

***Lotus subbiflorus* Lag.**

Hairy Bird's-foot-trefoil

Introduction

GB & England: Least Concern

GB Scarce

VC5 Absent; VC6 Rare

A low procumbent annual or short-lived perennial, native to dry grassy places near the sea, with a southwest distribution in Wales, southern Ireland, the Channel Islands and England, where it is found around the coast from North Devon to Hampshire. Discovered new to Somerset in 2008 by Helena Crouch and Liz McDonnell, growing in short turf beside the approach road to the sewage treatment works at Glastonbury. In Dorset, within its native range, this species is found in several locations which may be similar to the Glastonbury verge (Edwards & Pearman, 2004); however in Somerset it must be considered to be an introduction. Various modes of arrival have been postulated (Crouch, 2009) but introduction with grass seed is believed to be the most likely. This species has apparently increased in recent years, but this is attributed to better recording (D.A. Pearman in Preston *et al.*, 2002).

VC6

Glastonbury ST48683830 2011 HJC, GHR Few, on verge of approach road to sewage works



Lotus subbiflorus at Glastonbury (2008). Photo: HJC