

Trinia glauca (L.) Dumort.

Honewort

Native

GB & England: Least Concern

GB Rare

VC5 Absent; VC6 Scarce

A dioecious monocarpic perennial herb of dry, limestone, usually south-facing sites with sparse vegetation or short turf. First recorded in Somerset by Dillenius in about 1726, at Uphill (White, 1912): still present at several locations there, in the enclosed quarry and on rock outcrops and steep slopes nearby, also on adjacent Walborough. Noted by Watson (1835) at Uphill and at Whorle-hill. Seen regularly at Worle Hill and recorded at two locations in 1987, mapped by Green *et al.* (2000), but now feared lost from that site. North of Weston-super-Mare, *Trinia glauca* was found by T.F. Perkins on Sand Point in 1876 (White, 1912) and is still frequent on the south-facing rocky slopes. In 1849 it was collected on rocky slopes under Leigh Woods, in the Avon Gorge (White, 1912); although it occurs on St Vincent's Rock on the Bristol side of the Avon, where indeed it was first recorded for Britain in 1562, there have been no further records on the Somerset side. On the north side of the Mendips this species was recorded on rocks at Hutton Combe in 1874, re-found at Elborough Hill by R.B.G. Roe, but last seen there in 1988 by Robert Cropper. Recorded by W.B. Waterfall at Sidcot and Winscombe (White, 1912) but not seen there subsequently (although "Winscombe" may have referred to sites on the ridge to the south).

All other native sites for *Trinia glauca* are on the ridge of the western Mendips, east from Uphill. Found by H.S. Thompson at Bleadon (Murray, 1896) and noted for Purn Hill, Bleadon by White (1912), where it persists on the rocky W-facing slope. Found on South Hill, Bleadon in 1947 by R.A. Boniface (specimen in **NMW**), where hundreds of plants were seen in 1989, but in 2010 only one plant could be found: it may be lost from that site. Recorded on Hellenge Hill just to the north of Bleadon in 1962, where it persists in the lightly-grazed species-rich sward. Found by Robert Cropper in 1988 on Loxton Hill, where in 1989 about 1000 plants were recorded by Ro Fitzgerald and Ian Taylor at Shiplate House Farm, but the latest record held by Natural England for this site (on private land) was in 1997 (S.J. Parker, pers. comm.). Found by H.S. Thompson in abundance on Crook's Peak above Compton Bishop (White, 1912): the steep south-facing sides of Crook Peak and Wavering Down still support large populations of this species, with smaller populations on Cross Plain, above Cross. In 1883 found by R.P. Murray on hill slopes above Axbridge. Last seen there, on Shute Shelve Hill, by Liz McDonnell and members of the BSBI in 1991 (McDonnell, 1992).

In 1955 this species was one of seven rarities of the Avon Gorge or Mendip limestone which were planted experimentally at Burrington Combe and Goblin Combe; in 1977 it was also introduced to Ubley Warren. No plants survived at Burrington Combe or at Ubley Warren; however, in 1987 a population of over 2,500 plants was recorded at Goblin Combe (Hope-Simpson, 1987). In 1989 the population was estimated to be 18,000 plants, but *Trinia glauca* was last recorded at Goblin Combe in 2002, with no plants found in later searches. The introduction site was not managed and has become shaded by trees.

Trinia glauca is found only from Berry Head to Sharkham Point in S. Devon (VC3), in the Avon Gorge in W. Gloucestershire (VC34) and at the above-mentioned sites in N. Somerset. It is feared lost from several sites where it was known in the 1980s and 1990s, perhaps due to lack of grazing and encroachment of scrub.



