

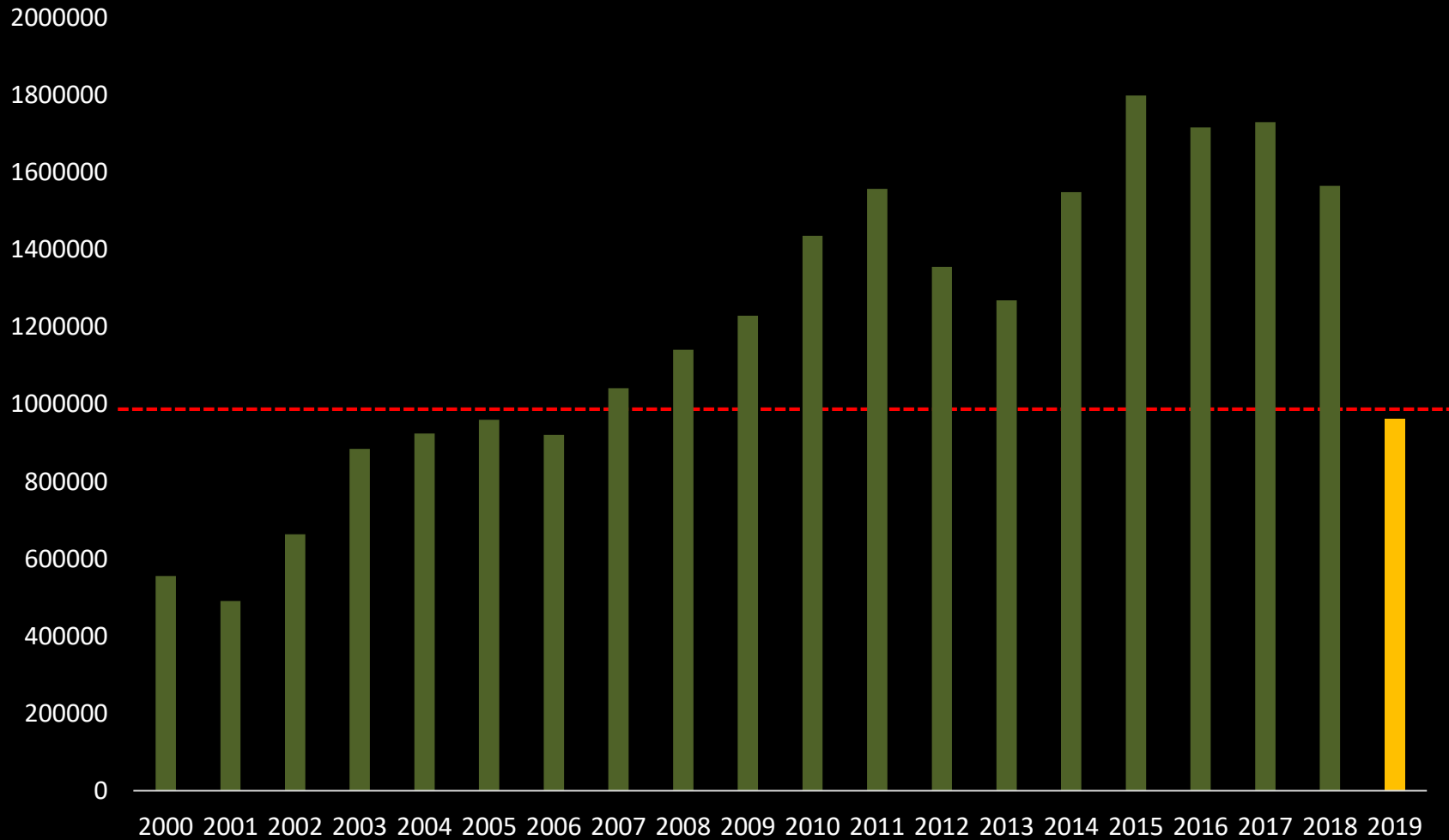
Atlas 2020 – you’ve (almost) made it!

Dr Peter Stroh



**Botanical Society
of Britain & Ireland**

Number of records (GB & Ireland) per year (2000-2019)



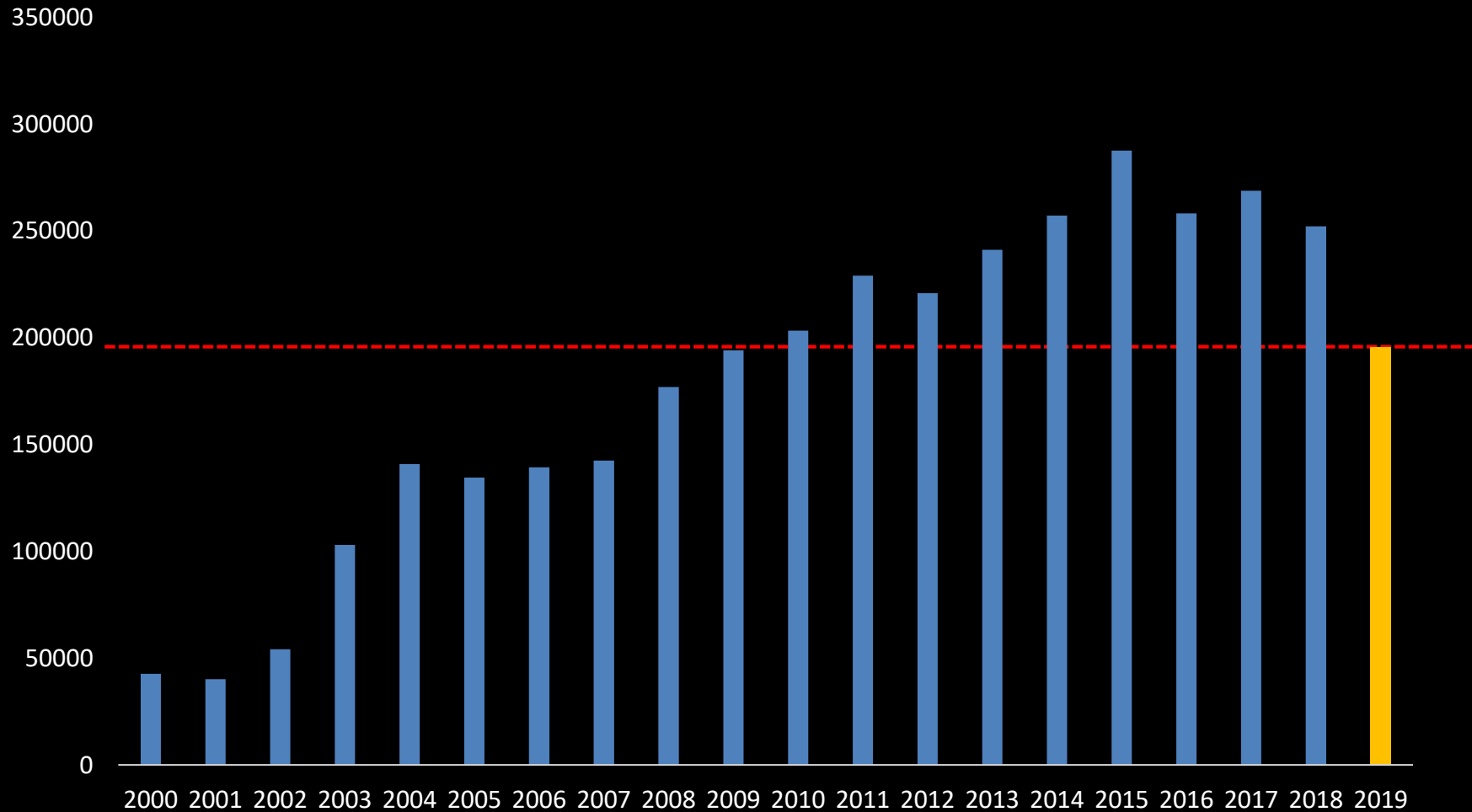
Total number of records
(excl. duplicates) 2000-2019

