

**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:  
S1849 - *Ruscus aculeatus* - Butcher's broom**

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: *Ruscus aculeatus***

<b>1. National level</b>	
Species Code	S1849
Member State	United Kingdom
Biogeographic regions concerned within the Member state	ATL
1.1 Range map	 A map of the United Kingdom showing the distribution of <i>Ruscus aculeatus</i> . The distribution is indicated by grey shaded areas. The species is present in the south of England, the south coast of Wales, and scattered locations in the Scottish Highlands and the Shetland Islands. The map shows the outlines of the British Isles with the distribution areas filled in grey.



**2. Biogeographic level**

2.1 Biogeographic region      ATL

2.2 Published sources and/or websites      PRESTON, C.D., PEARMAN, D.A. & DINES, T.D. 2002. New Atlas of the British & Irish Flora. Oxford University Press.

Map Data Source

Vascular Plant Database, Botanical Society of the British Isles, via the Biological Records Centre.

**2.3 Range of species in the biogeographic region or marine region**

2.3.1 Surface range of the species (sq km)      105374

2.3.2 Date of range determination      1987-1999

2.3.3 Quality of data concerning range      Good

2.3.4 Range trend	Increasing (+)		
2.3.5 Range trend magnitude (%)	Unknown		
2.3.6 Range trend period	1994-2006		
2.3.7 Reasons for reported trend	3 - Direct human influence;		
<b>2.4 Population</b>			
2.4.1 Population size estimation	Minimum	622	Maximum
	Units	Other Occupied 10-km squares	
2.4.2 Date of population estimation	1987-1999		
2.4.3 Method used for population estimation	3 - From comprehensive inventory		
2.4.4 Quality of population data	Moderate		
2.4.5 Population trend	Increasing (+)		
2.4.6 Population trend magnitude (%)	Unknown		
2.4.7 Population trend period	1994-2006		
2.4.8 Reasons for reported trend	3 - Direct human influence;		
2.4.9 Justification of % thresholds for trends (optional)	Not applicable		
2.4.10 Main pressures	000 - None;		
2.4.11 Threats	000 - None;		
<b>2.5 Habitat for the species in the biogeographic region or marine region</b>			
2.5 Habitats for the species	Preston et al. (2002) describes this species as: "A dioecious, evergreen, rhizomatous shrub, found as a native in dry woods and hedgerows, and on cliffs and rocky ground near the sea. It is also naturalised in similar situations, and in churchyards and near habitation. It reproduces vegetatively by creeping rhizomes, and by seed, which may be bird-sown. Lowland."		
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)	26322		
2.7.2 Favourable reference population	206		
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	(FV) - Favourable
Overall assessment	(FV) - Favourable