

DERBYSHIRE FLORA GROUP NEWSLETTER

EDITED: Dr ALAN WILLMOT (County Recorder)

Number 27 – WINTER 2018/2019

1. EDITORIAL

The two main articles here are an update on recording for the third national plant Atlas and notes on new or interesting species for the county. I also append details of our outdoor meetings programme as already circulated and mention a fourth edition of Stace's "New Flora of the British Isles".

2. RECENT PLANT RECORDS vc57

As in previous years these are mainly reports of recently arrived aliens, which, unless they are known to have occurred for a number of years, are considered as Casuals. All records are from 2018 unless stated otherwise. **NCR** indicates a new county record for the plant.

***Aethionema grandiflorum* (Persian Candytuft) NCR** This new county record was recorded on a wall opposite the Bath House in Stoney Middleton (SK231755) by Ken Balkow in July last year. It was probably planted originally but has been known on the site by the recorder for about 15 years.



Aethionema grandiflorum Stock photo

***Amaranthus powellii* (Powell's Amaranth)**

This introduced casual from America was recorded by Mick Lacey near the new MacDonald's in Claycross (SK391641) in October. Determined by Quentin Groom this was only the fifth record for the county.

***Betula papyrifera* (Paper-bark Birch)** This planted tree was recorded by Andy Amphlett (confirmed by Hugh McAllister) on Ashbourne Greenway (SK182473) in October. This was only the second county record. This tree is probably under-recorded in planting schemes as it is often mistaken for ***Betula pendula* Silver Birch**.



Betula papyrifera from Ashbourne

***Bupleurum subovatum* (False Thorow-wax)**

Mick Lacey made the first record of this

introduced casual of waste ground since 1977 by a new bus stop at Spitewinter (SK341671) in July.

Bupleurum subovatum Spitewinter 2018



***Campanula rapunculus* (Rampion Bellflower) NCR** This attractive herb was recorded in species-rich grassland at Tibshelf (SK4359) by Richard Thompson in June. It has been grown in the past as an ornamental and as a salad-vegetable. However, here it was probably the result of a deliberate introduction.

***Chenopodium giganteum* (Tree Spinach) NCR** Mick Lacey found this for the first time at Old Whittington (SK3874) in August. It can grow to 2 metres with reddish stems and

leaves but the Derbyshire material was quite young plants. He later also found it at Barlow (SK3575) in October.

Campanula rapunculus at Tibshelf



Chenopodium giganteum at Barlow (below)



***Chenopodium hybridum* (Maple-leaved Goosefoot)** Not quite an NCR as there have been four records in all for this plant but this is the first since the mid1970s. Mick Lacey recorded this in December, one plant on Belper Industrial Estate (SK347466). His photo shows why the plant is so named.



***Chenopodium hybridum* from Belper**

***Cicerbita plumieri* (Hairless Blue-sowthistle)** In 2016 Claire Smith found a plant of this on the Tissington Trail. Now Jon Woodcock has found a second plant nearby on the trail at Friden (SK158621).

***Cordyline australis* (Cabbage-palm) NCR** Claire & Mary Smith found a plant of this growing in a hedge bank at the side of Geary Lane Bretby (SK290230). Obviously originally from dumped garden rubbish, the plant was well established when discovered in April.

***Dicentra eximia* (Turkey-corn) NCR** Fiona Keeler found a large patch of this on the side



***Cicerbita plumieri* Friden June 2018**

of Alicehead Road near its junction with Darley Road (SK316667) in Uppertown during May. No doubt this was the result of discarded garden waste.



***Dicentra eximia* Uppertown May 2018**

***Euphorbia myrsinites* (Broad-leaved Glaucous-spurge) NCR** This garden escape was found growing on top of a wall at West End, Elton (SK219609) by Brian Gough in June.

***Fumaria bastardii* (Tall Ramping-fumitory) NCR** This was found by Mick Lacey, and confirmed by Tim Rich, on the old Airfield at Ashbourne (SK1945) in June. Nationally it is considered a native of arable and waste ground but is probably best considered a casual here if and until we get more records.



