



<b>Scientific name</b>	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i> – <i>Ranunculus repens</i> weed community
<b>Common name</b>	Common Mouse-ear – Creeping Buttercup weed community
<b>Community code</b>	WE1B

### Vegetation

This open weed community has a somewhat grassy aspect, with *Poa annua* a constant species and both *Holcus lanatus* and *Agrostis stolonifera* frequent, although none offer much cover. *Cerastium fontanum* and *Stellaria media* are also constants. Frequently, one will encounter some *Trifolium repens*, *Senecio vulgaris* or *Plantago lanceolata*. A number of dock species are occasional here: *Rumex acetosella*, *Rumex obtusifolius*, *Rumex acetosa* and *Rumex crispus*.

### Ecology

This is a common weed community of fairly fertile, disturbed or trampled soils and is found in grassland and growing amongst crops in arable fields, flower beds, and market and kitchen gardens.

### Sub-communities

No sub-communities are described.

### Similar communities

This is not the most distinct of communities, but from most other weed assemblages, WE1B may be distinguished by the frequency of *Cerastium fontanum*. That species is also a constant in the WE1D *Lolium perenne* – *Anagallis arvensis* weed community, but WE1B usually lacks both *Lolium* spp. and *Anagallis arvensis*.

### Records and distribution

#### Number of records (all)

Clearly assigned:	73
Transitional:	15
Total:	88

#### Number of records (mapped)

2001-2018:	1
1986-2000:	2
1971-1985:	5
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	8

#### Number of hectads (most recent records)

2001-2018:	1
1986-2000:	1
1971-1985:	3
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	5

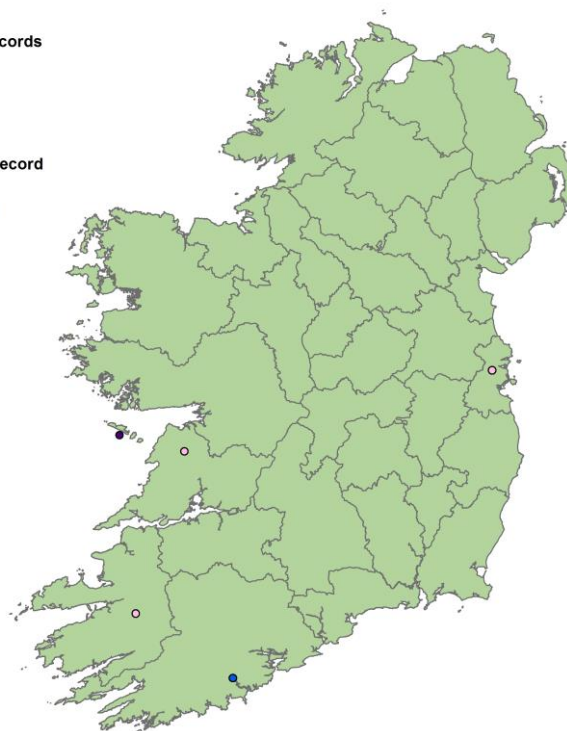
#### Number of hectads (all mapped records)

2001-2018:	1
1986-2000:	1
1971-1985:	3
Pre-1971:	0

#### Number of records



#### Most recent record



### Synoptic table (n = 73)

Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max	Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	V	2-(2)-3	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	II	2-(2)-3
<i>Poa annua</i>	IV	2-(3)-6	<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	II	2-(3)-3
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	IV	2-(3)-6	<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	II	2-(2)-3
<i>Stellaria media</i>	IV	2-(3)-3	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	II	2-(3)-3
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	III	2-(3)-6	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	III	2-(3)-3	<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	I	2-(3)-3
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	III	2-(2)-3	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	I	2-(3)-3
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	III	2-(3)-3	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	I	2-(2)-5
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	III	2-(3)-3	<i>Geranium molle</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	II	2-(2)-3	<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	II	+-(3)-6	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	I	2-(2)-5
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	II	2-(3)-3	<i>Montia fontana</i>	I	2-(3)-3
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	II	2-(3)-3	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	II	2-(2)-6	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	II	2-(2)-3	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	I	2-(3)-3
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	II	2-(3)-3	<i>Lamium hybridum</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	II	2-(2)-3	<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	II	2-(2)-3	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	I	2-(3)-3
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	II	+-(2)-3	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	II	2-(3)-3	<i>Viola arvensis</i>	I	2-(3)-3

#### Affinities

GHI: BC1 Arable crops / BC2 Horticultural land

ZM: CM Molinio-Arrhenatheretea (49.3%) / QA Papaveretea rhoeadis (28.8%)

EUNIS: I1 Arable land and market gardens

NVC: OV21c *Poa annua* – *Plantago major* community *Polygonum aviculare* – *Ranunculus repens* sub-community(56.1%)

Annex I: No significant correspondence

#### Proxy environmental data

Light: 7.0    Reaction: 6.0    Wetness: 5.4    Fertility: 5.7    Salinity: 0.3

#### Conservation value

Vegetation corresponding to this community is typically of relatively low conservation value. Segetal assemblages can contain archaeophytes such as *Centaurea cyanus* and *Agrostemma githago* which were once common sites of arable fields, but are now very rare.

#### Management

The persistence of this community is dependent on the regular trampling or the disturbance that comes with arable farming and gardening practices. Rarer archaeophytes have declined due to modernisation of these practices.

#### Key references

Lambe, E. (1971) A phytosociological and ecological analysis of Irish weed communities. (Ph.D. thesis). National University of Ireland, Galway.

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**Synopsis author(s):** P.M. Perrin