23,755,497

Total number of records
(excl. duplicates) 1987-1999

8,010,417

Number of records (Scotland) per year (2000-2019)



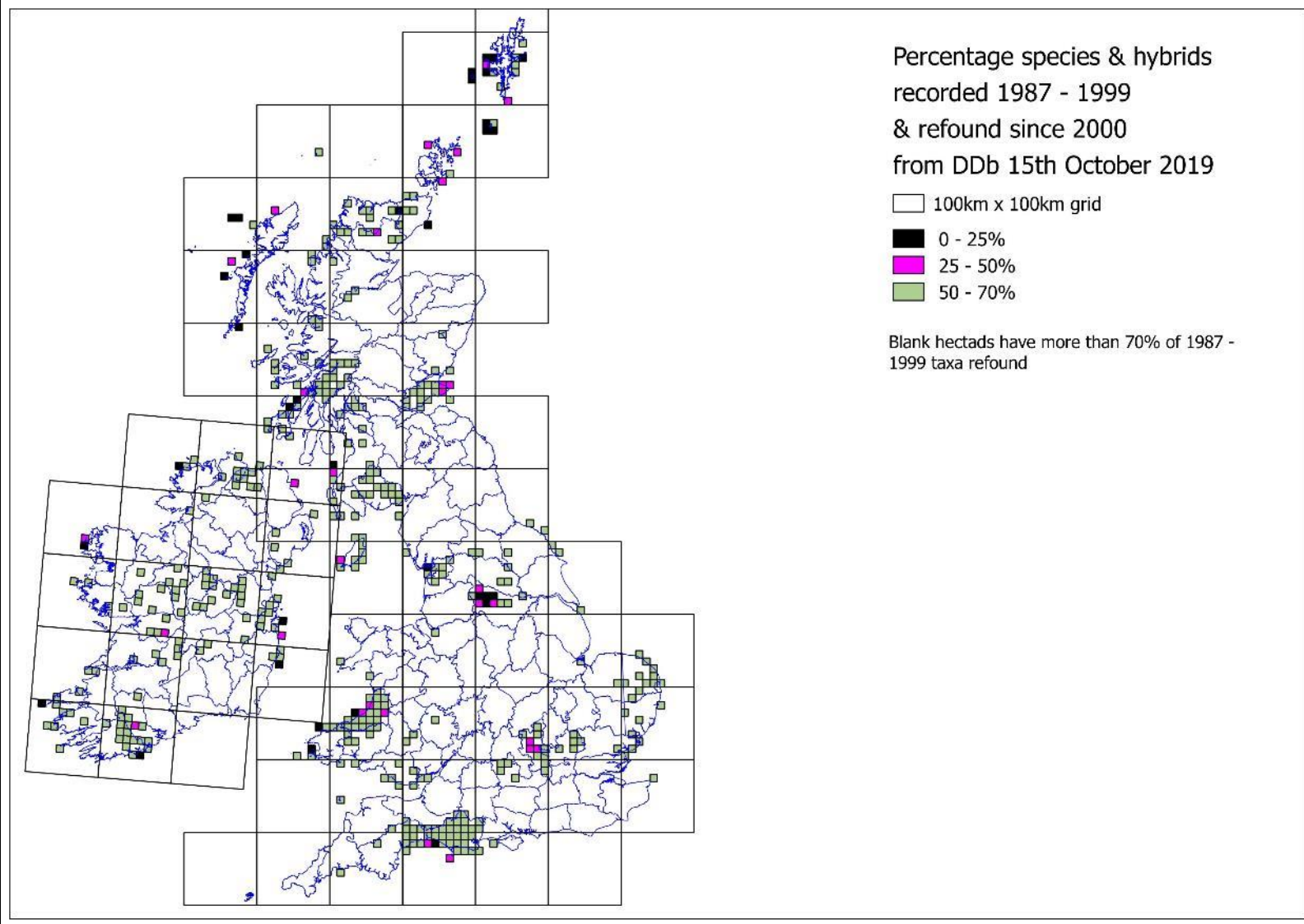
Total number of records
(Scotland) excl. duplicates
2000-2019

3,386,801

Total number of records
(Scotland) excl. duplicates
1987-1999

1,374,725

Geographic coverage (raw)



