

This tiny annual grass hugs the ground and grows near to the sea's edge. It can often be found in the cracks of rocks near the high tide mark. It is easily outcompeted. It is between 2 and 15 cm long. The flowers cling alternately to the stiff stem. We are not sure how common it is as it is so small.

We have found it on the sea wall at the edge of the railway embankment in Arnside at SD4562979128 between the signal and the bridge and also at the Warton Slag heaps.

Catapodium is on the slightly looser, more eroded slag. When it dies back in August you can see the stiff brown dried stems radiating from a central root.

There is an inland version, Fern Grass, where the stalked flower spikes fork.



Catapodium marinum historical data

4 figure	Site	Grid Ref	Recorder	Date	Number	Comments
4479	Arnside Embankment	SD4562979128	LF	06/08/23	40 plants	40 plants all past their best. in the bare patches between the signal and the bridge
4770	Warton slag heaps	SD4787570555	LF	11/08/23	Scattered	along top of slag heap
4870	Warton Slag heaps	SD4830370925	LF	11/08/23	3	3 plants on flat area beside main track but 50 plus on slag mound by entrance SD4827270884 also at SD4813770706
4871	Warton Slag heaps	SD4864371187	LF/SB	04/08/23	3 clumps	4872
4972	Warton Crag	SD4937172513	LF	08/05/24	10 plus	small rocky outcrop downside of path
4972	Warton Crag	SD4950072510	LF	08/05/24	some	on a damp shelf below rocky outcrop

