

***Trichophorum cespitosum* (L.) Hartm.**

Northern Deergrass

Native

GB & England: Data Deficient

GB Scarce

VC5 Absent; VC6 Lost

A densely tufted perennial of bogs, wet moors and heaths. A specimen in **BIRM** collected in 1848 by Thomas Clark from the Turf Moor, on heathy ground near the canal lock, bears an annotation by H.S. Thompson: "This is not at all typical, especially in the tall height, the smallness of its flower heads and particularly the hard and shining sheaths at base of stem – usually they are softer, dull in colour and not shining". This specimen has been identified as *T. cespitosum* by M.E. Braithwaite. All other Somerset records are for what is now *T. germanicum*. Northern Deergrass is rare in northern England, Scotland and Ireland. The Somerset site was the most southerly, the next nearest historical sites being mosses of Shropshire and Cheshire.