**Solely refinds – not new
taxa**

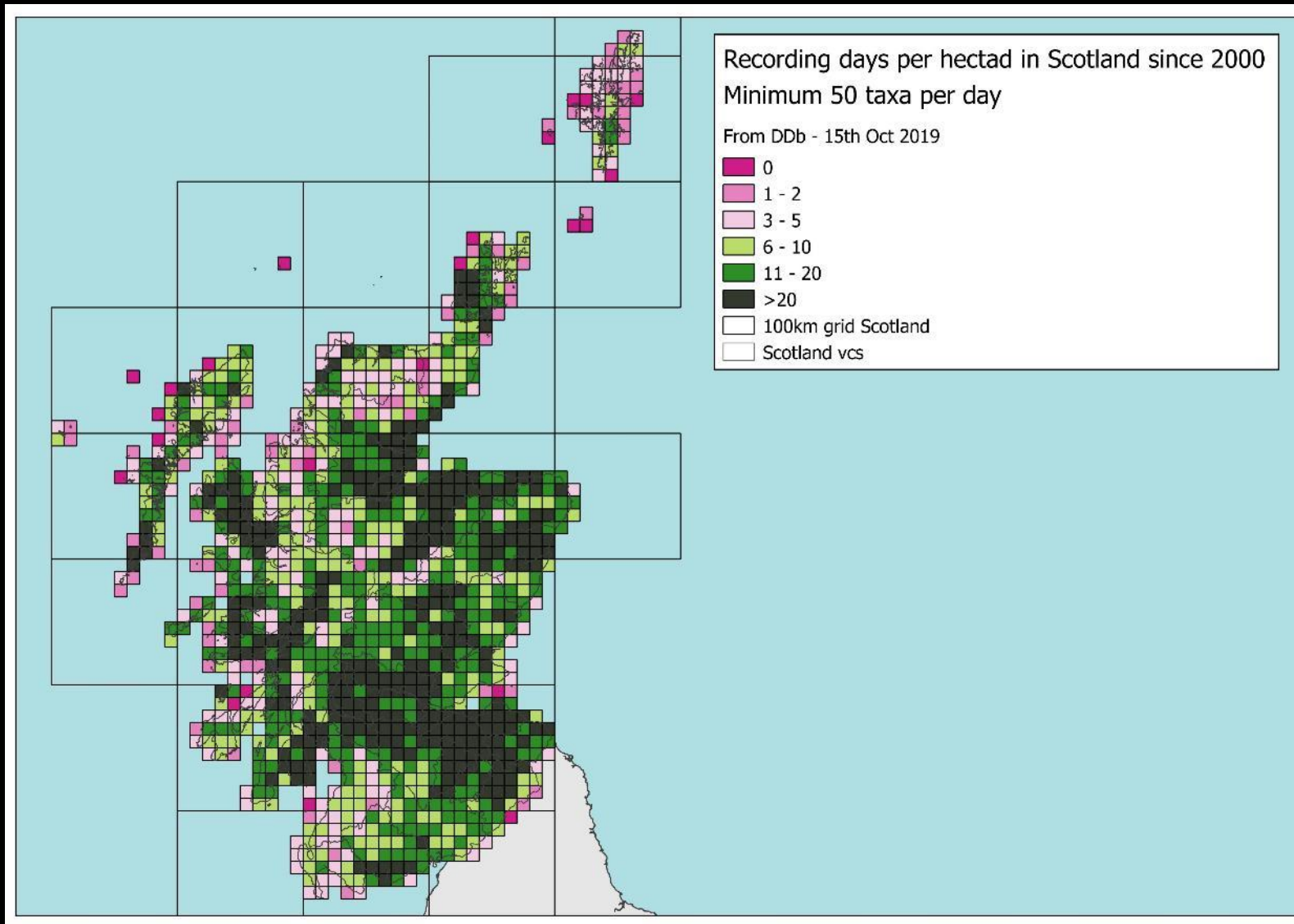
Very few <50%

**Ca 100k records submitted
for Scotland after this map
was created**

**Records still to come in
(e.g. 50k from Dorset
transferred a day after this
map was drawn)**

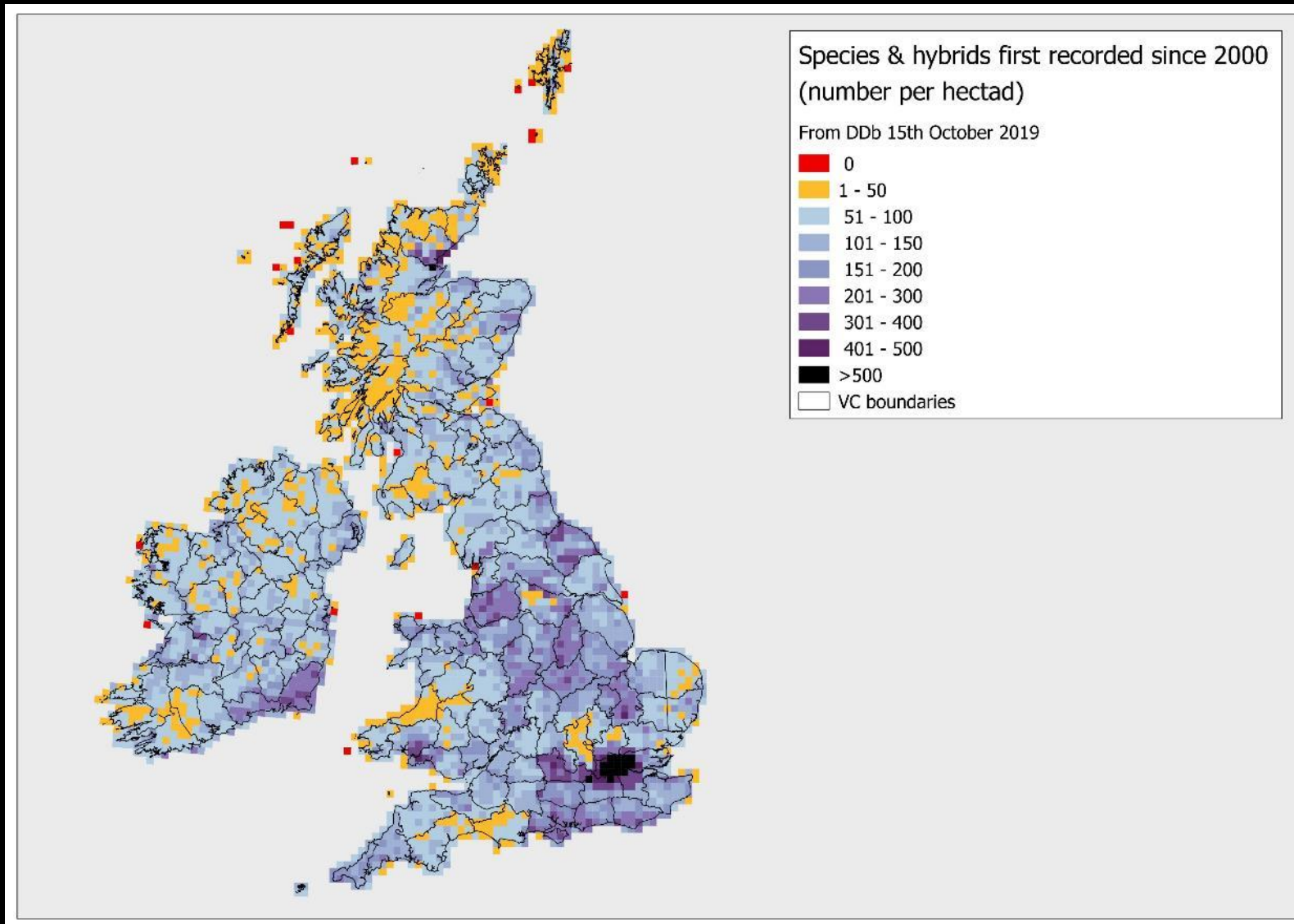
**Many of the large chunks
of 'green' = Flora
published early 2000s**

Geographic coverage (effort)



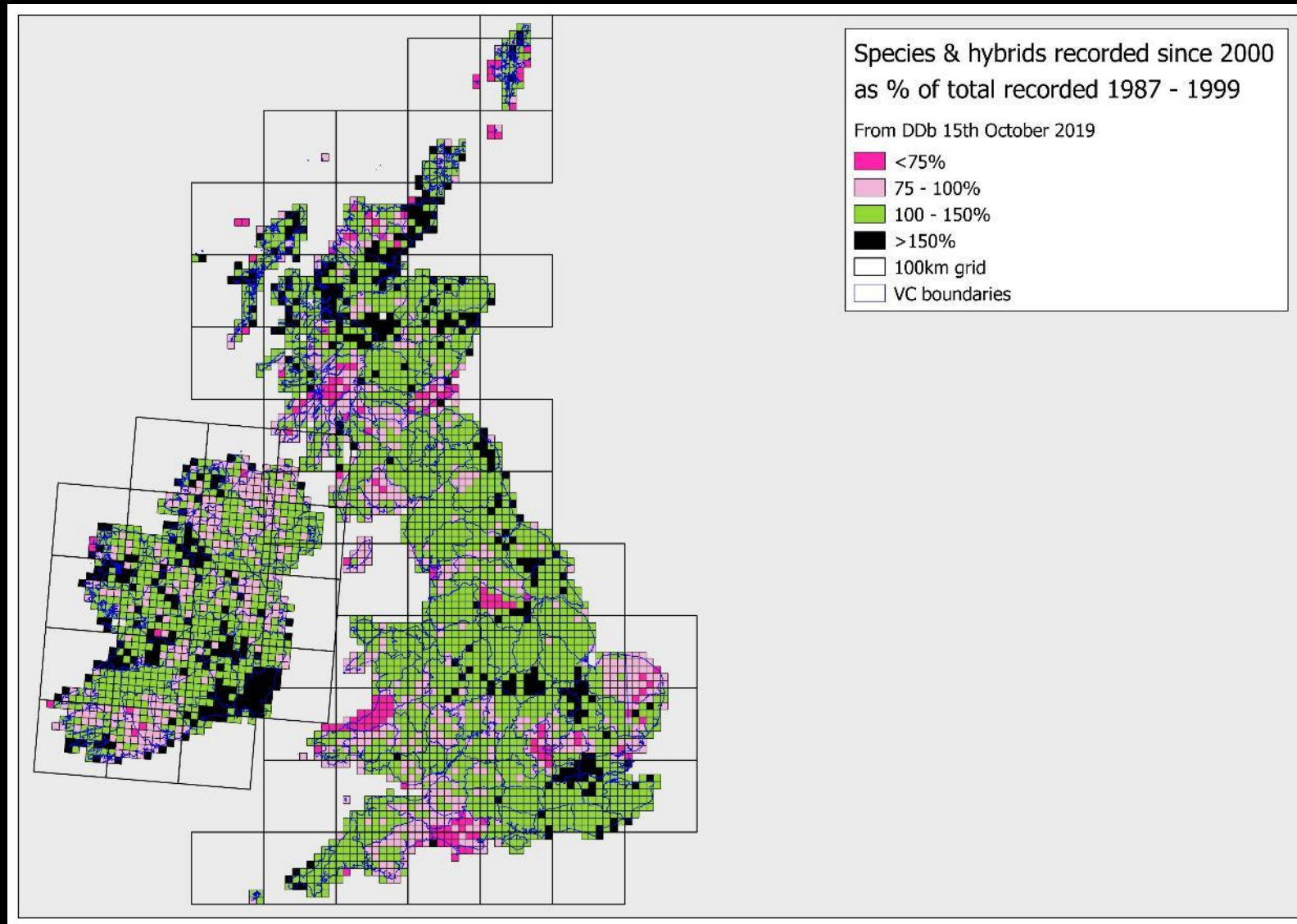
- Many '0' hectads are coastal/mostly in the sea, or are small, relatively inaccessible islands
- Light magenta squares (3-5) often reflect terrain/number of botanists available, etc.
- Many 2019 records still to come in
- Shows enormous effort!