***Fumaria bastardii* Ashbourne June 2018**

***Galanthus elwesii* (Greater Snowdrop) NCR** I found this on the disused railway line in Mickleover (SK2935) in April. It had clearly been discarded over someone's back fence onto the line but has established itself.

***Galanthus plicatus* (Pleated Snowdrop) NCR** This was found in April by Mick Lacey in rough grassland near housing at Shirebrook (SK525681). This was no doubt another garden throwout.

***Geum macrophyllum* (Large-leaved Avens) NCR** This was first found by David Charlton at Woodside DWT Reserve (SK446435) in June. It is very similar to our native *Geum urbanum* (Wood Avens) from which it is distinguished by its ovoid not globose seed head and a receptacle with only sparse not dense hairs. Sometimes grown in gardens as an ornamental and then discarded, it is rather a

mystery how it arrived in the middle of a grass field far from the nearest housing.



***Geum macrophyllum* Woodside Sept 2018**

***Gnaphalium luteoalbum* (Jersey Cudweed) NCR** I reported on the discovery of this last year on Hady Lane Chesterfield but recorded the first finder incorrectly. It was in fact first found by Anne Brown to whom I apologise for my error.

***Gypsophila elegans* (Annual Baby's-breath) NCR** This was discovered on disturbed ground at Eggington (SK258286) by Claire & Mary Smith in July. It had probably escaped from a nearby garden though there was no immediately obvious source for it.

***Herniaria glabra* (Smooth Rupturewort) NCR** I found this during May last year on open ground in the car park behind the walled garden at Markeaton Park (SK332377). Nationally it is considered a native of dry open sandy ground but as this is only the fourth record for the county, it is hard to consider it any other than casual with us.

***Lonicera henryi* (Henry's Honeysuckle)** NCR This garden ornamental from China was noticed by Claire & Mary Smith growing on the side of a track by Wayne's Piece (SK291652) in January last year.

***Lonicera involucrata* (Californian Honeysuckle)** I found this garden plant from western North America on the Crow Park Way (SK316303) in June. It is very unlike our Honeysuckle as it is a shrub whose berries are surrounded by striking red bracts. Probably planted as part of a landscaping scheme, this was only the third record for the county.



Lonicera involucrata Crow Park Way June

***Luzula luzuloides* (White Wood-rush)** NCR Claire & Mary Smith noted this garden ornamental from Europe in a culvert at the side of Kingfisher Lane Willington (SK293281) in July. Elsewhere in Britain this is well naturalised so might be expected to do the same here.

***Olearia x haastii* (Daisy-bush)** NCR A garden ornamental from New Zealand, one bush of this was recorded in a hedge round

Steeley Quarry (SK548790) by Mick Lacey in January. No doubt originally planted, it has now survived a number of years in the wild.

***Pseudofumaria alba* (Pale Corydalis)** NCR As the name suggests this plant has paler flowers than the fairly common *Pseudofumaria lutea* (Yellow Corydalis). One plant was found in July by Claire & Mary Smith under bridge number 26 on the Trent & Mersey Canal (SK272274). It is a garden plant from central southern Europe.



Pseudofumaria alba T & M Canal 2018

***Rubus deliciosus* (Rocky Mountain Raspberry)** NCR It was the large size of the flowers, a full 6 cm across, which drew Ken Balkow's attention to this otherwise unremarkable bramble. It was growing on the Archaeological Trail, a disused railway line, at Langwith (SK523696) in May. Unfortunately later in the year in August it was engulfed by nettles and so no fruit was found



***Rumex palustris* (Marsh Dock)** Simon Melen found this unusual dock just below high-water mark on the shore of a very low Staunton Harold Reservoir (SK377243) in October. Standard British Floras give this plant as native in the area but it is hard to accept it as such for Derbyshire when this is only the second record ever for the county.



***Rumex palustris* Staunton Harold 2018**

***Rumex scutatus* (French Sorrel) NCR** I found this in Darley Abbey Park (SK3538) in August. It had sown itself just outside a garden fence. It is a garden ornamental which originates from central and southern Europe.

