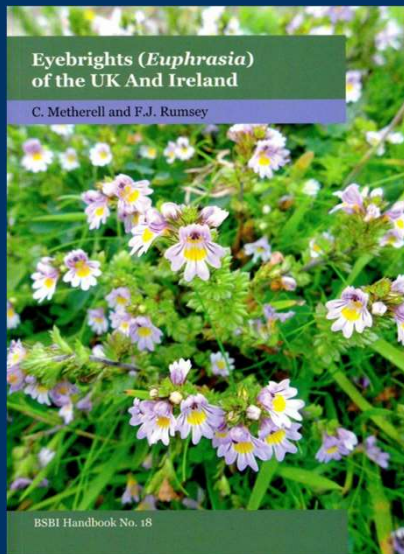


Forthcoming Developments in Euphrasia



The recently published handbook was always intended to reflect the current status quo. It did of course highlight where taxonomic gaps and difficulties needed sorting out.

A taxonomic revision of *Euphrasia* in Europe

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This revision is based on work done in preparing an account of *Euphrasia* L. (Scrophulariaceae) for *Flora Europaea*, and uses the definition of Europe adopted there, but the two perennial species from the Azores are omitted. The remaining 44 species mentioned in *Flora Europaea* are treated, as well as the 3 mentioned in observations and an additional one, making a total of 48. The species and infra-specific taxa receive extended descriptions according to a consistent scheme, and their distributions are given in the same manner as in *Flora Europaea*. Specimens other than types are not cited. The introduction deals with taxonomic principles and problems, including hybridity. Known chromosome numbers are included in a compendium of taxa. One new taxon is described, *E. subalpina* Pank. var. *subalpina* P. F. Yeo, two new combinations are made, *E. juncus* Wimmer subsp. *arguta* (Towns.) P. F. Yeo and *E. juncus* Wimmer subsp. *italica* (Werns.) P. F. Yeo. Some new lectotypes are designated, and the finding of several species in territories from which they are not recorded in *Flora Europaea*, is reported. A list of herbaria in which the author has revised all the European *Euphrasia* material is included.

KEY WORDS—Scrophulariaceae—*Euphrasia*—taxonomic revision.

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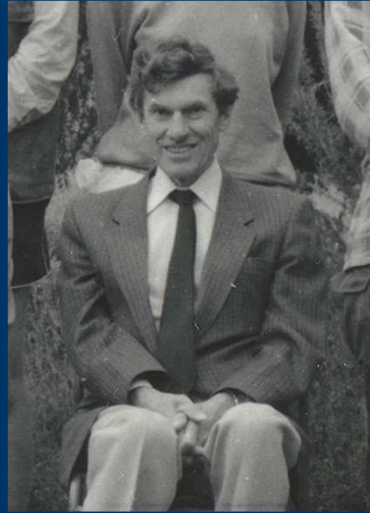
INTRODUCTION AND EXPLANATIONS

Before my account of *Euphrasia* L. (Scrophulariaceae) was published in *Flora Europaea* (Tutin, Heywood, Burges, Moore, Valentini, Walters & Webb, 1972) the last comprehensive treatment of European *Euphrasia* was Wettstein's (1896) world monograph. The *Flora Europaea* account was based on specimens in British herbaria, the Copenhagen University Museum herbarium and limited material loaned from several other herbaria. Visits to a number of West European

