

Cow-wheats, Bartsia and Yellow-rattles

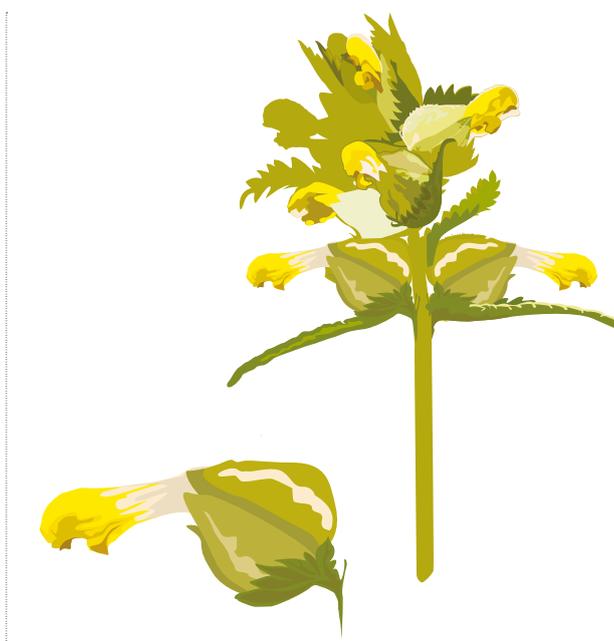
Plant	Red bartsia	Field cow-wheat
Species	<i>Odontites vernus</i>	<i>Melampyrum arvense</i>
Distribution	Common throughout UK	Very few sites and in England only
Threat status		Near Threatened
Life cycle	Annual	Annual
Leaves	Oblong-lanceolate leaves with a few irregular coarse teeth along the edge	Straight-edged lanceolate leaves with a few long lobes at the base
Flowers	Long leafy loose spikes or flowers at the top of the stem	Dense spikes of flowers at the top of the stem
Bracts (leaves just below each flower)	Leaf-like in appearance	Erect rosy-red bracts with long narrow side-lobes
Calyx	Four-toothed and bell-shaped	Four-toothed. Not inflated
Petals	9 mm long. Pink flower with a curved and hooded upper lip and 3-lobed lower lip	20-24 mm long. Pink hooded and curved upper lip and pink single-lobed lower lip that is turned out at the edge. The flower has a yellow throat



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Plant	Yellow-rattle	Greater Yellow-rattle
Species	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	<i>Rhinanthus angustifolia</i>
Distribution	Common throughout UK	Very thinly scattered in Britain (mainly Surrey). Absent from Ireland
Threat status		Vulnerable
Life cycle	Annual	Robust annual
Leaves	Coarsely toothed triangular- lanceolate shaped leaves	Coarsely toothed triangular- lanceolate shaped leaves
Flowers	Loose spikes of flowers at the top of the stem	Loose spikes of flowers at the top of the stem
Bracts (leaves just below each flower)	Leaf-like in appearance	Leaf-like in appearance
Calyx	Four-toothed and inflated	Four-toothed and inflated
Petals	12-15 mm long yellow flower with a straight flower tube. The upper lip has two short (1 mm long) violet teeth - these are wider than long	17-20 mm long yellow flower with an upwards curving flower tube. Upper lip has two 2 mm violet teeth - these are longer than wide



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