

***Jacobaea aquatica* (Hill) P. Gaertn.**

**Marsh Ragwort**

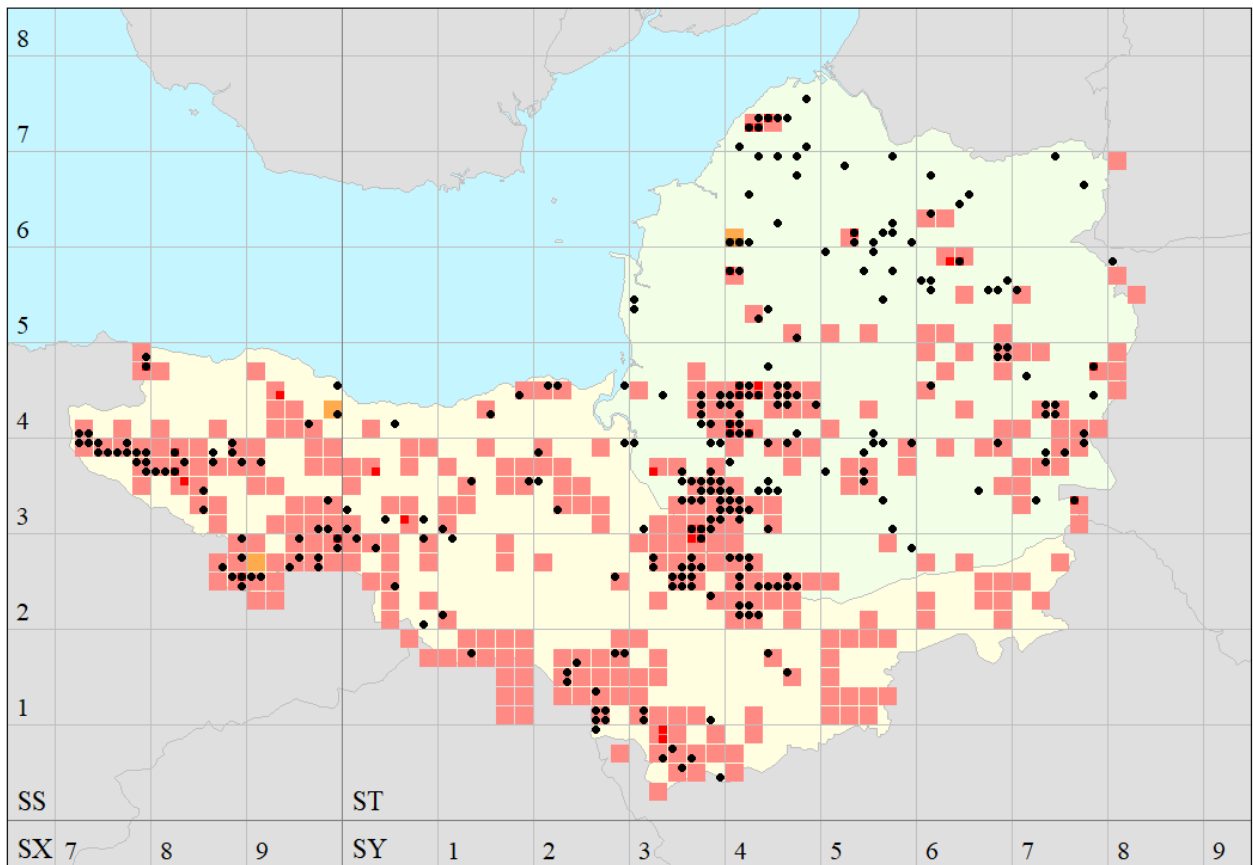
Native

GB: Least Concern

England: Near Threatened

VC5 Not Scarce; VC6 Not Scarce

A biennial or perennial herb of damp grassland, marshes, pond edges and the sides of ditches and streams. In Somerset described by Murray (1896) as “Common, and generally distributed”; however Green *et al.* (1997) more specifically described it as frequent, but only common in damper areas. Although still found at many sites on the Levels, this species appears to have declined considerably in Somerset in recent decades. *Jacobaea aquatica* is one of a suite of species of damp soils which have declined in lowland southern England due to drainage and agricultural intensification: this decline has clearly occurred in Somerset.



Distribution of ***Jacobaea aquatica*** in Somerset, mapped using MapMate.

Black dots are post-2000 records; red squares are 1987-1999 records;  
sepia squares are pre-1987 records.

Note that this map does not show records from Green *et al.* (2000) for the north part of VC6.