



## Dyer's Greenweed (*Genista tinctoria*) Lus Wuigh Wooar



### Biodiversity Action Plan | Cummey Yannoo Beiyen-Feie

#### Background

Dyer's Greenweed is small, mid-summer, yellow flowering leguminous shrub, related to gorse and broom. It was considered by Allen to be 'not confidently accepted as native in Man'. This was partly based upon its known sites and distribution at the time (from Smeale to the Dhoor, through Andreas Parish). Since then, more significant colonies have been found along the Ramsey to St Jude's road including, formerly, a large section of wildflower meadow. With this greater understanding, we can say that the balance of probabilities errs towards the native, although not conclusively so.

This Biodiversity Action Plan has been reformatted from a Rare Species Action Plan, produced by Wildflowers of Mann in 2004, and approved by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in same year.

#### Description



A semi-woody, long-lived perennial of damp, heavy infertile soils.

#### British Isles Distribution

This species is widespread across England, Wales and Southern Scotland. But it is absent as a native from the Scottish central belt northwards, and it is also absent from Ireland.

#### Isle of Man Distribution

Historical records are restricted to the Northern Plain, with some records (such as Gat e Whing) clearly of herbal origin. Decline on the Isle of Man has occurred due to agricultural improvement, development and scrub succession. Only one population is now known to survive, along the Garey Road, where less than 10 plants survive. The species is at high risk of Island extinction.

#### Habitat and Ecology

The species occurs in meadows, lightly grazed pastures, grassy heaths and woodland rides. Low fertility is key, and a level of dampness, with heavy soils, is preferred. Soils tend to be somewhat calcareous or slightly acid. On the Isle of Man, it was known most recently from one damp meadow (now destroyed). It is still found on a damp road-verge, alongside tall fescue grass.

The species is known to have small, specialist fauna, as well as a large generalist fauna associated with it. Spread is by seeds that ripen in late summer. Like many legumes, ants are likely vectors for seed dispersal.



<b>Legal protection</b>		
Not listed on Schedule 7 of the Wildlife Act 1990 and red-listed under <i>Plants of Conservation Concern in the Isle of Man 2022</i> . At the next legislative review, this species should be included in Schedule 7. Its absence from Schedule 7 has been a contributing factor in its decline.		
<b>Threats</b>		
Critically endangered due to habitat loss.		
<b>Reason for BAP</b>		
This species is critically endangered; therefore a successful reintroduction program is important.		
<b>Aims</b>		
To establish a viable population at Billown Nature Reserve (extension site).		
<b>Linked BAPS</b>		
Shaking Grass Action for Wildlife Project and Limestone BAP species.		
<b>Delivery Options</b>	<b>Active</b>	<b>Challenges</b>
Suitable verge management at the Garey conservation verge should be maintained.		Sensitive verge status no longer funded.
Grazing levels are key to the success of this plant, and some plantings should be in the grazing enclosure areas. This species may well be a dictating factor in how grazing on site is developed.		
Seed should be gathered, and seedlings established, for planting out. The lower, damper, semi-shaded parts of the site are likely to be suitable for this species, where it will be grown with hairy sedge and fleabane.		
<b>Delivery Plan</b>		
<b>Strategy</b>		<b>Lead</b>
Establish at Billown Nature Reserve (extension site)		Manx Wildlife Trust
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Collect seed and grow 30 plants	2020	Wildflowers of Mann
Prepare Billown Nature Reserve extension site for planting	2020/2021	Wildflowers of Mann
Translocate 30 potted plants	2022	Wildflowers of Mann
Monitor plantings/spread and review grazing	2022 onwards	Wildflowers of Mann /Colas



Review for next management plan	2025	Wildflowers of Mann /Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture
Monitor Garey Road verge population	Occasional	Wildflowers of Mann
Include in Schedule 7	Next Review of Schedule 7	Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture
<b>Annual Updates</b>		
<b>Year</b>		
2021	Cuttings taken and rooted.	
2022	6 plants introduced to Billown.	
2023	Billown plants well established (5 plants found). Continued propagation of more plants.	

