



Polygala vulgaris



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Species information

i **Common name**
Milkwort

Latin name
Polygala vulgaris

Category
Wildflowers

Statistics
Height: up to 30cm

 **Conservation status**
Common.

About

Common Milkwort is a low-growing, sometimes trailing flower of grasslands, particularly those of chalky soils. It blooms from May to September, the delicate flowers appearing in a variety of colours from dark-blue, through pink to white.

How to identify

Common Milkwort has narrow and pointed leaves that grow alternately up the stem. Its similar and close relative, Heath Milkwort, has leaves that are opposite each other. The small flowers appear in loose clusters at the end of the stem.

Widespread.

Habitats



When to find it



How can people help

The Wildlife Trusts manage many grassland habitats for the benefit of all kinds of wildlife. Careful grazing with traditional breeds, hay-cutting at the right time and scrub clearance are just some of the ways these fragile habitats are kept in good condition - supporting wildflowers like Common Milkwort and, in turn, invertebrates and the larger animals that prey on them. By volunteering for your local Trust you can help too, and you'll make new friends and learn new skills along the way.

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