Geographic coverage (new taxa)



- All hectads, apart from a few with very little land, have new taxa recorded post 1999
- Many yellow hectads comprise almost exclusively upland/semi-natural habitats
- Shows change/dynamism, and better recording of aliens
- Again, shows enormous effort made by volunteers

Geographic coverage (% of total)



Huge tracts of GB and Ireland **have more taxa recorded post-1999 than in the date class 1987 - 1999**, and there are quite a few hectads with >150% of that total recorded post-1999

The final year: validation

- Numerous emails/notes/guidance generated
- **Deadline for the submission of county data by VCRs is December 31st 2019**
- **Deadline for the validation of records in the DDb is April 2020**
- The majority of 'priority records' to check are fine!
- Validation for the **fixed atlas dataset** will continue until the end of 2020
- NR/NS taxa and GB threatened have had a first 'clean'
- We will be asking for help for certain taxa/groups in 2020, and will be also contacting VCRs with questions as they arise

What will the atlas look like?

Three main strands:

- **Online atlas** (staff + CEH)
- **Summary Report**, to include **GB** (staff) and concise **Country** summaries (vols)
- **Published book** (vols)



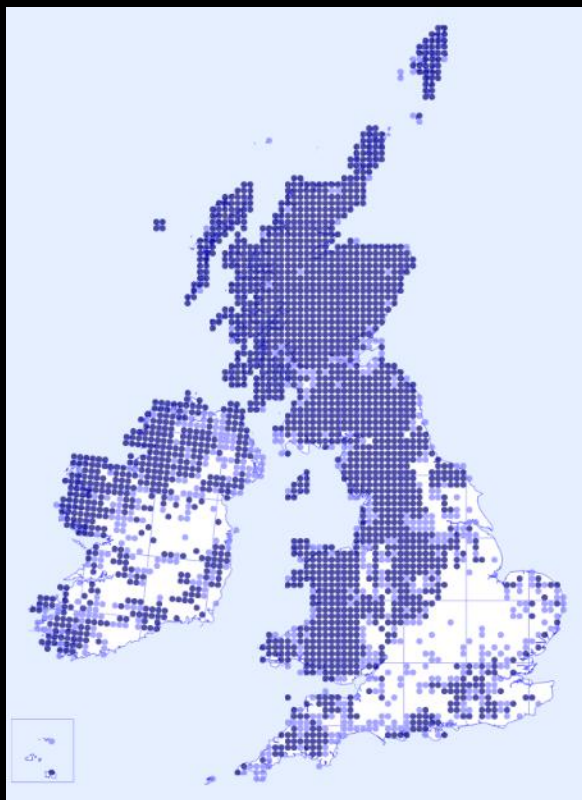
What will the atlas look like?

Online atlas (eAtlas)

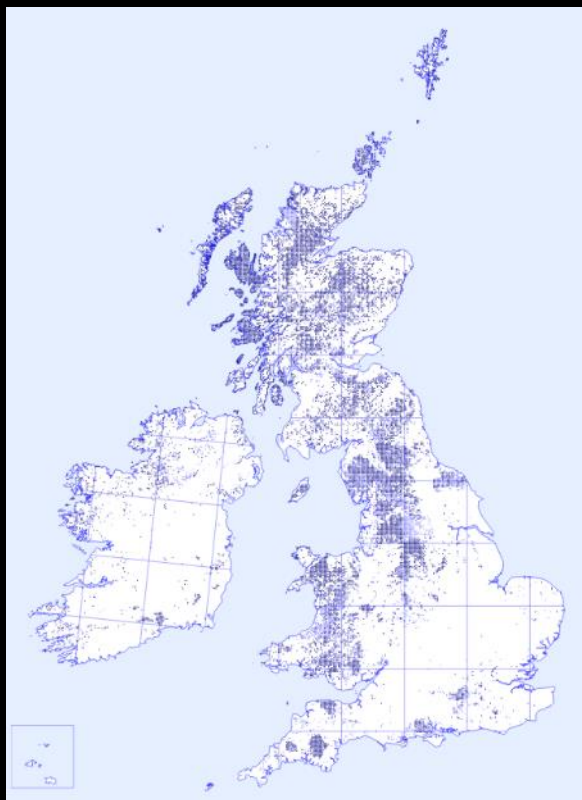
- **Online distribution maps** (fixed for the atlas period)
- **Multiple maps** for all species
- **Updated captions** and **new captions**
- **Metrics** e.g. change; lowland/upland split
- **Links** to online accounts, ecological information, photographs, *Red Data Book*, *Hybrid Flora* and *Scarce Plants* accounts, *Threatened Plants in GB and Ireland*, *Grassland plants of GB & Irish lowlands*, etc.



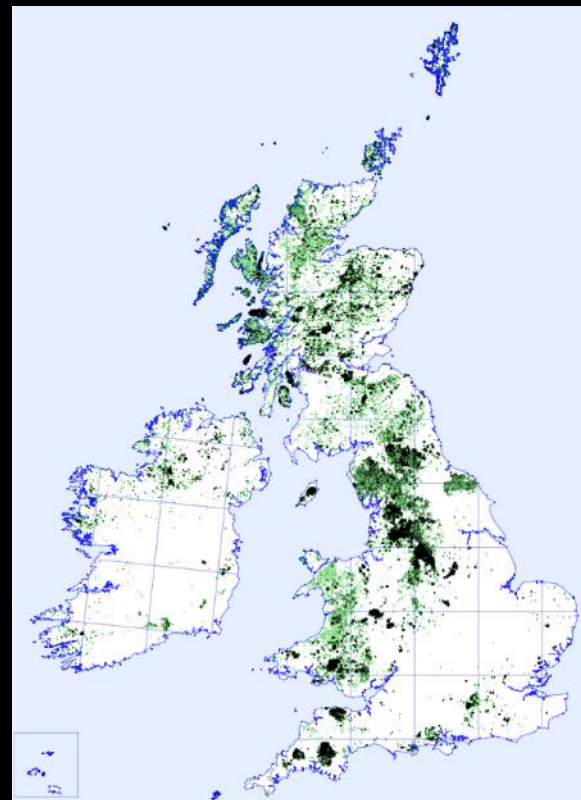
Nardus stricta (Mat-grass)



