

## Plant Records, 2022.

The *Flora of Staffordshire* dealt with records made up until the end of 2011. (Further matters relating to that time period are dealt with in a series of supplements.)

This short account is the eleventh annual report listing some of the more interesting results of later fieldwork.

Dates are all 2022, unless stated otherwise.

### New records for VC39

*Caltha palustris* var. *barthei*, SJ9003, SJ9004 & SJ9104, Paul Newton (= PN), very large plants, landscaped wet areas in industrial estates.

*Juniperus squamata*, SJ9815, PN, War Cemeteries, north of Cannock.

*Penstemon* sp., SO8899, PN, with bright red flowers, spreading on to the side of a footpath from adjacent gardens. Tettenhall south.

*Taraxacum spiculatum*, SJ9219, Tim Rich (= TGCR), conf. A.J. Richards (= AJR), verge, lay by, Moss Pit, Stafford.

*Veronica peduncularis*, SJ9407, PN, small patch on hedgebank (resembling 'Georgia Blue'), Little Saredon.

### Species seen again after a gap of several years

*Barbarea stricta*, SJ80G, Sheila Moore, edge of wheatfield, Kingswood. Last seen SK22T, near Clay Mills, 2005.

*Taraxacum sellandii*, SJ9219, TGCR, conf. AJR, verge of lay by, Moss Pit, Stafford. Last seen SK1450, Dovedale, 1993.

*Utricularia vulgaris* s.s., SJ9026, Victoria Bunter, pond, Redhill Business Park, Stafford. Last seen SJ7447, drain near Betley Mere, 1955.

### New tetrads for rarer taxa

The following have been seen in a total of less than about seven tetrads, since 1994.

*Cephalaria gigantea*, SO8697, PN, large patch in hedgerow, spreading from adjacent garden, Mops Farm, west of Castlecroft.

*Cyrtomium fortunei* ssp. *clivicola*, SJ8420, Darren Giddens, det. F.J. Rumsey, just above a ditch, south side of Newport to Stafford Greenway.

*Echinochloa esculenta*, SO8697, PN, scattered in a large fallow field, Mops Farm, west of Castlecroft.

*Fraxinus latifolia*, SO8085, PN, mature female tree in field hedge, very distant from habitation, The Hollies, south of Four Ashes.

*Hydrangea macrophylla*, SJ9003, PN, Forster Bridge. Fordhouses.

*Knautia macedonica*, SO9387, Anne Daly, Jackie Ellis & Jim Hough, a large and two small plants, edge of canal, by canal bridge, near to three settling pools in Saltwells Wood, Brierley Hill.

*Narcissus poeticus* x *tazetta* (= *N. medioluteus*), SO8199, PN, small clump by roadside, Patshull Road, west of Pattingham.

*Phedimus kamtschaticus*, SJ9408, PN, large patch, rough grass on road verge, Saredon Mill.

*Phygelius capensis*, SJ9608, PN, roadside hedge, Wedge's Mills.

*Rumex acetosa* ssp. *ambiguus*, SO8199, PN, frequent in hayfields across this monad, Patshull Road, west of Pattingham.

*R. conglomeratus* x *maritimus* (= *R. x knafii*), SK2220, Mike Smith (= MES), poached grassland, near east side of pond Number 6, with parents nearby, Branston Leas Nature Reserve.

*Setaria verticillata* var. *ambigua*, SO8985, MES, clump, south roadside, Bretten Lane, Amblecote.

*Trifolium incarnatum* ssp. *incarnatum*, SO8098, several patches, arable field margin, Birchley Farm, west of Pattingham; also SO8697, large fallow field, Mops Farm, west of Castlecroft: both PN.

*Triteleia laxa*, SJ9045, Nick Pomiankowski, Berryhill Fields, Fenton.

*Verbascum speciosum*, SJ9408, PN, single plant in hedge near house, Saredon Mill.

*Viburnum farreri* x *grandiflorum* (= *V. x bodnantense*), SJ8851, Whitfield Valley Nature Reserve, 2020; also SJ8851, Bradeley, 2022: both Stewart Hinsley.

