

Teucrium chamaedrys L.

Wall Germander

Alien

GB & England: Waiting List

GB Rare

VC5 Rare; VC6 Rare

A long-lived dwarf evergreen shrub, believed to be native at one site in Sussex (Rumsey, 2018) but considered to be a garden escape at other sites, where it grows on walls, rock outcrops and dry banks. The earliest record for Somerset is a specimen in **TTN** from "Charlton", collected in 1822 by A. Gapper. This could be one of several places in Somerset. In VC5, found in 1922 on an old wall in Curry Mallet by Preb. J. Hamlet (specimen collected by H. Downes in **BM**); it was still present at that site in 2008. In 1990, it was also found on a wall in Curry Rivel, by Stanley Fisher. In VC6 first found in 1844 by C.E. Broome at Wraxall (specimen in **BM**). There is also an unlocalised specimen at **K**, collected in 1844 from Somerset (<http://herbariaunited.org/specimen/374097/>). G.W. Braikenridge listed this species as growing by a roadside near Tickenham, and it was collected from Tickenham in 1863 by Flower. It was still present at that site in 1883, but could not be found subsequently (White, 1912). In 1877 and 1883 *Teucrium chamaedrys* was included in a list of plants on Steep Holm; however Parsons (2010) considered this an error. In 1966, C.A. Howe found this species in fair quantity in a rocky area at Knowle Rock Farm, Shepton Montague, where it was still present in 1991. In 1967 Capt. R.G.B. Roe and Mrs I.G. Roe discovered this species at Sand Point, established on a rocky slope in the former tearoom garden. Later records describe the site as rocks by the toilets: the former tearoom/toilets has now been demolished, but the plant survives in trampled rocky grassland. In 1970, this species was found by H. Bond growing on a pavement at Odd Down, Bath, where it persisted for some years (Roe, 1981). In 1999, Dave French discovered it growing on the wall of Saltford churchyard. *Teucrium chamaedrys* has been recorded at scattered sites across England, and rarely in Wales, Scotland and Ireland, but at all sites except Cuckmere Haven in East Sussex it is regarded as a garden escape, albeit a long-established one in places.



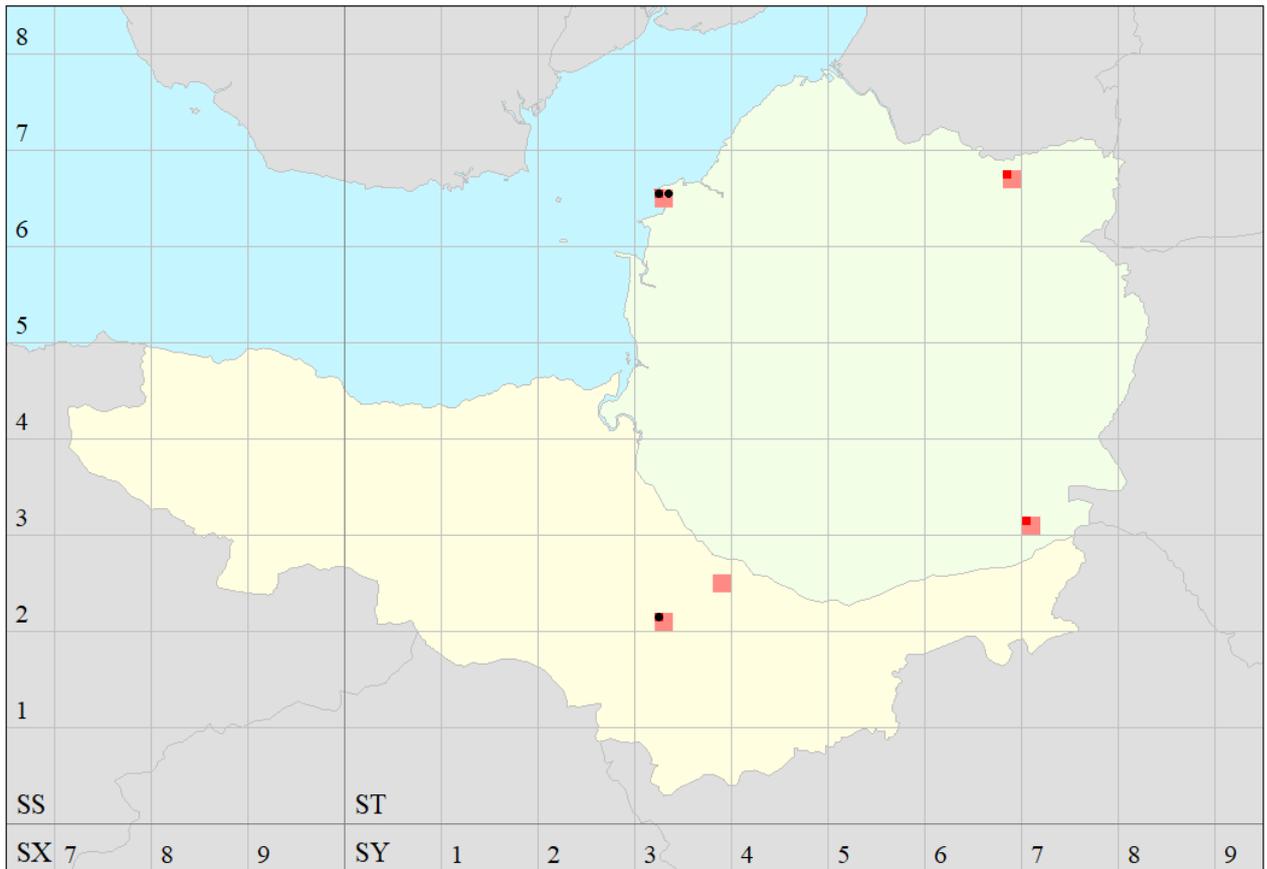
Teucrium chamaedrys at Sand Point ((2016). Photo: HJC

VC5

Curry Mallet		[ST329219]	2008	JP	Still present, top of old manor farm wall
Curry Rivel		ST32X	1990	SRF	

VC6

Sand Point	SSSI	ST32996596	2004	PRG	Several trampled patches on rocks by toilets
Sand Bay	SSSI	ST33006596	2016	HJC	Few patches, rocky grassland at foot of steps
Saltford		ST685674	1999	IPG	On wall in Saltford churchyard
Knowle Rock Farm		ST702312	1991	PRG	20-30 plants on small rocky patch



Distribution of *Teucrium chamaedrys* in Somerset, mapped using MapMate.
Black dots are post-2000 records; red squares are 1987-1999 records.