

Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria majalis*)

**Areas and status:** Scattered throughout most of Britain, N to Central Scotland. Naturalised in many places.

**Woodland type:** Lowland Broadleaved Woodland, Upland Broadleaved Woodland, Scrub

**Preferred habitat niches:** Dry woods, scrub and hedgebanks usually on base rich soil. Most frequent in ashwoods in N and W Britain but also occurs in ancient woods on sandy boulder clay over chalk in East Anglia and in grikes in limestone pavement. Likes semi-shade and rarely in full light.

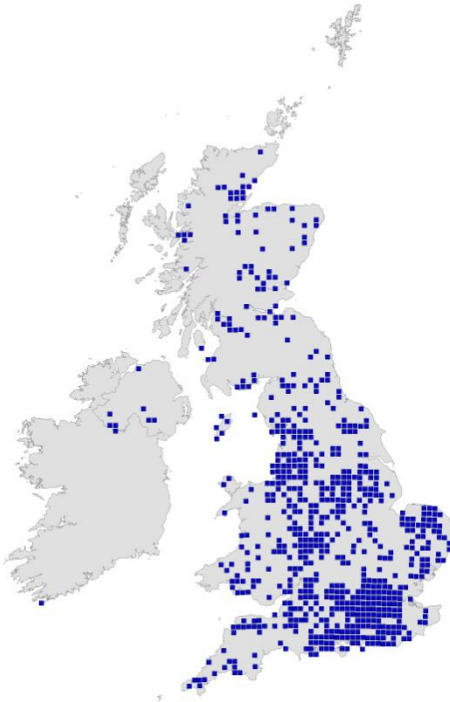


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Potential habitat management issues associated with decline:

- Population is probably stable but native distribution is obscured by naturalized plants
- Earlier decline due to loss of woodland habitat?
- Ash die-back disease (*Chalara fraxinea*) may have a negative impact on this plant

Potential habitat management solutions:	
Prescription	Comment
Thinning dense canopy	Aim to maintain semi-shade (<25% - 35% canopy gap)
Coppice	Only if reintroducing former coppicing and on long rotations
Maintain free draining soils	Manage drainage to prevent waterlogging
Maintain undisturbed soils	
Manage public access	If abundant enough, create opportunities for public access to this iconic plant through linked strategic paths



■ Distribution 1987-2016 (BSBI)