Trinia glauca on Crook Peak (2015). Photo: HJC

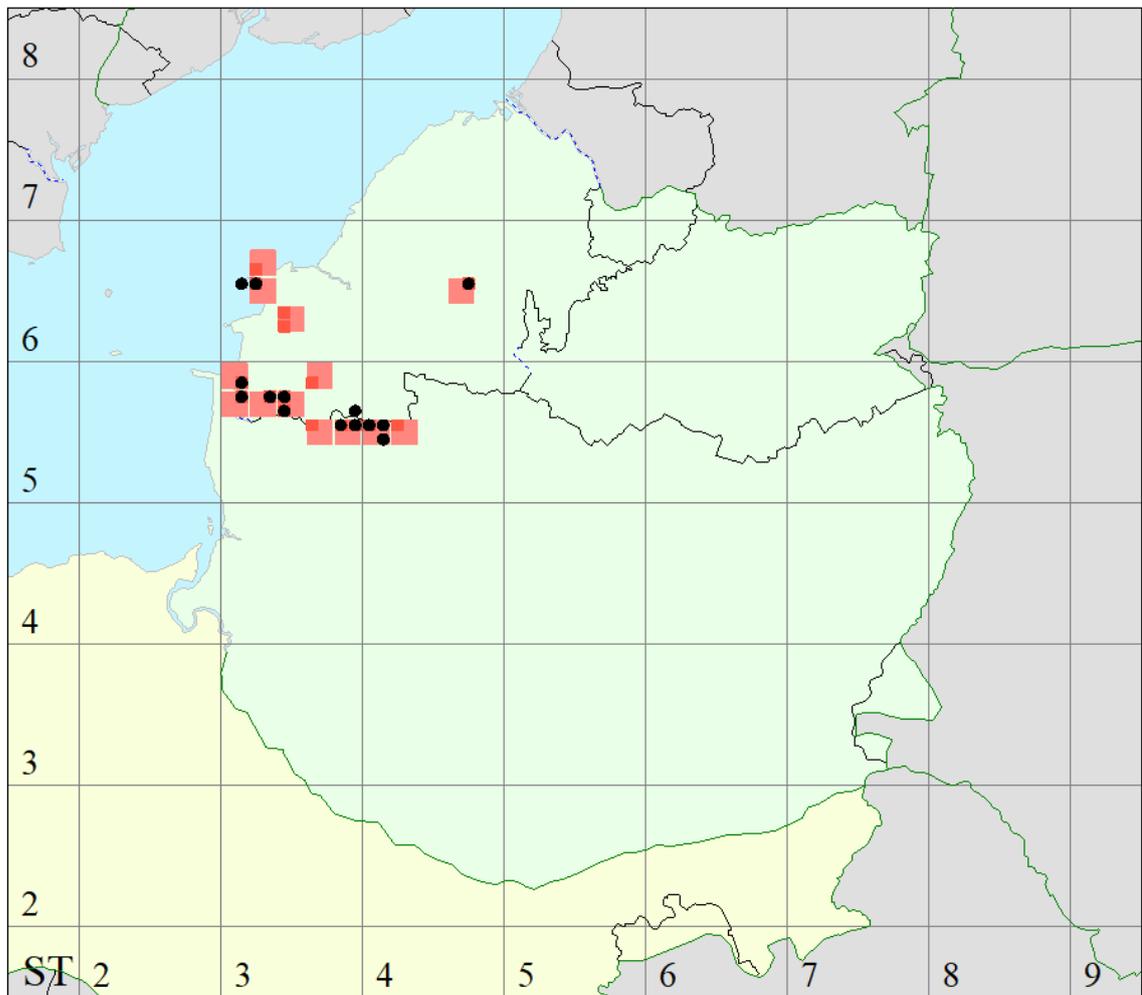
VC6

Uphill	SSSI	ST31495844	2005	EJMcD	Several in rock crevices in quarry
Uphill	SSSI	ST31535844	2013	SRPG	c. 30 plants on S-facing rock face of quarry
Uphill	SSSI	ST31535845	2018	HJC, BNS, SRPG	Many plants in flower on rocks in quarry
Uphill	SSSI	ST31545845	2018	HJC, BNS, SRPG	Many plants in flower on rocks in quarry
Uphill	SSSI	ST31685809	2018	HJC, BNS, SRPG	Many plants on W-facing slope
Uphill	SSSI	ST31685813	2013	SBG	
Uphill	SSSI	ST31625824	2015	HJC, FJR	On ledge within enclosure
Uphill	SSSI	ST31635823	2012	SANHS, WFS	Only one plant (female with seed)
Uphill	SSSI	ST31645823	2018	HJC, BNS, SRPG	Few plants on rock outcrops on W-facing slope
Uphill	SSSI	ST31675822	2018	HJC, BNS, SRPG	Many plants on W-facing slope
Uphill	SSSI	ST31735807	2018	HJC, BNS, SRPG	Hundreds in flower on rocky slope
Uphill	SSSI	ST31745806	2010	HJC, BNS	Scattered on S-facing rocky slope
Uphill	SSSI	ST31765808	2018	HJC, BNS, SRPG	Hundreds in flower on S-facing slope
Walborough	SSSI	ST31495792	2010	HJC, BNS	c. 20 plants on W-facing rocks at edge of hill
Walborough	SSSI	ST31505792	2007	SRPG	On species-rich rocky knoll
Walborough	SSSI	ST31515787	2007	SRPG	A few plants on S-facing rock outcrops
Worle Hill		ST345629	1987	[BRERC]	
Worle Hill		ST3463	1987	[BRERC]	
Sand Point	SSSI	ST31996592	2012	HJC, JPC	Hundreds on S-facing slope above little path
Sand Point	SSSI	ST31996593	2019	JMP, DPL	
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32036594	2016	HJC	Many plants on rocky slope on S side of ridge
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32066595	2007	EJMcD, SJP, KP	A few plants on north-facing slopes
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32096593	2019	JMP, DPL	
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32096594	2016	HJC	Many plants on rocky slope on S side of ridge
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32106592	2012	HJC, JPC	Thousands in rocky grassland, S side of point
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32106595	2016	HJC	Many plants on rocky slope on S side of ridge
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32116595	2018	HJC, DCL	Many pl on rocky slope, N side of ridge
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32156594	2019	JMP, DPL	
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32156595	2007	EJMcD, SJP, KP	On S-facing grassy/rocky slope
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32166592	2012	MCB	
Sand Point	SSSI	ST32166593	2014	HJC, MAW	Hundreds in turf on S-facing rocky slope
Sand Point	SSSI	ST3266	1998	IPG	
Elborough Hill		ST369582	1988	RSC	

