Report on *Stachys germanica* (Downy Woundwort) Stony Field (location confidential) 2023/2024

29 August 2022

Thirty-three seedlings were found, 22 on the right-hand side of the access track and 11 on the other side. As they were difficult to spot in amongst the disturbed vegetation, we may not have found all of them and more may germinate in the coming months. Hopefully some of these will produce flowering stems next year. No flowering plants were found. It seems that the two rosettes we found last year had not survived. Downy Woundwort was last seen flowering in this site was in 2015 when there was a fantastic showing with 177 flowering stems (119 on the left of the track across the clearing and 58 on the right).

Management: A tine cultivator had been used in early spring to disturb the ground in a strip the whole length of one side of the clearing in which the Downy Woundwort grows.



21 August 2023

There were 52 flowering spikes, all growing strongly in the competing sward! They were located on both sides of the incoming path, on the inner side of the field (closest to point of access).



24 February 2024

The sward had been cut. No seedlings/rosettes were found.



4 August 2024

Unfortunately, no flowering spikes or rosettes were detected. The land manager will cut and collect, and cultivate this site in the autumn. This will hopefully allow seed in the seedbank to germinate and establish to flower in 2026 (the plant is biennial).



Genny Early for the Wychwood Flora Group

Copies to:

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