

**European Community Directive  
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats  
and of Wild Fauna and Flora  
(92/43/EEC)**


**Second Report by the United Kingdom under  
Article 17  
on the implementation of the Directive  
from January 2001 to December 2006**

**Conservation status assessment for  
Species:  
S1014 - *Vertigo angustior* - Narrow-mouthed  
whorl snail**

The information in this assessment corresponds to the "species fact sheet" submitted by the UK to the European Union in February 2008 (second and final submission). Please note that this is a section of the UK's report. For the complete report visit <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/article17>

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**Species Name: *Vertigo angustior***

<b>1. National level</b>	
Species Code	S1014
Member State	United Kingdom
Biogeographic regions concerned within the Member state	ATL
1.1 Range map	

## 1.2 Distribution map



## 2. Biogeographic level

### 2.1 Biogeographic region

ATL

### 2.2 Published sources and/or websites

CAMERON, R.A.D. 2003. Life-cycles, molluscan and botanical associations of *Vertigo angustior* and *Vertigo geyeri* (Gastropoda, Pulmonata: Vertiginidae). *Heldia*, 5: 95-110.

CAMERON, R.A.D. et al. 2003. Species Accounts for snails of the genus *Vertigo* listed in Annex II of the Habitats Directive: *V. angustior*, *V. genesii*, *V. geyeri* and *V. moulinsiana* (Gastropoda, Pulmonata: Vertiginidae). *Heldia*, 5: 151-170.

COYLE, S.P. 1996. The distribution and ecology of the snail *Vertigo angustior* at Gait Barrows NNR, Lancashire. Unpublished B.Sc. dissertation, University of Lancaster.

FOWLES, A.P. 1998. Implementing the Habitats Directive: *Vertigo angustior* Jeffreys in Wales. In: *Molluscan conservation: a strategy for the*

	<p>21st Century. Journal of Conchology. Special Publication No. 2. Eds. I.J. KILLEEN, M.B. SEDDON, &amp; A.M. HOLMES, pp. 179-190. Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland.</p> <p>KILLEEN, I.J. 1993. The distribution and ecology of the snail <i>Vertigo angustior</i> at Oxwich and Whiteford Burrows NNRs, Gower, South Wales. CCW Contract Science. 20. Countryside Council for Wales.</p> <p>KILLEEN, I.J. 1997. Survey for the terrestrial snail <i>Vertigo angustior</i> at three sites in England (Gait Barrows NNR, Flordon Common and Martlesham Creek). EN Research Report. 228. English Nature.</p> <p>KILLEEN, I.J. 1998. Surveys of the whorl snail <i>Vertigo angustior</i> in Cumbria &amp; North Lancashire. Unpublished report. English Nature.</p> <p>KILLEEN, I.J. 2001. Surveys of EU Habitats Directive <i>Vertigo</i> species in England: <i>Vertigo angustior</i> at Flordon Common SAC, Norfolk and Fritton Marshes pSSSI, Suffolk. English Nature Research Reports. 419. English Nature.</p> <p>KILLEEN, I.J. 2003. A review of EUHSD <i>Vertigo</i> species in England and Scotland (Gastropoda, Pulmonata: Vertiginidae). <i>Heldia</i>, 5: 73-84.</p> <p>KILLEEN, I.J. &amp; Colville, B. 2000. Survey for the whorl snail <i>Vertigo angustior</i> on the Solway Coast. Commissioned Reports. F99AC317. Scottish Natural Heritage.</p> <p>KILLEEN, I.J. &amp; Moorkens, E.A. 2004. Survey to determine the distribution of the narrow-mouthed whorl snail <i>Vertigo angustior</i> around the Blyth Estuary complex, Suffolk. Unpublished report. Environment Agency.</p> <p>SHARLAND, E. 2000. Autecology of <i>Vertigo angustior</i> and <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> in Wales. CCW Contract Science. 392. Countryside Council for Wales.</p> <p>Map Data Sources</p> <p>Mollusc (non-marine) data for Great Britain and Ireland; the Invertebrate Site Register – England) (via the NBN Gateway)</p> <p><i>Vertigo</i> spp dataset compiled by A. Fowles, Countryside Council for Wales (pers. comm.)</p>
<b>2.3 Range of species in the biogeographic region or marine region</b>	
2.3.1 Surface range of the species (sq km)	5969
2.3.2 Date of range determination	1990-2006
2.3.3 Quality of data concerning range	Good
2.3.4 Range trend	Unknown (X)
2.3.5 Range trend magnitude (%)	Unknown
2.3.6 Range trend period	1994-2006

2.3.7 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable			
<b>2.4 Population</b>				
2.4.1 Population size estimation	Minimum	54	Maximum	54
	Units	Other Occupied 1-km squares		
2.4.2 Date of population estimation	2006			
2.4.3 Method used for population estimation	2 - Extrapolation from surveys of part of the population			
2.4.4 Quality of population data	Moderate			
2.4.5 Population trend	Stable (=)			
2.4.6 Population trend magnitude (%)	Not applicable			
2.4.7 Population trend period	2002-2006			
2.4.8 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable			
2.4.9 Justification of % thresholds for trends (optional)	Not applicable			
2.4.10 Main pressures	140 - Grazing; 900 - Erosion; 950 - Biocenotic evolution;			
2.4.11 Threats	140 - Grazing; 900 - Erosion; 930 - Submersion; 950 - Biocenotic evolution;			
<b>2.5 Habitat for the species in the biogeographic region or marine region</b>				
2.5 Habitats for the species	<p><i>V. angustior</i> is found primarily in open, damp habitats on friable soils that are kept moist by shading from moderately tall herbaceous or grassy vegetation. Although it requires microhabitats with high humidity levels it is not tolerant of deep or prolonged inundation. Drought causes the snails to retreat to within the soil and they are generally absent from habitats that have dry substrates for long periods of the summer. The vegetation may be grazed by livestock, although over-grazing can be detrimental. The snails have an annual life-cycle and probably feed on micro-fungi growing on decaying plant material in the litter layer. In the British Isles it has been found in wet base-rich meadows, in coastal marshes, dune slacks and maritime turf, and in depressions within limestone pavement; several of these habitats are listed on Annex I of the Habitats Directive. In the UK the largest known populations are found around the margins of estuaries in east Anglia, where the species occupies mats of fescue and other fine-leaved grasses just above high water mark. Elsewhere in Europe calcareous fen is the species' most typical habitat. Because of its specific microhabitat requirements, the species is often restricted to a narrow zone around wetlands, only a few metres wide.</p>			
2.5.2 Area estimation (sq km)	Unknown			
2.5.3 Date of estimation	05/2007			
2.5.4 Quality of data	Poor			
2.5.5 Trend of the habitat	Stable (=)			
2.5.6 Trend period	1994-2006			
2.5.7 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable			
<b>2.6 Future prospects</b>				
2.6 Future prospects for the species	Good prospects_Species expected to survive and prosper			

<b>2.7 Complementary information</b>	
2.7.1 Favourable reference range (sq km)	5969
2.7.2 Favourable reference population	54
2.7.3 Suitable Habitat for the species	Unknown
2.7.4 Other relevant information	
<b>2.8 Conclusions</b> <i>(assessment of conservation status at end of reporting period)</i>	
(2.3) Range	(FV) - Favourable
(2.4) Population	(FV) - Favourable
(2.5) Habitat for the species	(FV) - Favourable
(2.6) Future prospects	(U1) - Inadequate
Overall assessment	(U1) - Inadequate