

Plant	Beaked hawk's-beard	Rough hawk's-beard	Smooth hawk's-beard
Species	<i>Crepis vesicaria</i>	<i>Crepis biennis</i>	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>
Threat status			
Distribution	Common across most of England and Wales, but very scarce elsewhere	Scattered in England and Northern Ireland, but scarce in Scotland and Wales	Common throughout UK
Habit	Hairy perennial, up to 80 cm	Bristly hairy biennial, up to 120 cm	Hairless or thinly hairy annual or biennial, up to 75 cm
Stem	Furrowed	Leafy stem	Leafy stem
Leaves	Stem leaves are deeply broadly lobed and clasp the stem	Stem leaves are deeply broadly lobed and clasp the stem	Stem leaves are deeply narrowly lobed with an arrow-shaped base clasping the stem
Flowers	Cylindrical flower heads 15-25 mm across. Yellow, petal-like ray florets with orange-red stripes underneath	Flower heads 20-35 mm across. Yellow, petal-like rays that are pale yellow underneath	Yellow flask-shaped flower heads 10-13 mm across
Sepal-like bracts	Outer bracts spreading in a ruff	Outer bracts spreading in a ruff	All bracts tightly pressed (adpressed) against flower head
Fruit	Beaked	Unbeaked	Unbeaked



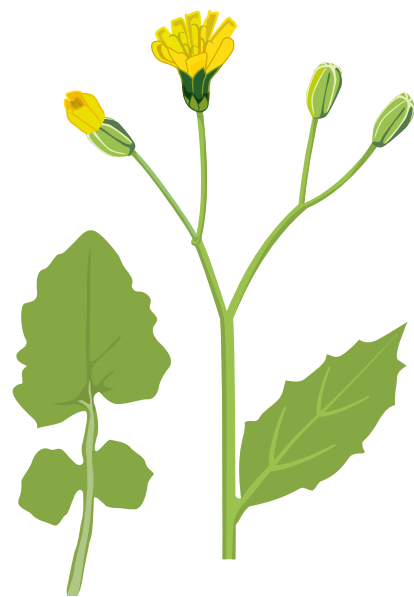
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Plant	Perennial sowthistle	Prickly sowthistle	Smooth sowthistle
Species	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	<i>Sonchus asper</i>	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>
Threat status			
Distribution	Common except Scottish Highlands where it is rare	Common throughout UK	Common throughout UK
Habit	Perennial, up to 150 cm with thick roots	Annual, up to 150 cm	Annual, up to 150 cm
Stem	Leafy stem. Hollow with milky latex on breaking. Orange glandular hairs on upper plant below the flower heads	Leafy stem. Hairless except just below flower heads. Hollow with milky latex on breaking	Leafy stem, hairless except just below flower heads. Hollow with milky latex on breaking
Leaves	Stem leaves have rounded 'ear-lobe' bases tapering into the stem	Stem leaves double-toothed with soft spiny edge. Rounded 'ear-lobe' at base clasping the stem	Stem leaves with non-spiny lobes. Pointed spreading 'ear-lobe' at base clasping the stem
Flowers	Bell-shaped yellow flower heads 40-50 mm across by 13-20 mm long	Golden yellow flower heads 20-25 mm across	Pale yellow flower heads 20-25 mm across
Fruit	Brown	Yellow and smooth	Yellow and wrinkled



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Plant	Groundsel	Nipplewort
Species	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	<i>Lapsana communis</i>
Threat status		
Distribution	Common throughout UK	Common throughout UK
Habit	Annual, up to 30 cm	Annual, up to 100 cm
Stem	Leafy stem	Leafy stem and usually hairy on the lower part of plant
Leaves	Lobed cottony leaves	Hairy stem leaves that are widest above the middle of each leaf with a large end-lobe
Flowers	Flower heads 4 mm across without petal-like ray florets	Flower heads 10-15 mm across
Fruit	Hairy fruit with pappus (parachute)	Unbeaked