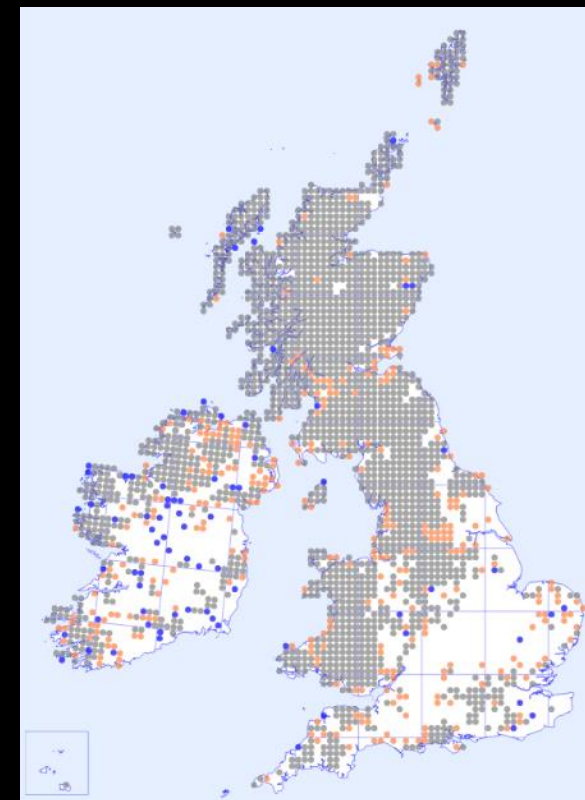
Hectad pre-post 2000



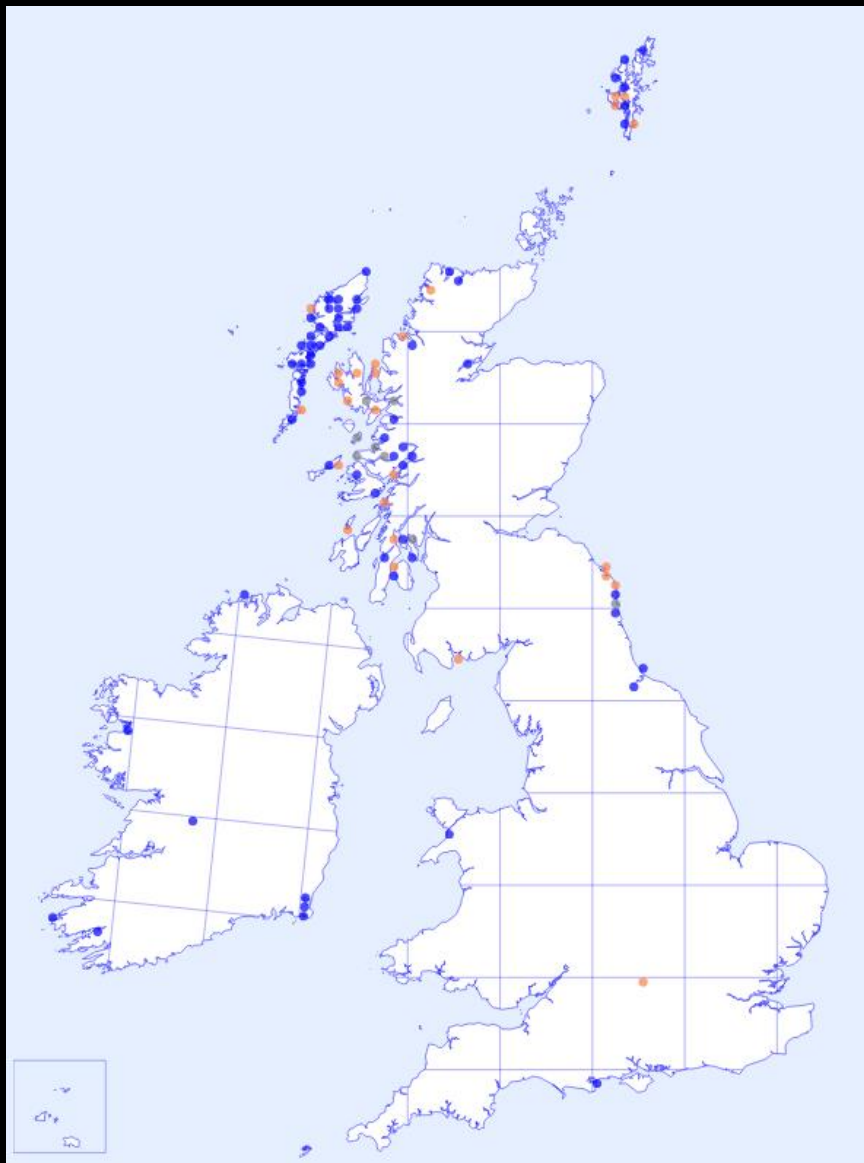
Tetrad pre-post 2000



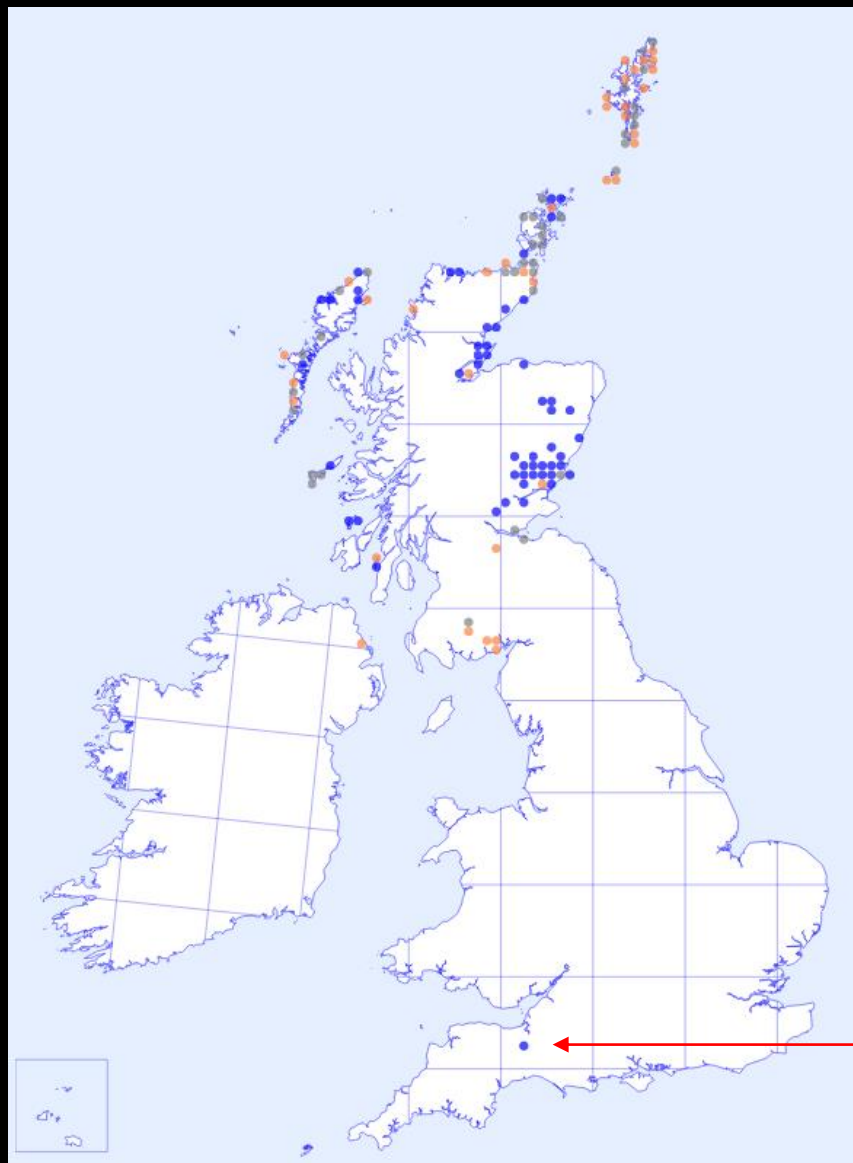
Tetrad frequency within
