

## Herb Paris (*Paris quadrifolia*)

**Areas and status:** Widespread but scattered in Britain, absent from western Wales, SW England and SW Scotland

**Woodland type:** Lowland Broadleaved Woodland

**Preferred habitat niches:** Moist woods on calcareous or base-rich soils. Likes light and open stages of coppice cycle but can persist in deep shade. Clearfell and Coppice. Reasonably good ancient woodland indicator (also in grikes in limestone pavement). Can spread into more recent woodland which is adjacent to ancient woodland.

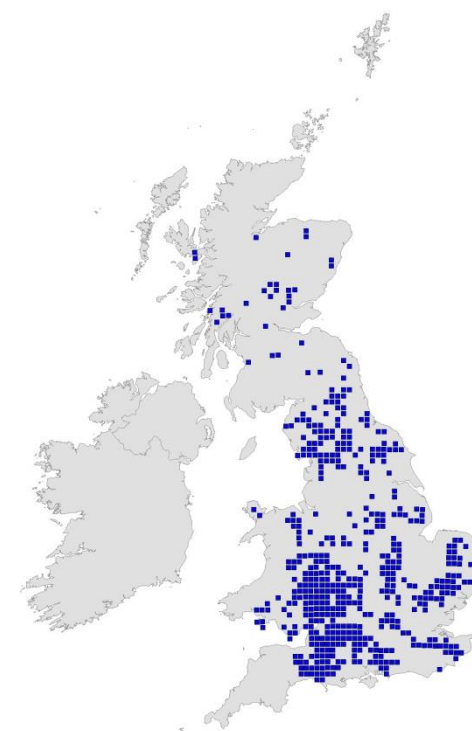
### Potential habitat management issues associated with decline:

- Loss of woodland habitat
- Cessation of coppicing?
- Soils drying out

Potential habitat management solutions:	
Prescription	Comment
Thinning	Thin to allow light in (up to 30% light when in full leaf)
Coppice	Maintain or re-introduce former coppice cycles. If this encourages Bramble ( <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> ), cut without use of heavy machinery in late August to September
Small group felling	To allow more light to reach woodland floor but protect existing populations (see comment re Bramble above)
Create/maintain glades	Maintain glades and open areas
Maintain undisturbed soils	It is important that soils are not compacted
Keep soils moist but not waterlogged	Maintain nearby watercourse flow rates
Woodland creation	Allow secondary regeneration adjacent to woods with Herb Paris, or plant especially with Hazel ( <i>Corylus avellana</i> ).



©Andrew Gagg, Plantlife



■ Distribution 1987-2016 (BSBI)