

Plant Records, 2012.

The *Flora of Staffordshire* dealt with records made up until the end of 2011. This short report lists some of the more interesting results of last year's fieldwork.

New records for VC39

Abies homolepis: mature tree, mixed plantation, Trentham, SJ8640, I.J. Hopkins.

Acaena anserinifolia: patch on top of river bank under partial shade of a beech tree: probably a relic of cultivation, Trentham, SJ8641, IJH.

Cupressus macrocarpa: hedgerow, allotments, Sandy Lane, Codsall, SJ8703, S.R. Moore.

Hypochaeris x intermedia (*H. glabra x radicata*): specimen collected from the vicinity of a large mass of *H. glabra*; dry heathland and open sandy grassland on Permian Sandstone, Kinver Edge, SO8382, M. Rand & M.E. Smith, conf. Prof. J.S. Parker.

Also:

a seedling in a fenced-off area at the edge of the smaller Westport Lake, SJ8549, S.R. Hinsley, appeared to be *Althaea officinalis*.

Species seen, again, after a gap of several years

Ceratochloa cathartica: Audley Road, Talke, SJ8253, SRH. (Last reported in 1944.)

Daphne mezereum: apparently bird-sown, neglected garden, Butters Green, SJ8150, SRH. (Last reported in 1974.)

Hydrangea macrophylla: one shrub in small open area of waste ground above path along wooded strip: most likely to be a throw-out or relic of cultivation, nr Beech, SJ8538, IJH. (Last reported in 1987.)

Sciadopitys verticillata: mixed plantation tree now mature, Trentham, SJ8640, IJH. (Last reported in 1979.)

New tetrads for rarer taxa

The following have been seen in a total of less than about seven tetrads.

Allium moly: amenity shrub border, Forge Lane, SJ8647, SRH.

Allium roseum: one on a bank between car park and A34 at Trinity Fields, SJ9025, IJH.

Amsinckia micrantha: profuse over several arable fields, Brineton SJ8013, P. Newton. Also one on a disturbed verge where road crosses over R. Lea; another larger, but less accessible plant, a few m away on N side of river bank below road crossing between Madeley/Baldwin's Gate, SJ7742, IJH.

Anaphalis margaritacea: by side of canal N of Hem Heath, SJ8841, IJH.

Barbarea intermedia: allotments, Sandy Lane, Codsall, SJ8703, SRM.

Bidens cernua var. *radiata*: Mill End, Audley, SJ7952, SRH.

Dactylorhiza incarnata ssp. *incarnata*: Baggeridge Country Park, SO8992, D. Westwood.

Dicentra formosa: colony in woodland, Kidsgrove, SJ8453, SRH.

Dryopteris cambrensis: Abraham's Valley SK0019, M.F. Godfrey.

Dryopteris x complexa (*D. affinis x filix-mas*): woods above Froghall, SK0248, MFG.

Epipactis purpurata: clumps of shoots not yet in flower, although some bitten off (probably by deer) in shaded woodland, The Wilderness; a further shoot seen by a fishing stage at lakeside; both SO8183, IJH.

Eryngium variifolium: towpath, growing out over canal, SJ8845, N of Mount Pleasant, SRH.

Galanthus woronowii: two sub-colonies about 5m apart, each with several clumps, wooded slope overlooking Boathouse Road, Kidsgrove, SJ8453, SRH.

Gunnera tinctoria: Keele University Campus, SJ8244, D.W. Emley.

Hordeum jubatum: verge, just before exit to Longton, A50 westbound, SJ9143, A. Willmot.

Hypericum hircinum: Marion Platt Way, Audley, SJ8050, SRH.

Hypochaeris glabra: Dunsley Bank quarry, Stourton, SO8684, A.P. Daly. Also, one robust plant on ground laid to plastic mesh with a sandy, possibly imported, soil, W of main entrance to Russell's Hall Hospital, SO9289, MES.

Luronium natans: with floating leaves, Cannock Extension Canal between Wyrley Common Bridge and Pelsall Road Bridge - one in deep water 30-40m S of latter, with a large patch (2-3m x 1m) on a shallow bank further N. Also between Pelsall Rd Br and A5 - two small patches immediately N of bridge and two or three individuals, all with floating leaves; with a very large patch, with no floating leaves, 100m before road. All SK0106, N. Aspey. [The species was previously reported as being present in the tetrad, but these are the first recorded details.]

Mentha pulegium: edge of pool, Newpool Meadows, SJ8756, SRH.

Persicaria minor: two or three hundred plants, intermittently flooded pasture, S of Trent Bridge, Burton, SK2523, MES.

Potentilla argentea: in short turf, Kinver Edge, SO8382, IJH.

Potentilla indica: established on verges about Hanchurch, SJ8441, IJH.

Potentilla x suberecta (P. anglica x erecta): almost certainly this taxon, amidst area of rough open ground close to sawmill, W of Chesterton, SJ8248, IJH.

Ranunculus trichophyllus: edge of small pool, Somerford Hall, nr Brewood, SJ8908, SRH.

Verbascum phlomoides: single fine flowering plant on river bank: later destroyed when river flooded, Stafford, SJ9222, IJH. Also on the side of a short spur road lying between two abandoned factory sites, Tunstall, SJ8550, SRH.

Verbascum speciosum: one large well-branched plant, probably from seed, overgrown garden, Burton Railway Station, SK2423, MES. [One plant flowered in 2010; there was a rosette in 2011; but identity was not confirmed until 2012.]

Vicia villosa: waste ground, Woodcross, SO9395, PN.