



**Botanical Society
of Britain & Ireland**



**Centre for
Ecology & Hydrology**

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

Wildlife recorders come together for British Birdfair 2014

The Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland won Best Stand (Conservation) at Birdfair 2013. This year, we have joined forces with the Biological Records Centre/Centre for Ecology & Hydrology **to show visitors to the world's biggest wildlife event all the ways that you can get involved in wildlife recording.** You can see our joint stand in Marquee 1 at Birdfair 2014, which opens on Friday 15th August.

From traditional methods of plant identification to the very latest apps for your smartphone, we can help you get started with wildlife recording, and we show you what happens to your records and how they are used by conservation bodies and policy-makers.

You can take part in BSBI's Plant Quiz to identify "indicator plants" which tell you something about the habitat they grow in, and then find those same plants on the nature reserve where Birdfair is held. Some are also foodplants for our most colourful butterflies, and BRC can help you trial some of the latest apps for recording butterflies and other invertebrates. You can join the wildlife recording community by making your first record at Birdfair – we show you how easy and how much fun it is!

BSBI President Ian Denholm said: "BSBI is delighted to be teaming up with BRC at Birdfair 2014 to announce exciting new projects and technological innovations aimed at encouraging everyone, beginner or expert, to contribute to wildlife recording and management".

BSBI has been supporting botanists since 1836, and BRC – who recently celebrated their fiftieth birthday - was formed following publication of BSBI's *Atlas of the British Flora*, a landmark publication that set the basis for biological recording for a wide range of plant and animal species. BRC and BSBI have shared a close and fruitful relationship ever since, leading to many insights into the factors causing change in the distribution of plant species. **David Roy, Head of BRC, said "It is a privilege to work with BSBI as we jointly develop new ways of working with volunteer recorders, to inspire interest in our flora and to understand how the natural environment is changing."**

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Contact Louise Marsh, BSBI Publicity & Outreach Officer: louise.marsh@bsbi.org for more details and for images of BSBI at Birdfair.

Find out more about British Birdfair: <http://www.birdfair.org.uk/> and scroll down the homepage to see our award-winning stand from last year.