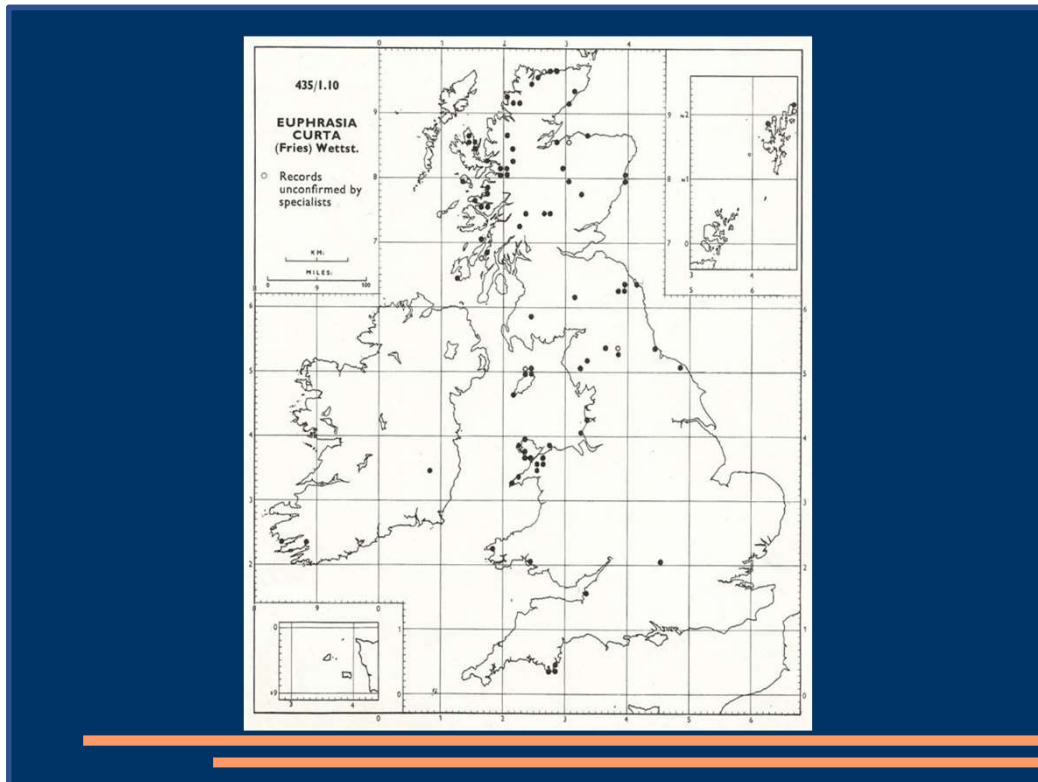
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Current taxonomy dates from Peter Yeo's 1978 paper.



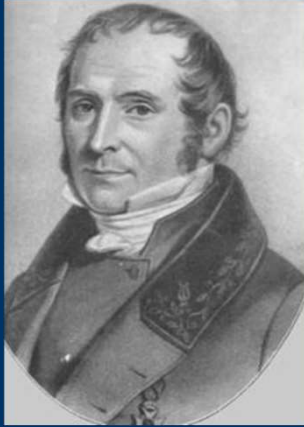
As an example of a typical problem, let's look at *Euphrasia curta*. This was in use from the late nineteenth century and good descriptions were published in Clapham, Tutin and Warburg. This is the species mapped in 1968.

Euphrasia curta (Fries) Wettst.



Here is an example of the species from Anglesey, taken by Hugh Short. It's possible to see the longish eglandular hairs which are typical of this taxon.

Euphrasia curta (Fries) Wet



The species was named by Fries back in the early 19th century. Unfortunately there is no type material but examples of plants which he sent to colleagues from the type location are available.



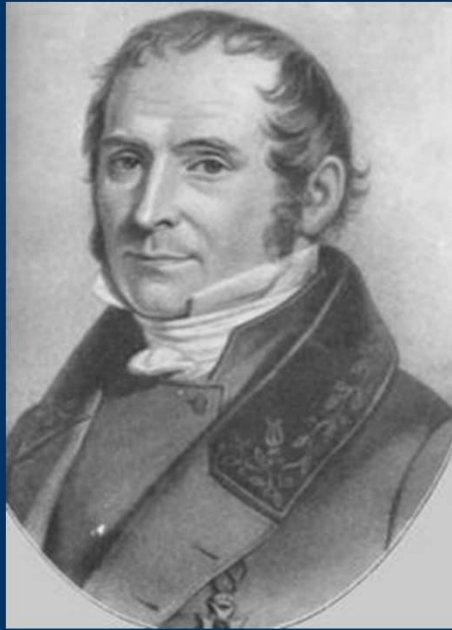
Euphrasia curta var
glabrescens (Pugsley) =
Euphrasia nemorosa
(Pers) Wallr.

