

Euphrasia anglica Pugsley x ***nemorosa*** (Pers.) Wallr.
(= *E. x glanduligera* Wettst.)

Native

VC5 Absent; VC6 Rare

An annual hemiparasitic hybrid of downland and woodland rides. Changes in nomenclature and our understanding of *Euphrasia* species over the last century make it difficult to interpret past records. White (1912) included records for the hybrids *E. kernerii* x *rostkoviana* and *E. curta* x *rostkoviana*. The former was found at Cheddar Gorge in 1900 by Mrs Gregory and at Rowberrow Bottom, at the base of Blackdown, by C. Bucknall; both named by Townsend. Roe (1981) considered records for *E. kernerii* to be almost certainly forms of *E. nemorosa* (although a specimen from Shipham, mentioned as a site for this species by White, has been determined as *E. pseudokernerii*). *E. rostkoviana* sensu Bucknall non Hayne is now interpreted as *E. anglica* (Metherell & Rumsey, 2018), thus records for *E. kernerii* x *rostkoviana* are likely to have been *E. anglica* x *nemorosa*. In addition, White (1912) included a record for *E. curta* x *rostkoviana*, also recorded at Rowberrow Bottom, at the base of Blackdown, by C. Bucknall, again named by Townsend. Metherell & Rumsey (2018) give *E. curta* pro parte as a synonym of *E. nemorosa*, so this record is also likely to have been *E. anglica* x *nemorosa*. In 2011, this hybrid was found in limestone grassland at Cheddar Gorge by Helena Crouch, the specimens determined by Chris Metherell. *Euphrasia anglica* x *nemorosa* is apparently rather rare, occurring from Hampshire to Kent, with outlying populations in Wales and Staffordshire; it is considered extinct in Devon (Smith *et al.*, 2016). The single Somerset site is now the most south-westerly.

VC6

Cheddar Gorge SSSI ST483535 2011 HJC In limestone grassland