Purn Hill	SSSI	ST33185716	2014	SP	Many plants on W-facing limestone ledges
Purn Hill	SSSI	ST33205714	2020	HB	On W-facing slope
Purn Hill	SSSI	ST33205715	2015	HJC, FJR	Few plants on SW-facing rocks
Purn Hill	SSSI	ST33205716	2019	JG	
Purn Hill	SSSI	ST33205718	2015	HJC, FJR	Several plants on SW-facing rocky slope
Purn Hill	SSSI	ST33215715	2011	SRPG	Many plants on W-facing rock outcrop
South Hill		ST34435655	2010	SRPG	1 plant on rock outcrop above grass track.
Hellenge Hill		ST34555729	2017	SRPG	Several in tightly grazed species-rich sward
Hellenge Hill		ST34565727	2017	APR	Five or six clumps
Hellenge Hill		ST34575726	2017	SRPG	Few plants in tightly grazed species-rich sward
Hellenge Hill		ST34595729	2017	SRPG	Several pl in tightly grazed species-rich sward
Hellenge Hill		ST345573	2005	JC	
Hellenge Hill		ST345574	1999	SRPG	Hundreds in dense, species rich short grassland
Hellenge Hill		ST34615724	2013	MHE	15-20 plants in fine form
Shiplate House Farm	SSSI	ST368558	1989	RFitzG	
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST38545559	2010	HJC, FJR	Scattered in short rocky turf on S-facing slope
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST385557	1988	RFitzG	
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST38675556	2015	HJC, FJR	On S-facing rocky slope with <i>Carex humilis</i>
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST38685555	2015	HJC, FJR	Many plants on rocky S-facing slope
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST38685556	2015	HJC, FJR	Few plants on rocky S-facing slope
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST38685558	2015	HJC, FJR	Few plants on rocky S-facing slope
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST38655567	2015	HJC, FJR	Many plants on S-facing side of ridge
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST387555	2008	JP	Frequent over S-facing semi-bare stony slopes
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST38725593	2008	EJMcD	Several on N-facing slopes below Crook Peak
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST38875554	2008	HJC, JPC	On S-facing side of ridge
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST38892556	2010	WBS	Thousands in thin turf on shoulder of hill nr peak
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST38925553	2015	HJC, FJR	Abundant in short turf on rocky S-facing slope
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST389555	2019	HJC, SBG	Masses over a huge area on S side of ridge
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST39045544	2019	HJC, SBG	On path, on ridge leading up to peak
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST39245513	2019	HJC, SBG	Several plants on S-facing slope
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST39245514	2019	HJC, SBG	Masses on S-facing slope
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST39245517	2019	HJC, SBG	Masses on S-facing slope
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST39245518	2015	HJC, FJR	Few pl on stone slab on S-facing rocky slope
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST396551	1997	EJMcD	
Crook Peak	SSSI	ST392561	2002	SJP	100 plants
Wavering Down	SSSI	ST40735539	2013	EJMcD, SRPG	Hundreds in rocky grassland on S-facing slopes
Wavering Down	SSSI	ST407554	2016	SP <i>et al.</i>	Plentiful leaves in rocky limestone grassland
Wavering Down	SSSI	ST40785540	2013	EJMcD, SRPG	Hundreds on S-facing rocky slopes
Cross Plain	SSSI	ST41495503	2019	EJMcD, KN	2 plants on rocky grassland
Cross Plain	SSSI	ST41475553	2013	HJC, FJR, ITS	2 plants on NE-facing rocky slope to W of path
Cross Plain	SSSI	ST41535496	2019	EJMcD, KN	Several plants on rocky grassland
Cross Plain	SSSI	ST41545497	2019	APR	2 plants on small rock face NE of quarry
Shute Shelve Hill	SSSI	ST424550	1991	EJMcD, BSBI	In tightly grazed sward on steep slope
Goblin Combe	SSSI	ST473653	2002	PMM	



Trinia glauca in seed on Sand Point (2016). Photo: HJC



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



Trinia glauca on Sand Point (2012). Photo: FJR