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A HARVEST OF COLOUR

SAVING CORNFIELD FLOWERS IN NORTH EAST YORKSHIRE

Ian Carstairs

The Cornfield Flowers Project is a unique initiative to secure the future of the threatened plants of arable fields. It is managed by a partnership between the Carstairs Countryside Trust, the Ryedale Folk Museum and North York Moors National Park Authority. To date, through the efforts of a range of volunteers, the Project has safeguarded and multiplied a range of arable plants and it has a target of extending the scheme to up to 50 other locations in North East Yorkshire.



Ian Carstairs is chairman of the Cornfield Flowers Project Steering Group, a former chairman of the Heritage Lottery Fund for Yorkshire and the Humber, and former Deputy Chairman of the North York Moors National Park Authority. He is the founding trustee of the Carstairs Countryside Trust and was appointed an MBE for services to conservation in 1995.



Large-flowered hemp-nettle.



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THE GALLERY – A HARVEST OF COLOUR



Example of a double page spread.



Above: Painstaking work – Managing the nursery is all done by hand, with a labour-intensity reminiscent of farming in the medieval fields.

Left: Nan Sykes monitors the sole corn buttercup plant known from Yorkshire.



Horse-power – Until the twentieth century, animals provided the main motive power for ploughing the fields.



Scarlet pimpernel – Lives up to its name of 'poor man's weatherglass' by only opening in bright light.



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