hectad



Hectad change since 1987-99

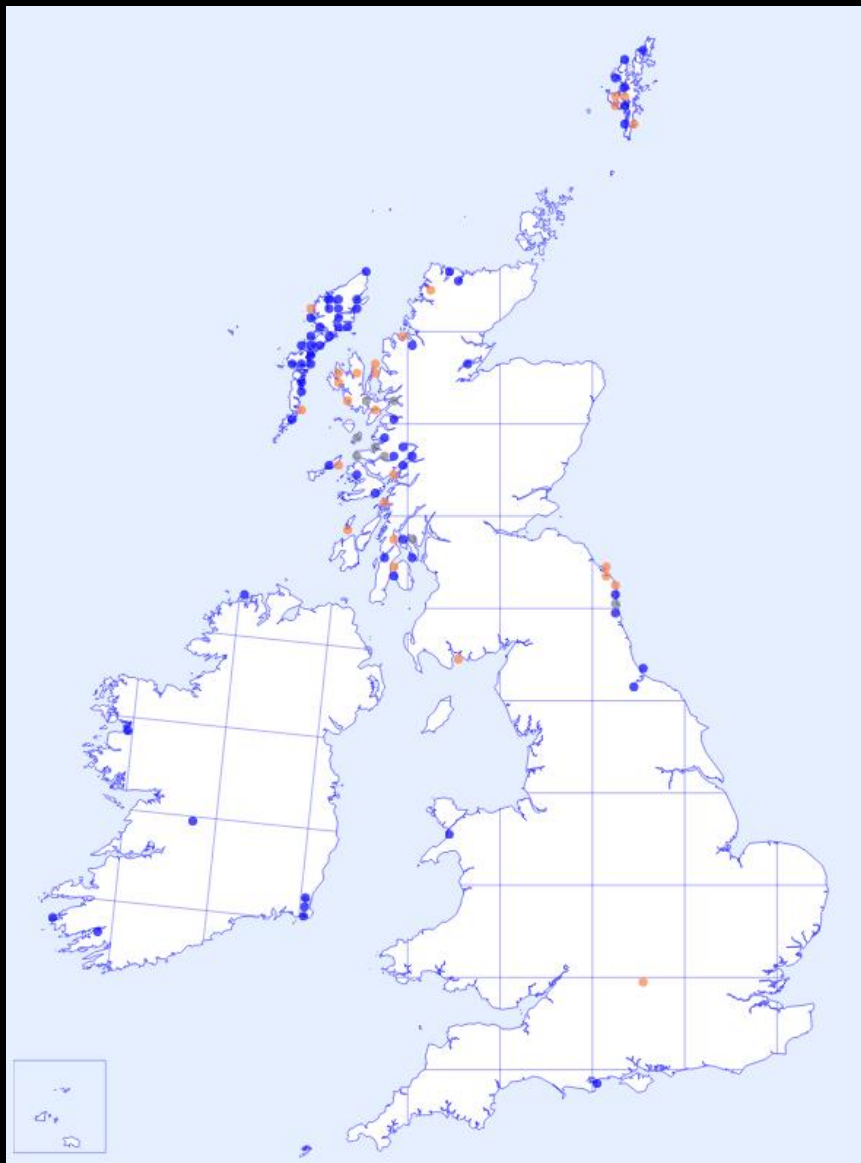


Atriplex praecox (Early Orache)

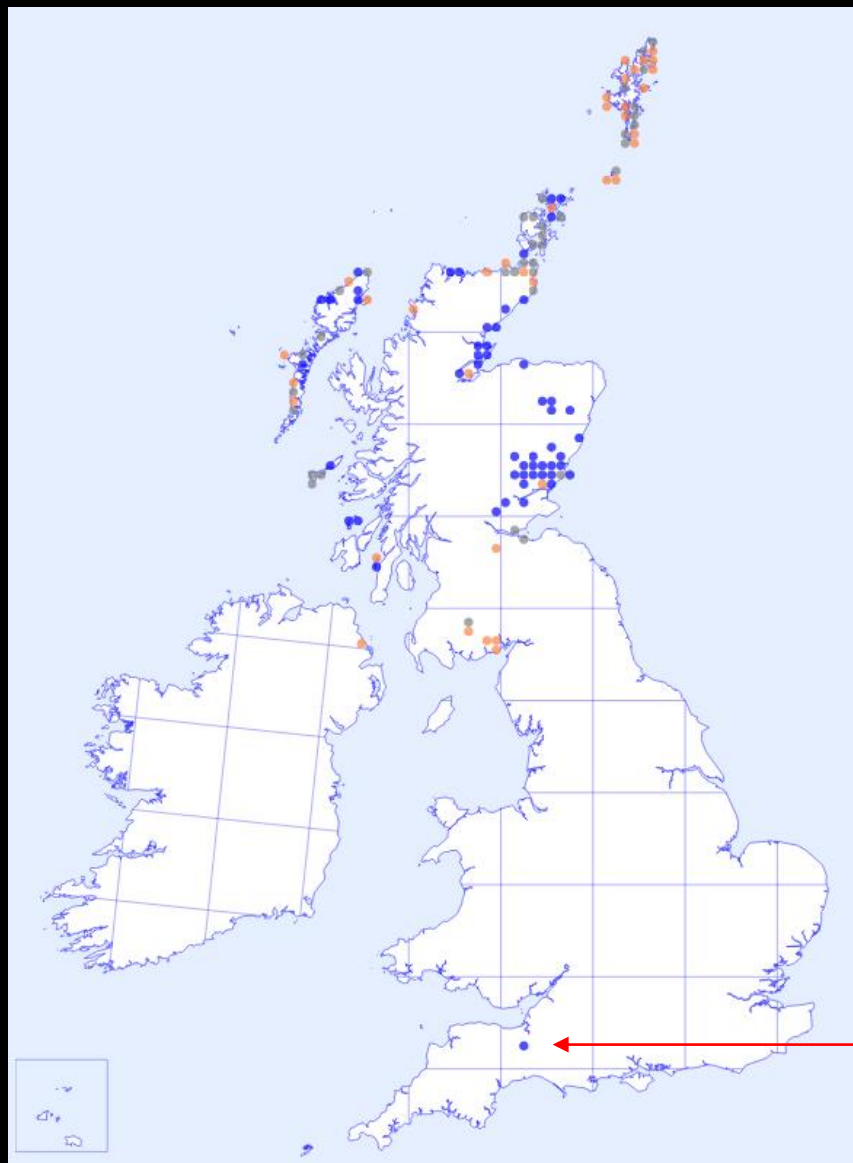


Polygonum boreale (Northern Knotgrass)