***Salvia nemorosa* (Balkan Clary) NCR** This was another of my finds from last year. It was growing on a roadside in Pride Park (SK3635). It was probably introduced with the landscaping of the site at the end of its restoration.

***Selaginella kraussiana* (Krauss's Clubmoss)** This was recorded by Steve Woodward in a shaded part of the lawn at Melbourne Hall (SK391248) in April. This is only the third

outdoor site for this plant which is a common weed inside greenhouses.



***Selaginella kraussiana* Melbourne Hall**

***Sorbus x thuringiaca* (German Service-tree) NCR** This is one of the crosses derived from the hybridization of Rowan (*S. aucuparia*) with Whitebeam (*S. aria*). It can arise spontaneously where its parents grow together. However, it was probably planted where Mick Lacey found it in a hedge at Thorpe (SK1549) in July.



***Sorbus x thuringiaca* Thorpe 2018**

***Spiraea tomentosa* (Hardhack) NCR** This was recorded for the first time on Axe Edge by Jo Parmenter (SK039687) in July. Originating from eastern North America, it was probably a garden throwout.

***Trachycarpus fortunei* (Chusan Palm) NCR** This was reported by Claire & Mary Smith from the side of a small stream next to Staunton Harold Reservoir (SK376245) in February. They assume it was originally planted but they have known the plant on the site for at least two years and it appears established now. Why anyone should plant it so far away from other formal plantings is unclear.

***Verbascum x mixtum* (A hybrid mullein) NCR** This was discovered by Brian Gough on Meden Bridge in Bakewell (SK223678) in July. It is the hybrid of *V. nigrum* (Dark Mullein) and *V. pulverulentum* (Hoary Mullein) both of which were growing in a nearby garden. This suggests it was a spontaneous hybrid, some might even consider it a native plant to the area.

***Verbascum virgatum* (Twiggy Mullein)** David Shaw found this on the Archaeological Way at Langwith (SK526719) in July. It was possibly growing on imported material. This was not an NCR but is the first record since 1979.

***Vicia benghalensis* (Purple Vetch) NCR** This was noted by Stephen Jackson growing on waste ground at Smalley (SK407449) in May. Possibly introduced on the wheels of lorries here, this native of the Mediterranean occasionally occurs on tips in southern Britain.

***Vicia villosa* (Fodder Vetch)** A close relative of the previous legume, this turned up on one of Mick Lacey's visits to The Avenue (SK386684) last year in June. They can be difficult to separate but the former has reddish-purple petals with black tips and this has blue to violet or purple petals with white or yellow wing petals. However, neither always fits their descriptions in books as can be seen from the adjacent photos of the two plants.



Vicia benghalensis Smalley above and *Vicia villosa* The Avenue below



3. PROGRESS WITH RECORDING FOR ATLAS 2020

I think our local recording for the new national Atlas has gone very well this year. Our current recording area is vice county 57 Derbyshire which covers 42 whole or part hectads. The BSBI has drawn up a traffic lights system for judging level of resurvey of hectads where red is relatively poor coverage, yellow intermediate and green satisfactory. Last year we had reached 24 green hectads with 18 yellow ones. Now we have achieved 32 green ones leaving only 10 yellow to complete if possible. The current status of each hectad is shown on the attached diagram. To reach the green level a 75% refind rate needs to be recorded. This means that 75% of all plants ever found in the hectad have been seen in the recording period for the third Atlas which is 2000 to 2019. Of the remaining ten yellow hectads, eight have over a 70% refind rate with the remaining two at 67 and 65% respectively.

Hopefully it may be possible in this last remaining survey year for the third Atlas to convert more of the yellow hectads to green. However, in the case of hectad SK15 this may not be possible because of the 53 species of Dandelions recorded there which none of us can identify!

4. RECORDING PRIORITIES FOR 2019

These are the ten hectads with less than 75% refinds. However, two of these SJ98 and SK12 contain only small areas within vc57 so are of lower priority than the other eight. The table below shows the actual number of refinds required for each hectad which are quite low in some cases. I can provide lists of the specific plants required for each square. Records of completely new species for hectads rather than refinds are also required as they too will also increase the refind percentage but not by as much. Recording priorities for 2019 are thus refinds or new records for the eight hectads marked as P in the attached table and diagram. I shall also be pleased to receive new records from any other hectads but would ask

people to concentrate on recording in the particular eight hectads if at all possible.

