

***Utricularia minor* L.**

**Lesser Bladderwort**

Native

GB: Least Concern

England: Vulnerable

VC5 Absent; VC6 Lost

A perennial herb of shallow oligotrophic bog pools, peat cuttings, lake margins and fen ditches. In Somerset, only recorded from VC6, on the Peat Moors (Roe, 1981). First noted by Hudson (1778) "... prope Glastenbury in agro Somersetsiensi copiose". Sole, in Collinson (1791), also knew this species in old turf pits on Glastonbury Moor. Murray (1896) recorded it on the peat moors, at Ashcott Moor and Glastonbury Moor. In 1898, found by C. Bucknall in a peat ditch near Shapwick Station (White, 1912). In 1946, E.J. Hamlin recorded this species between Ashcott and Glastonbury; it was found that year by R.D. Graham at Street Heath. Seen there in 1970 by David Goode and J.K. Hibberd, in a pool with *Sparganium natans*, but last recorded in peat hollows at Street Heath (ST463393) in 1992, by Paul Green. The final record for Somerset was made by Liz McDonnell and members of BSBI in 1998, in a pit at Catcott Heath Reserve (McDonnell & Pollock, 1999). Murray (1896) included a record for this species in ditches under Polden, about Stawall, found by A.J. Yarranton, but this has never been confirmed (Roe, 1981). White (1912) stated that vegetative plants were abundant in ditches on Clapton and Weston Moors in the Walton Valley, and on Kenn Moor: these records were not included by Marshall (1914) and were considered doubtful by Roe (1981). *Utricularia minor* has declined considerably in England due to eutrophication and loss of habitat; in Somerset it is now considered lost.