- = unchanged 1987-2018
- = not recorded post-1999
- = new post-1999



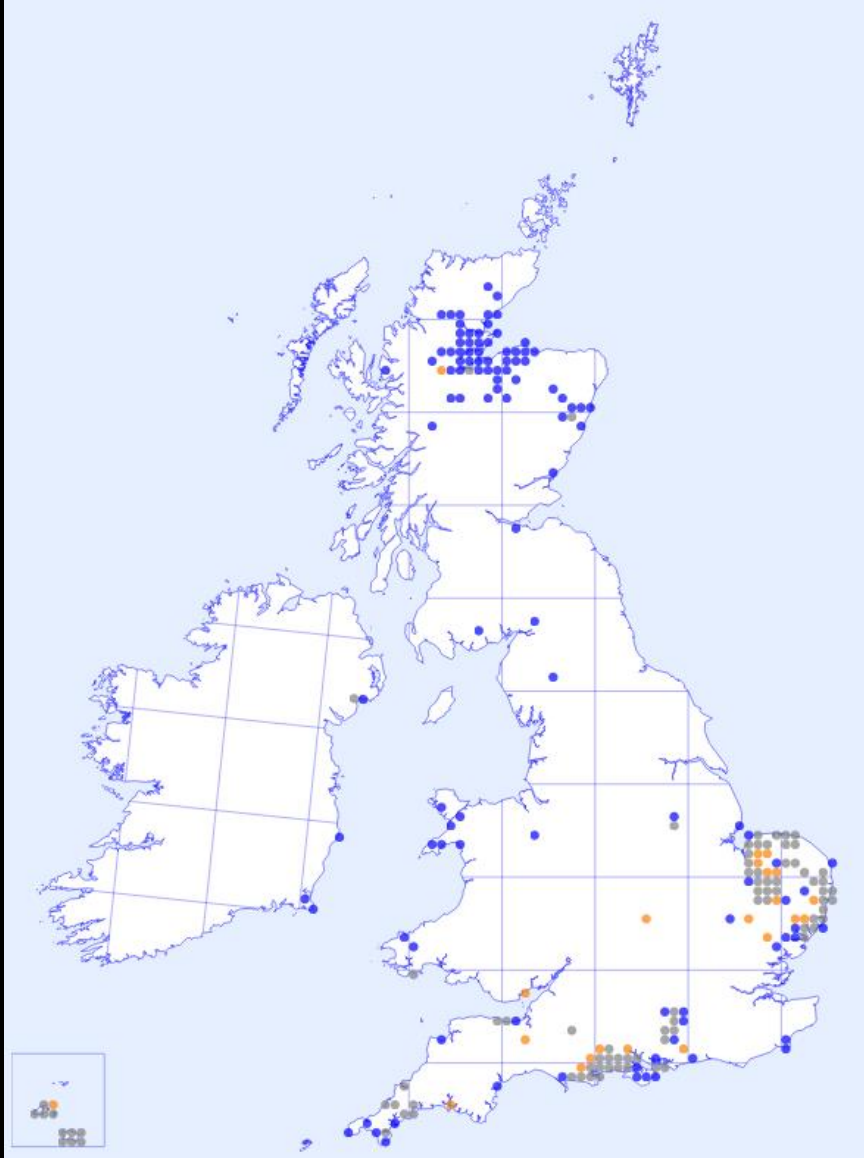
Atriplex praecox (Early Orache)



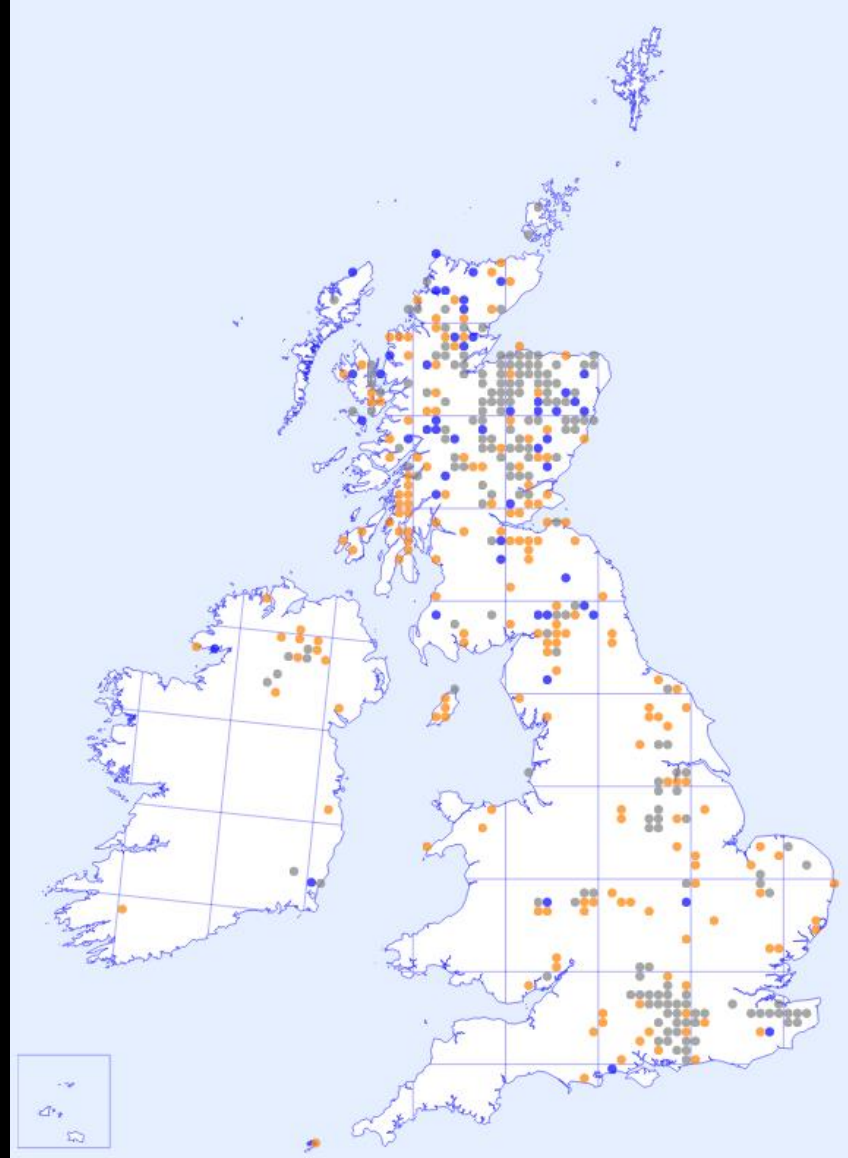
Polygonum boreale (Northern Knotgrass)

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!