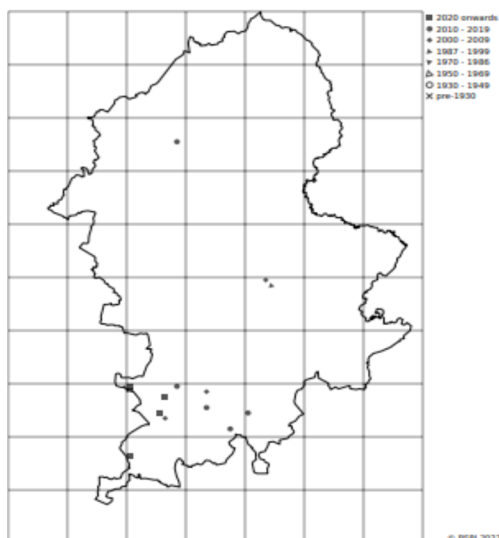
*Viola x bavarica*, SO8085, PN, large patch in hedgebank, The Hollies, south of Four Ashes.

### Further observations

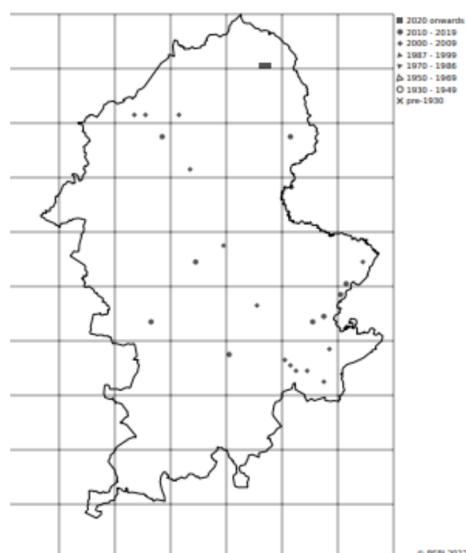
*Polypogon viridis* continues to appear at new sites, typically on pavement/wall interfaces. In most cases it then becomes quickly established, rather than being a casual. It is probably sometimes overlooked in Central Staffordshire.

PN, who has recorded extensively in the south-west of the vice-county, reports that, on arable land, *Anisantha diandra* is now very common.. There is a less marked increase in *Bromus secalinus* with *Centaurea cyanus* turning up quite often. *Fagopyrum esculentum* was seen in quantity in many fields in 2022. Some seemed to have been sown, but it also occurred as an arable weed. *Vicia villosa* has been encountered in a few urban areas in recent years, but is now also present in rural ones.

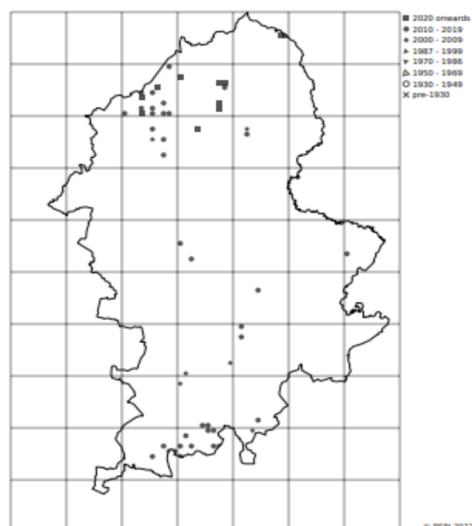
*Atriplex littoralis* is still spreading along our most major roads, but Elaine Radford recorded it at the side of the minor upland one from Reaps Moor across Swallow Moss, SK0660 & SK0760.



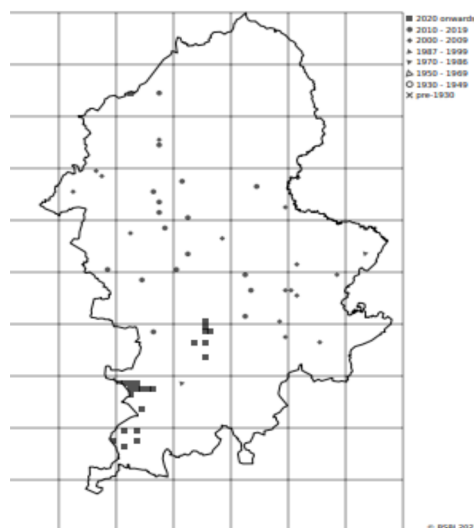
*Vicia villosa*



*Atriplex littoralis*



*Polypogon viridis*



*Anisantha diandra*