

Vc95 Field Meeting Report: Maverston, 2nd May 2023

Ten of us had a very pleasant afternoon, with the aim of the meeting to look at *Lithospermum arvense* (**Field Gromwell**). This is an extremely rare species in Scotland, only been seen at three other sites since 2000. In Moray it has been recorded from less than ten sites over the years with the most recent record from near Buckie (vc94) in 1971 by the late Alan Souter. This is the first record for vc95 since 1967 when it was seen at Knockando.

We started off by looking at a sandy road verge. Here we found several interesting species including *Vicia lathyroides* (**Spring Vetch**) and *Ornithopus perpusillus* (**Bird's-foot**) both flowering. Here we also had two patches of a hybrid Mouse-ear *Cerastium x maueri* (*C. arvense* x *tomentosum*) (**Field Mouse-ear x Snow-in-summer**) even though we didn't see either parent. Before we got to where I had seen the Gromwell we found lots of plants in another place under pines where it looked if the Gorse had been cleared. This area was part of a building plot, elsewhere on the plot there was a very marshy area with a good variety of plants, but they were building up the ground so destroying the marshy area. This made up ground had lots of weeds such *Descurainia sophia* (**Flixweed**), *Amsinckia micrantha* (**Common Fiddleneck**) and *Urtica urens* (**Small Nettle**). We then headed down to the entrance of the Maverston Golf Course to see another single plant of Gromwell, in total we found around 60 plants of the Gromwell. Here Ian McDonald also found a patch of *Ornithogalum nutans* (**Drooping Star-of-Bethlehem**) only the second time this species has been found in Moray.



Lithospermum arvense (**Field Gromwell**), above left, and close-up of flowers, above right



Ornithogalum nutans
(**Drooping Star-of-Bethlehem**)



Urtica urens (Small Nettle), left, and *Viola palustris* (Marsh Violet), above



The group looking at the Field Gromwell

Species list for the field meeting (129 taxa) – thanks to Anne Burgess for producing this

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Ground-elder
<i>Aira praecox</i>	Early Hair-grass
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder
<i>Anchusa arvensis</i>	Bugloss
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley
<i>Aphanes australis</i>	Slender Parsley-piert
<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>	Thale Cress
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-Grass
<i>Atriplex patula</i>	Common Orache
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Box
<i>Callitriche stagnalis</i>	Common Water-starwort
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse
<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	Wavy Bitter-cress
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	Hairy Bitter-cress
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower
<i>Carex demissa</i>	Common Yellow-sedge
<i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous Sedge
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear
<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i>	Sticky Mouse-ear
<i>Cerastium x maueri (C. arvense x C. tomentosum)</i>	Field Mouse-ear x Snow-in-Summer
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh Thistle
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle
<i>Claytonia perfoliata</i>	Springbeauty
<i>Crassula tillaea</i>	Mossy Stonecrop
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Broom
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot
<i>Descurainia sophia</i>	Flixweed
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male-fern
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail
<i>Erica tetralix</i>	Cross-leaved Heath
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill
<i>Erophila verna</i>	Common Whitlowgrass
<i>Erysimum cheiri</i>	Wallflower
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Fumaria muralis</i>	Common Ramping-fumitory

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Common Fumitory
<i>Galanthus nivalis</i>	Snowdrop
<i>Galeopsis tetrahit</i> agg.	Hemp-nettle
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers
<i>Galium palustre</i>	Marsh-bedstraw
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground-ivy
<i>Hedera helix</i> agg.	Common Ivy
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed
<i>Hyacinthoides x massartiana</i>	Hybrid Bluebell (H. non-scripta x hispanica)
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	Marsh Pennywort
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Juncus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Rush
<i>Juncus conglomeratus</i>	Compact Rush
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft-rush
<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Red Dead-nettle
<i>Lemna minor</i>	Common Duckweed
<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i>	Garden Privet
<i>Lithospermum arvense</i>	Field Gromwell
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<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil
<i>Lunaria annua</i>	Honesty
<i>Luzula multiflora</i>	Heath Wood-rush
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick
<i>Montia fontana</i>	Blinks
<i>Myosotis discolor</i>	Changing Forget-me-not
<i>Narcissus</i> agg.	Cultivated Daffodil
<i>Ornithogalum nutans</i>	Drooping Star-of-Bethlehem
<i>Ornithopus perpusillus</i>	Bird's-foot
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood-sorrel
<i>Papaver dubium</i>	Long-headed Poppy
<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i>	Green Alkanet
<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	Sitka Spruce
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots Pine
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow-grass
<i>Potamogeton polygonifolius</i>	Bog Pondweed
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild Cherry
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser Spearwort
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup
<i>Reseda luteola</i>	Weld

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	Flowering Currant
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's Sorrel
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled Dock
<i>Rumex x hybridus</i> (<i>R. longifolius</i> x <i>R. obtusifolius</i>)	Northern Dock x Broad-leaved Dock
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock
<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	Procumbent Pearlwort
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Common Ragwort
<i>Senecio sylvaticus</i>	Heath Groundsel
<i>Senecio viscosus</i>	Sticky Groundsel
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge Mustard
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	Corn Spurrey
<i>Stellaria alsine</i>	Bog Stitchwort
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed
<i>Stellaria pallida</i>	Lesser Chickweed
<i>Symphytum tuberosum</i>	Tuberous Comfrey
<i>Taraxacum</i> agg.	Dandelion
<i>Thuja plicata</i>	Western Red-cedar
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle
<i>Urtica urens</i>	Small Nettle
<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	Wall Speedwell
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell
<i>Veronica persica</i>	Common Field-speedwell
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Speedwell
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch
<i>Vicia lathyroides</i>	Spring Vetch
<i>Viola arvensis</i>	Field Pansy
<i>Viola palustris</i>	Marsh Violet
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common Dog-violet
<i>Viola tricolor</i>	Wild Pansy