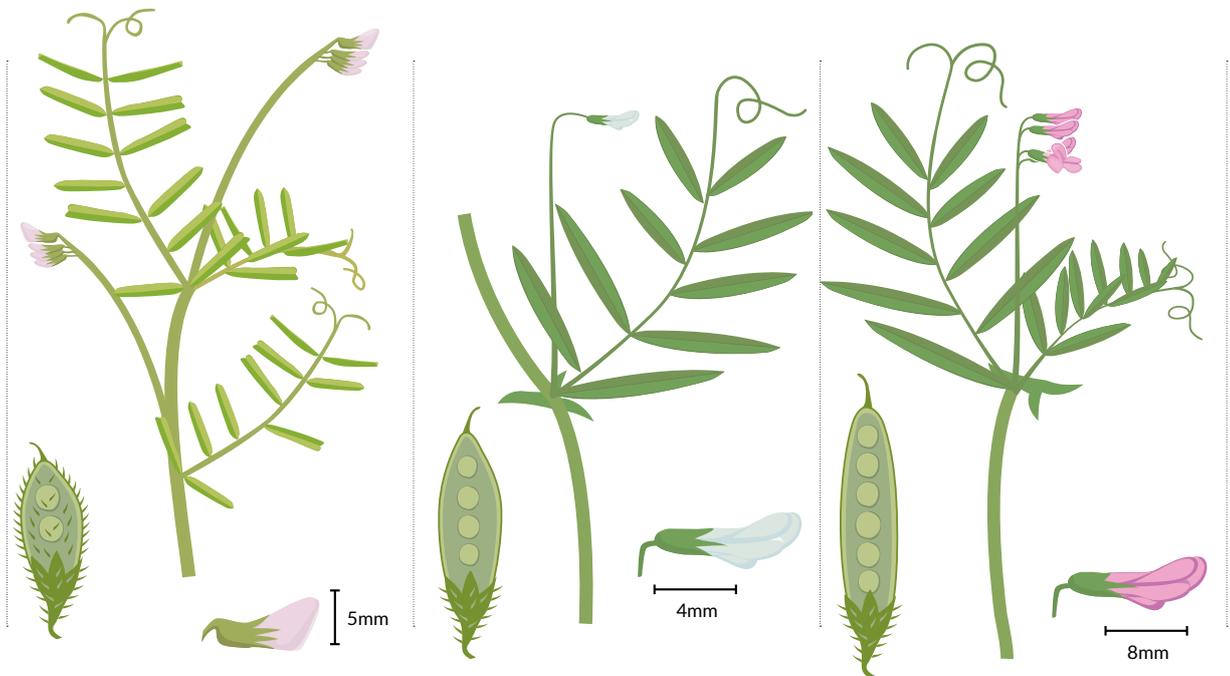


Tares, Vetches and Vetchlings

Plant	Hairy tare	Smooth tare	Slender tare
Species	<i>Ervilia hirsuta</i>	<i>Ervum tetrasperma</i>	<i>Ervum gracile</i>
Threat status		Least Concern	Vulnerable
Distribution	Common except in NW Scotland	Common in England and Wales. Scattered in Scotland and NI	Local in southern England
Habit	Scrambling annual up to 80 cm	Scrambling annual up to 60 cm	Scrambling annual up to 60 cm
Leaves	4-10 pairs of leaflets, ending in thread-like tendril	3-6 pairs of 10-20 mm leaflets, ending in thread-like tendril	2-4 pairs of 20-25 mm leaflets, ending in thread-like tendril
Flowers	2-7 whitish purple flowers, each 3-5 mm long	1-2 deep lilac flowers, each 4-8 mm long	1-4 bluish-purple flowers, each 8-9 mm
Calyx (sepals)	Calyx-teeth are equal. Calyx-teeth are longer than calyx-tube	Calyx-teeth are unequal. Upper 2 calyx-teeth are shorter than calyx-tube	Calyx-teeth are unequal; upper teeth are shorter than lower
Seed pods and fruit	Hairy pods usually with 2 seeds	Hairless pods usually with 4 seeds. Seed scar (where the seed stalk attaches to the seed) is twice as long as wide (use a x20 hand lens)	Hairless pods usually with 6 seeds. Seed scar (where the seed stalk attaches to the seed) is a little longer than wide (use a x20 hand lens)