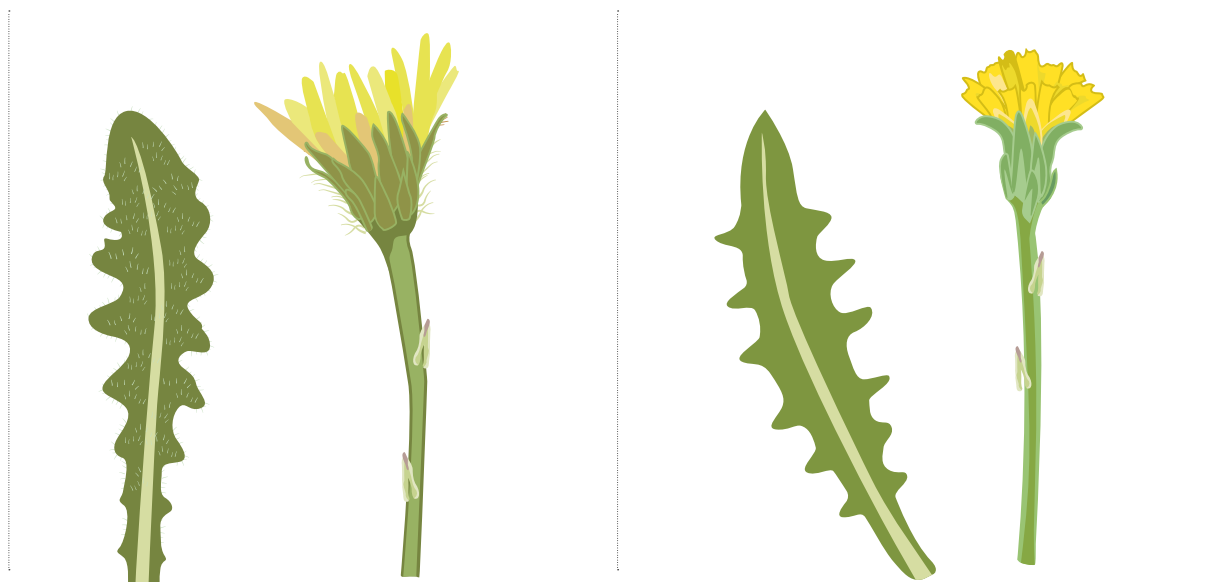
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Plant	Prickly lettuce	Bristly Oxtongue
Species	<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>
Threat status		
Distribution	Common in many parts of England and Wales, scarce in Scotland and Northern Ireland	Widespread across England and Wales, becoming more scarce towards northern England and in Scotland. Scarce in Northern Ireland
Habit	Annual or biennial, up to 150 cm	Annual or biennial, up to 90 cm
Stem	Hairless leafy stem. Milky latex on breaking	Bristly-hairy stem
Leaves	Erect, waxy grey-green erect leaves, with a spine of prickles on the underside of the midrib	Lanceolate wavy-edged leaves with blister-like bristles that have whitish swollen bases. Stem leaves are clasping
Flowers	Yellow flower heads 11-13 mm across	Yellow flower heads 20-25 mm across. Outer ray petals are heart-shaped
Fruit	Olive-grey with pappus (parachute)	Beak as long as body of fruit with pappus (parachute)



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Plant	Common cat's-ear	Smooth cat's-ear
Species	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>
Threat status		Vulnerable
Distribution	Common throughout UK	Mainly east and southeast England, otherwise very thinly scattered across the rest of England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland
Habit	Perennial, up to 60 cm	Perennial, up to 40 cm. Hairless
Stem	Leafless stem that may be hairy at base, enlarging below flower-heads. Small bracts on stem that look like 'cat's-ears'	Leafless and hairless stem. Small bracts on stem that look like 'cat's-ears'
Leaves	Leaves hairy, widest above middle, wavy-toothed or lobed	Leaves hairless, widest above middle, toothed or lobed
Flowers	Yellow flower heads 20-40 mm across. Petal-like ray florets 4x longer than wide	Yellow flower heads 10-15 mm across and open only in sunshine. Petal-like ray florets 2x longer than wide
Fruit	Beaked	Can be beaked or unbeaked



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