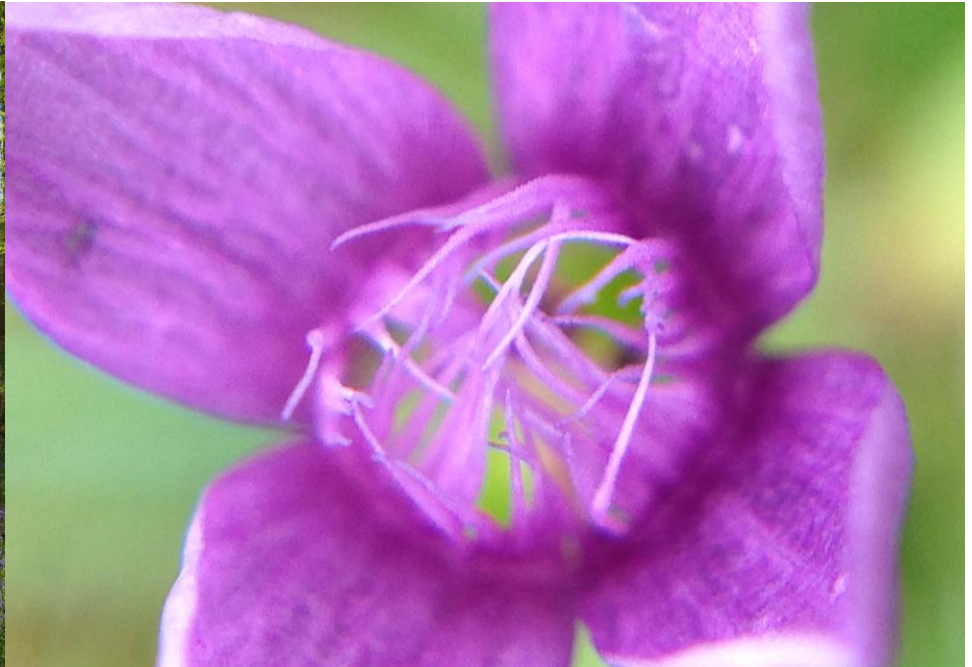


# Species Factsheet

the  
species  
recovery  
trust



*Gentianella campestris*

Field Gentian



**Red List Status:**  
Vulnerable

**Threat of extinction:**  
High

**Main threats:**  
Loss of sites,  
eutrophication,  
habitat  
management  
changes and  
neglect

**Description:** Erect vascular plant that grows to 30cm, with simple or branched stems, purple flowers, 4 calyx and coronal lobes, 2 outer hidings, 2 smaller inner lobes and corolla measuring 15-25mm.

**Lifecycle:** Annual or biennial, with usually between 7 and 10 hermaphrodite flowers. Visited by bumblebees and Lepidoptera. Regeneration is exclusively by seed, and it is not known if they have a persistency in the seed bank.

**Habitat:** Grows on calcareous grasslands, pastures, upland grasslands, grass heaths, sand dunes and machair, and on acid soils up to 915m.

**Distribution:** Widespread in Scotland and in northern England and North Wales but now very rare in England south of Cumbria and the Pennines. Widespread in northern Europe extending to the Alps.

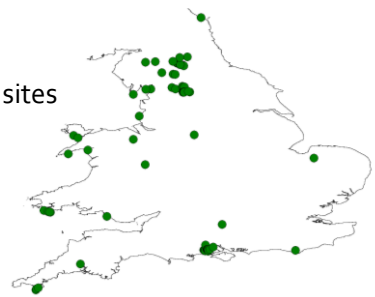
**Status:** Classified as Vulnerable and is therefore considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

**Reasons for decline:** Sites lost due to overgrazing in the uplands and neglect of lowland pastures, eutrophication and atmospheric pollution and fragmentation of populations.

**Protection under the Law:** Listed under the NERC Act 2006 as a Species of Principle Importance and the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) as a Priority Species.

#### What we are doing:

- Establishing a monitoring network across all sites
- Undertaking ecological research to identify optimum management
- Creating *ex situ* populations for eventual re-introduction to the wild
- Carrying out habitat restoration work across the network of sites to enlarge the areas where plants can grow



#### What you can do:

- If you live locally volunteer to become a site monitor
- Become a species supporter and help fund the project