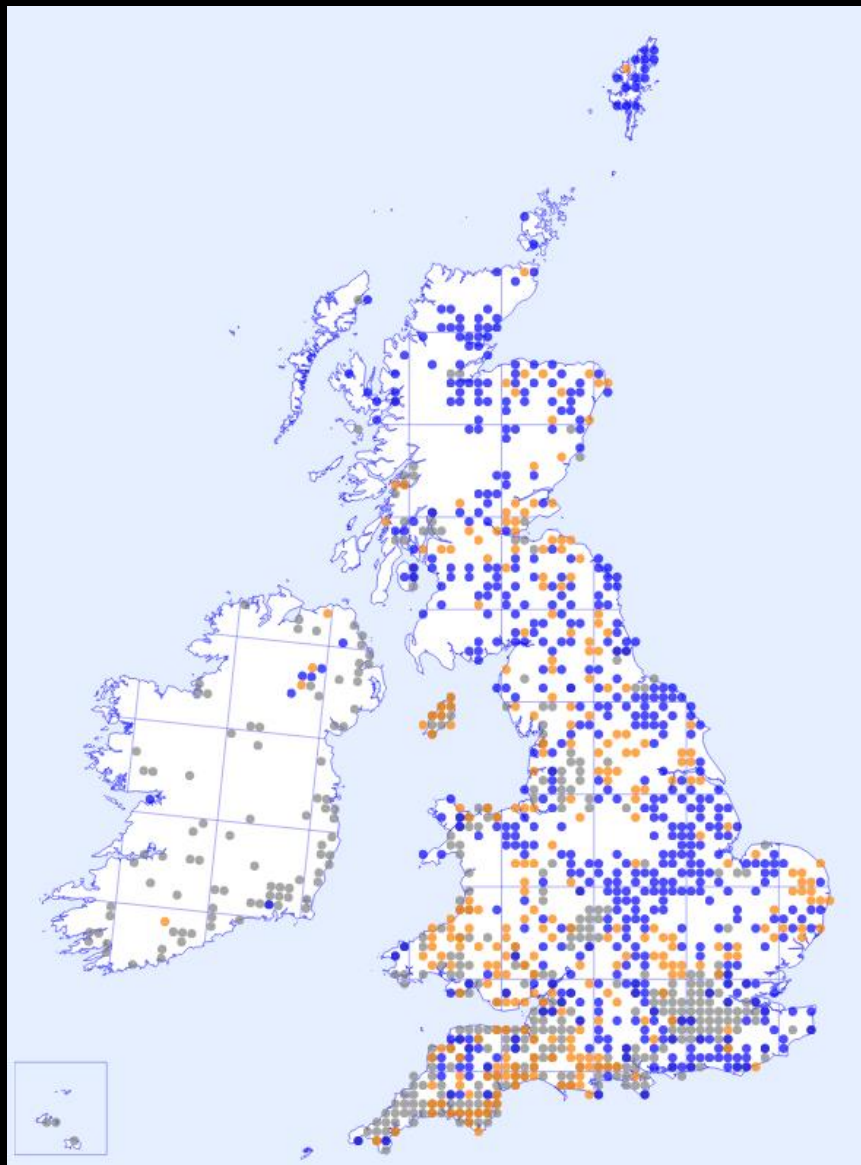


Crassula tillea (Mossy Stonecrop)

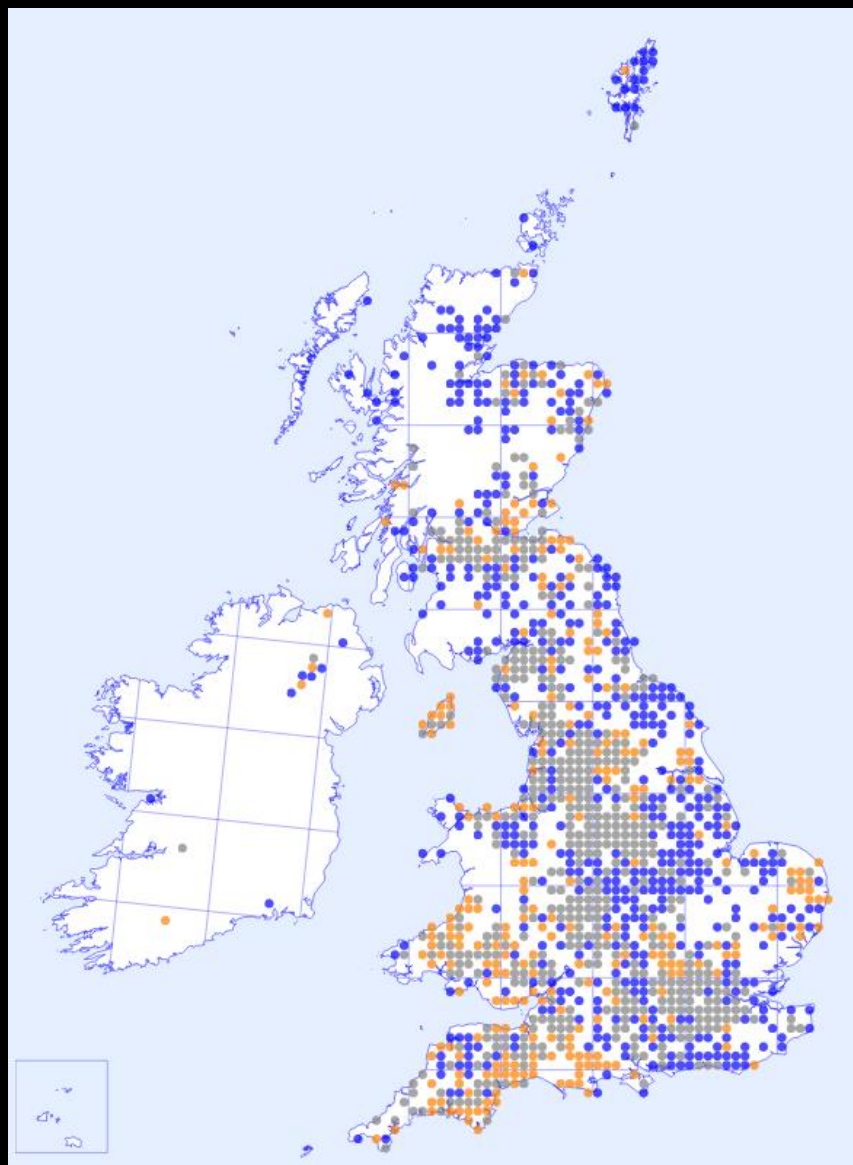


Gnaphalium sylvaticum (Heath Cudweed)

- = unchanged 1987-2018
- = not recorded post-1999
- = new post-1999



Lycesteria formosa (Himalayan Honeysuckle)



Centaurea montana (Perennial Cornflower)

- = unchanged 1987-2018
- = not recorded post-1999
- = new post-1999

What will the atlas look like?

Summary Report (max 20 pages, probably much less)

- Concise, colourful, and containing **key findings**
 - Why are plants important?
 - Methods/coverage/analyses
 - Overall changes - long/short term, increase/decrease
 - Major drivers - habitat loss/modification, climate change, eutrophication, conservation/habitat restoration
 - **Country summaries**
 - Looking ahead



What will the atlas look like?

Summary Report

- Targeted at Government Agencies, NGOs, academics, conservationists, etc.
- Launched at the same time as the eAtlas



What will the atlas look like?

Atlas Book

- Preparatory work was completed by BSBI staff, including chapter headings and a skeletal plan for each chapter
- In April 2018 Council & Trustees decided that the book will be coordinated, written and edited solely by volunteers, with no staff involvement
- Book to be completed by **2022**, ideally coinciding with the launch of the eAtlas and Summary Report



What will the atlas look like?

Book of Maps

- Probably just maps i.e. no captions (to save space)
- Maps at hectad precision
- Figures showing trend, lowland/upland split, perhaps Ellenberg range, main habitats....
- Led by Science staff
- Quotes from designer and printer
- **Pre-order**, and print run based on uptake



Online Atlas tasks: 2019 onwards

- Fixed **list of taxa** to map (completed)
- Coordinating the authorship, writing and editing of **species captions** (ongoing)
- Coordination of the **validation** of data (ongoing)
- **Checking maps** for publication (ongoing)
- **Analyses and interpretation of BSBI data**, undertaken by CEH. A number of metrics will be produced from the analyses, including a measure of change over time (1987 – 2019; 1930 – 2019), and change split into upland and lowland (2020 onwards)
- Design of **eAtlas content**, maps and metrics (ongoing)
- **Testing of eAtlas** (late 2021 – with luck!)

VALIDATION

Any questions, please ask

**Thank you for your time, expertise and all-round
brilliance!**