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Tares, Vetches and Vetchlings

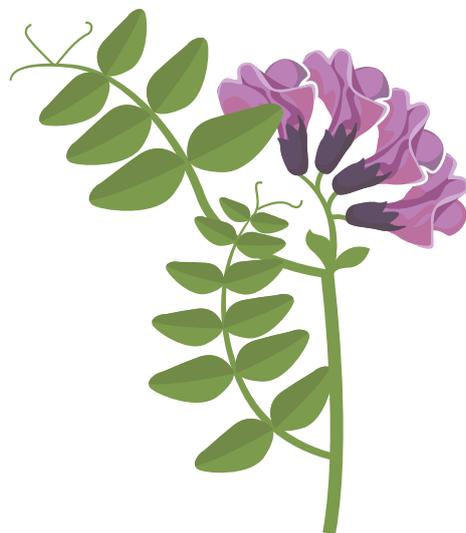
Plant	Tufted vetch	Fodder vetch
Species	<i>Vicia cracca</i>	<i>Vicia villosa</i>
Threat status		
Distribution	Common throughout UK	Mainly in England, but thinly distributed
Habit	Scrambling perennial to 2 m	Scrambling annual to 2 m
Leaves	5-15 pairs of straight-sided narrow leaflets, ending in a branched tendrill	4-12 pairs of very long straight-sided leaflets, ending in a branched tendrill
Flowers	6-20 blue-violet flowers, each 8-12 mm	10-30 blue to purple flowers, each 10-20 mm
Calyx (sepals)	Calyx-teeth unequal; lower teeth much longer than upper. Calyx-tube not swollen at base	Calyx-teeth unequal; lower teeth much longer than upper. Calyx-tube swollen at base with bulge on upper side
Seed pods and fruit	Hairless 2-6 seeded pod, 10-25 mm in length	Hairless pods usually with 4 seeds. Seed scar (where the seed stalk attaches to the seed) is twice as long as wide (use a x20 hand lens)



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Tares, Vetches and Vetchlings

Plant	Bush vetch	Common vetch
Species	<i>Vicia sepium</i>	<i>Vicia sativa</i>
Threat status		
Distribution	Common throughout UK	Common throughout UK
Habit	Scrambling perennial	Scrambling annual
Leaves	5-9 pairs of leaflets, widest below at base and below middle (leaflets look like eggs sitting in a rack). Most leaflets end in a branched tendril	3-8 pairs of leaflets, widest at or above middle, ending in a branched tendril
Stipules	Half arrow shaped, sometimes with a dark spot underneath	Half arrow shaped and toothed on lower down the plant. Usually have a dark spot underneath
Flowers	2-6 dull purple flowers, 12-15 mm	1-2 pink to purple flowers, 9-26 mm
Calyx (sepals)	Calyx-teeth unequal; lower teeth much longer than upper	Calyx-teeth are equal
Seed pods and fruit	20-25 mm pod	Hairless 4-12 seeded smooth pod



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Tares, Vetches and Vetchlings

Plant	Yellow vetchling
Species	<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>
Threat status	Vulnerable
Distribution	England, mainly in the south; very rare elsewhere
Habit	Scrambling annual up to 40 cm. Waxy grey-green and hairless
Leaves	Thread-like tendril on upper part of plant
Stipules	Pair of large 1-3 cm long arrow-shaped (hastate) leaf-like stipules, clasping at stem
Flowers	Solitary yellow flowers, 10-13 mm in length. Flowers on long stalks
Calyx (sepals)	Long calyx-teeth
Seed pods and fruit	20-30 mm pod



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