Peter Yeo didn't like *Euphrasia curta* and proceeded to dismember it. He began by allocating *Euphrasia curta* var. *glabrescens* (yes that's right – a glabrous version of a plant defined by its hairiness!) to *E. nemorosa*. Probably correctly in most cases.



Euphrasia ostenfeldii
(Pugsley) Yeo

He then carved out a new species
Euphrasia ostenfeldii, still recognised
today.

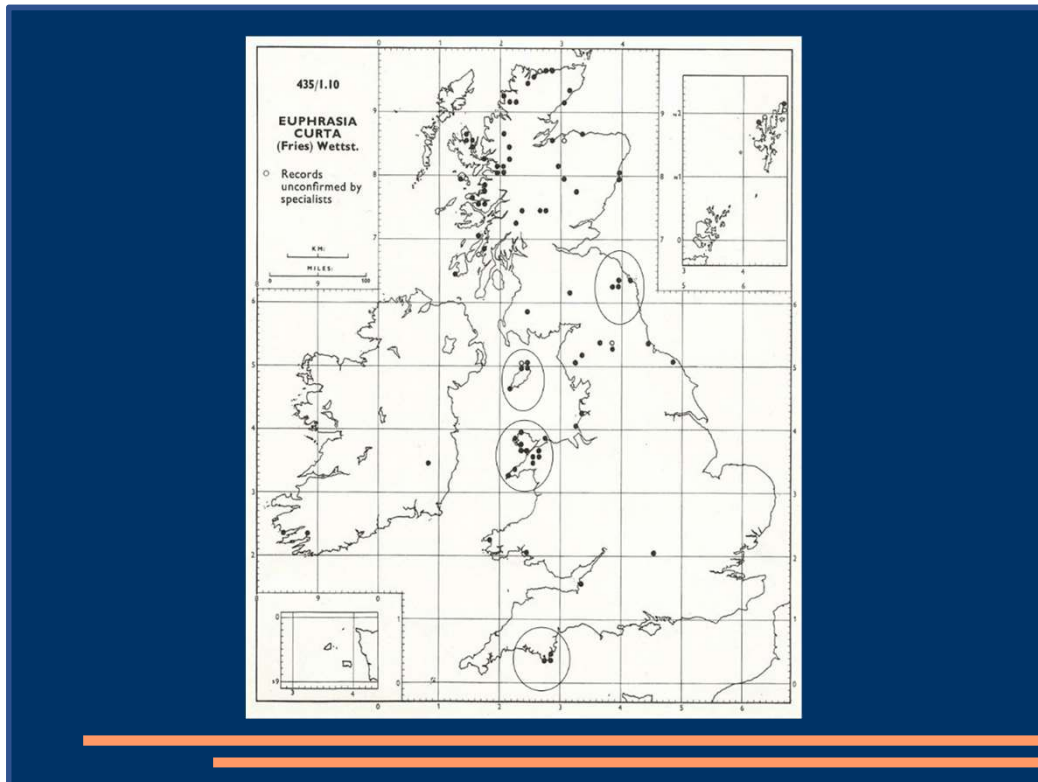


*Dwarf hairy forms of
Euphrasia nemorosa*



That left a group of hairy plants, like the ones shown, which he failed to deal with. He described Fries' original material as dwarf, hairy forms of *Euphrasia*. Not these then.





Back to the 1968 map. The areas where these un-named hairy plants occur are marked (some within the N. Wales group are in fact *E. ostenfeldii*). They are easily recognisable and clearly need taxonomic recognition.

Just an example of the current ongoing work on the genus in the UK.