

Name:**Chalk eyebright***Euphrasia pseudokernerii***UK status:**

Red Data List (Endangered). Nationally scarce (75 hectads). UK endemic

London status:

Rare; currently known from 3 sites, but possibly under-recorded. Historic habitat decline

Protected status:

W&CA S.13(b); general protection from uprooting without owners' permission

Relevant London HAPs:

Chalk grassland

Citation:

An annual of herb-rich chalk grassland, most of which has been lost historically from Greater London. Chalk eyebright is recently recorded from one site in LB Croydon (Chipstead Chalk Pasture - a Borough 1 SINC) and two sites in LB Bromley (Saltbox Hill and Cudham Valley South - both Metropolitan SINC). The species is declining nationally through continuing habitat loss, and there may also be a threat from hybridisation with common eyebright *E. nemorosa*. The known London populations are large and apparently under favourable management regimes. However, two are in private ownership and this situation could change rapidly. Managing authorities; private (Chipstead Chalk Pasture & Cudham Valley); London Wildlife Trust (Saltbox Hill).



© Mike Waite

Conservation priorities:

- Maintenance of traditional management (grazing)
- Monitoring of populations
- Protect any new populations emerging from further survey

References:

- Burton R M, 1983. *Flora of the London Area*. LNHS
- Cheffings CM & Farrell L (Eds.), 2005. *The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain*. JNCC
- Preston CD, Pearman DA & Dines TD (Eds.), 2002. *New Atlas of the British and Irish Flora*. Oxford
- Stewart A, Pearman DA & Preston CD, 1994. *Scarce Plants in Britain*. JNCC