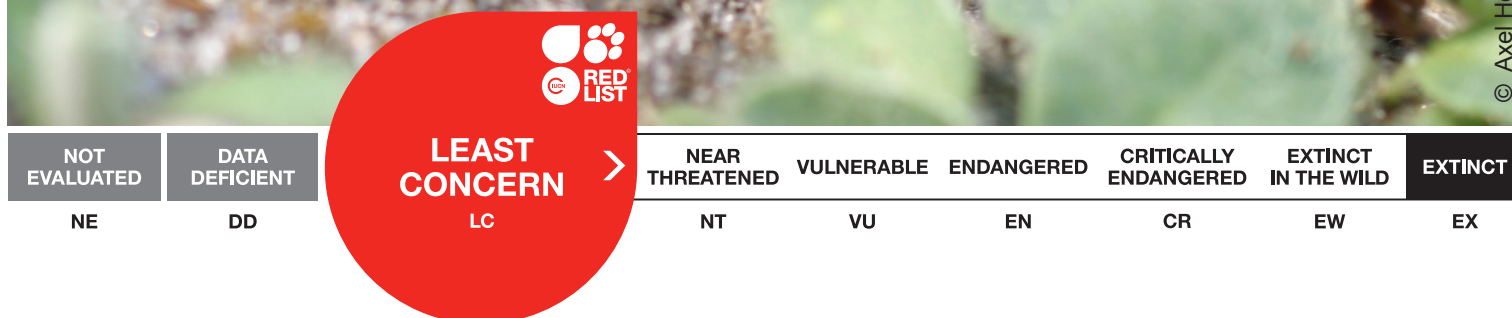




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Geographical range

Species of the Day: Field Cricket

The **Field Cricket**, *Gryllus campestris*, is currently not officially listed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™; however, the conservation status has potentially been assessed as 'Least Concern'. It occurs from western Africa and northern Europe to the Caucasus region.

In the northern part of its range, including many parts of Europe, the Field Cricket is declining due to habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation. In this region, it is dependent on dry, nutrient-poor habitats with short grass or heather vegetation. Such habitat types have become rare and fragmented due to agricultural intensification and increasing eutrophication. Traditional sheep herding ceased at the end of the 19th century, and former heathland habitats have been replaced by coniferous forest or farmland.

The Field Cricket is a good indicator of species-rich habitats (its conspicuous song is familiar to most people on warm summer nights). It has been successfully reintroduced in the UK and parts of Germany. However, the most important conservation priority is found in traditional land use, including sheep herding and heathland management.

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