



Scientific name	<i>Silene uniflora</i> – <i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> agg. mine-spoil community
Common name	Sea Campion – Eyebrights mine-spoil community
Community code	RH3B

Vegetation

Silene uniflora, with its white and pale pink flowers, is the characteristic species of this simple, open community. Usually found with it is *Euphrasia officinalis* agg. or, fairly frequently, some sparse growth of *Rumex acetosella* or *Rumex acetosa*. There can be some presence of metalliferous bryophytes such as *Cephaloziella stellulifera*.

Ecology

This community has largely been recorded from metalliferous spoil associated with old mine workings where the ground contains high concentrations of zinc, lead or copper. It has also been recorded from coastal shingle banks.

Sub-communities

No sub-communities are described.

Similar communities

Community RH3A also occurs on mine spoil, but bryophytes are a much more important part of the flora there and *Silene uniflora* is infrequent. Community ST1C represents vegetation from shingle banks and *Silene* may be present there but *Honckenya peploides* is usually the dominant plant.

Records and distribution

Number of records (all)

Clearly assigned:	7
Transitional:	0
Total:	7

Number of records (mapped)

2001-2017:	4
1986-2000:	1
1971-1985:	1
Pre-1971:	1
Total:	7

Number of hectads (most recent records)

2001-2017:	2
1986-2000:	1
1971-1985:	0
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	3

Number of hectads (all mapped records)

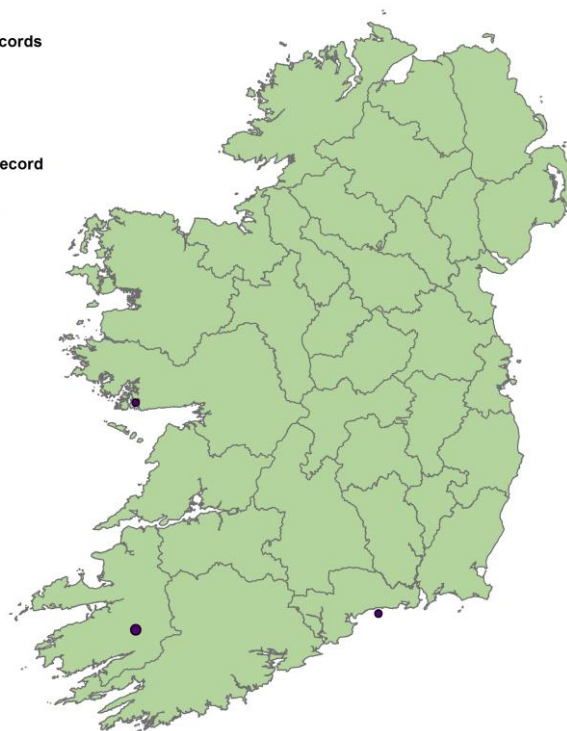
2001-2017:	2
1986-2000:	1
1971-1985:	1
Pre-1971:	0

Number of records

- 1-3
- 4-10
- 11-25
- 26+

Most recent record

- 2001-2017
- 1986-2000
- 1971-1985
- pre-1971



Synoptic table (n = 7)

Species	Frequency	Cover	Species	Frequency	Cover
	(from I-V)	min (med) max		(from I-V)	min (med) max
<i>Silene uniflora</i>	V	3-(6)-7	<i>Pohlia nutans</i>	I	4-(4)-4
<i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> agg.	IV	3-(3)-3	<i>Cephaloziella massalongi</i>	I	5-(5)-5
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	III	2-(2)-3			
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	II	2-(4)-4			
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	II	2-(3)-3			
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	II	2-(2)-2			
<i>Cephaloziella stellulifera</i>	II	4-(5)-7			
<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	I	5-(5)-5			
<i>Galium aparine</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	I	3-(3)-3			
<i>Crambe maritima</i>	I	3-(3)-3			
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	I	3-(3)-3			
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	I	4-(4)-4			
<i>Rosa spinosissima</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Glaux maritima</i>	I	5-(5)-5			
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Campyliadelphus chrysophyllus</i>	I	4-(4)-4			
<i>Cladonia furcata</i>	I	7-(7)-7			
<i>Sedum anglicum</i>	I	3-(3)-3			
<i>Dicranella varia</i>	I	1-(1)-1			

Affinities

GHI: ED2 Spoil and bare ground / CB1 Shingle and gravel banks

ZM: CK Sedo-Scleranthetea (42.9%) / CM Molinio-Arrhenatheretea (28.6%)

EUNIS: J6.51 Mining slag heaps / B2.12 Atlantic and Baltic shingle beach drift lines

NVC: No meaningful affinity

Annex I: 6130 Calaminarian grassland / 1220 Vegetated shingle

Proxy environmental data

Light: 7.1 Reaction: 5.2 Wetness: 5.3 Fertility: 3.3 Salinity: 1.8

Conservation value

Most examples of this vegetation correspond to EU HD Annex I habitat 6130 Calaminarian grassland.

Management

The mine-spoil aspect of this community is essentially unmanaged. Pressures include recreational activities and gradual succession to other vegetation types as metals are leached from the soil. Shingle bank examples may be threatened however by recreational pressure, mechanical beach cleaning and the creation of coastal defences which can interfere with sediment dynamics.

Key references

Doyle, G. J. (1982) *Minuartio-Thlaspietum alpestris* (Violotea calaminariae) in Ireland. *Journal of Life Sciences Royal Dublin Society* 3(1), 143-146.

Holyoak, D. (2008) Bryophytes and metallophyte vegetation on metalliferous mine-waste in Ireland. (unpublished). National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin

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Photo 1. RH3B *Silene uniflora* – *Euphrasia officinalis* agg. mine-spoil community, Muckross, Kerry (R. Hodd, March 2018)



Photo 2. RH3B *Silene uniflora* – *Euphrasia officinalis* agg. mine-spoil community, Muckross, Kerry (R. Hodd, March 2018)