (1997). This species has declined in England due to improvement or destruction of pastures and eutrophication of verges: this decline has occurred in Somerset.



Distribution of *Trifolium fragiferum* in Somerset, mapped using MapMate.  
Black dots are post-2000 records; red squares are 1987-1999 records;  
sepia squares are pre-1987 records