Hectad	Priority	Number of refinds required
SJ98		48.5
SK08	P	11.25
SK12		6
SK14	P	92.75
SK15	P	16.75
SK21	P	11.75
SK22	P	6.5
SK23	P	7.75
SK24	P	28.25
SK32	P	13.75

Refinds Required per Hectad as at Jan 2018

5. STACE'S NEW FLORA OF THE BRITISH ISLES

Clive Stace's "New Flora of the British Isles" has been our standard flora since it was first published in 1991. It has been through several reprints and editions such that it is now in its third edition. The fourth edition is due to be published in 2019 and there is a pre-publication offer available until the 31st of January. This is said to contain updated information on classification and distribution plus over 200 additional plants compared to the third edition. This new volume is to be published by "C&M Floristics" and can be ordered from www.clivestace.com.

6. ENQUIRIES

Any enquiries concerning the identification and recording of higher plants in Derbyshire can be directed to me at my address below.

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SJ99	SK09	SK19				
SJ98 67%	SK08 73% P	SK18	SK28	SK38	SK48	
	SK07	SK17	SK27	SK37	SK47	SK57
	SK06	SK16	SK26	SK36	SK46	SK56
		SK15 73% P	SK25	SK35	SK45	
		SK14 65% P	SK24 72% P	SK34	SK44	
	SK03	SK13	SK23 74% P	SK33	SK43	SK53
		SK12 72%	SK22 74% P	SK32 73% P	SK42	
		SK11	SK21 73% P	SK31		

HECTAD STATUS FOR 2020 ATLAS AS AT 3rd January 2019

With percentage refinds for yellow squares

P Priority hectad for Derbyshire



Hectads with the required number* of well recorded tetrads* but less than 75% of species refound.



Hectads with the required number* of well recorded tetrads* and 75% of species refound.

*Five well recorded tetrads are required for a complete hectad but fewer for a marginal one.

DERBYSHIRE FLORA GROUP OUTDOOR MEETING PROGRAMME 2019

All meetings are held on Saturdays and start at 10.30 am. They usually end around 4.30 pm. Carry lunch.

		Venue	Meeting Point & Reason
23	March	Grange Wood	National Forest Access Car Park at SK265143 on north side of Coalpit Lane 2km east of Coton in the Elms for general woodland flora in SK21.
13	April	Hague Bar & Mousley Bottom	Car park south of Hague Bar off Waterside Road between railway & River Goyt at SJ986856 for general flora of hectad SJ98.
11	May	Ticknall Limeyards & Calke	Ticknall Village Hall car park at SK352240 off Ingleby Lane for general flora of hectad SK32.
8	June	Hilton Gravel Pits	Old road to east of Pits off Willowpit Lane at SK254313 for general flora of hectad SK23.
29	June	Dove Dale, Lin Dale & Thorpe Pasture	Car park at base of Dove Dale at SK146508 for general flora of hectad SK15.
20	July	Ashbourne Green	Cokayne Avenue car park at (SK184469) next to Ashbourne Rugby Club ground for general flora of the Ashbourne Green area of hectad SK14.
17	August	Buxworth Canal & Brierley Green	Canal Street car park Whaley Bridge (SK012815) for general flora of hectad SK08.
14	Sept	Agnes Meadow area	Lay-by opposite Bradley Wood on north side of A517 at SK197462 for general flora of hectad SK24.
5	Oct	Swainspark	Car Park for Albert lake on east side of Occupation Road Church Gresley at SK298173 for general flora of hectad SK21.

N.B. Some of these meetings start from "Pay & Display" car parks where change is not usually available.

Meetings organiser: Dr Alan Willmot, 2 Kedleston Close, Allestree, Derby, DE22 2RA.

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Anyone interested in botany is welcome to come on these meetings but please contact the organiser if you have not attended one of the events before.

A.Willmot

9th Jan 2019

Floravc57/Meetings/Meets2019 Final