

# The Flora of Dundee And Easter Ross Bus Stops

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- 16 bus stops in small Easter Ross towns and villages were visited twice
- 20 bus stops in West Dundee were visited twice
- All vascular plants within 10m were recorded
- Planted species were excluded
- Some specimens could only be identified to genus level
- The visits were made in 2024



Invergordon



Dundee

# Urban Dundee (20 bus stops)

- A mean of 7.5 species was recorded per site (range 7-13)
- 40 vascular plant species were noted in all (8 aliens).
- The commonest were *Epilobium* species (17 sites), *Poa annua* (15), *Taraxacum* (15), *Senecio vulgaris* (9 sites)
- There was evidence of extensive herbicide use
- **Urban East Ross(16 bus stops)**
  - A mean of 12 vascular plant species per site (range 6-24)
  - 66 species in total (3 aliens)
  - Commonest were *Poa annua* (16), *Taraxacum* (16), *Bellis perennis* (10), *Trifolium repens* (7), *Plantago lanceolata* (7), *Senecio vulgaris* (7)

# Comment - bus stops

- Some wild plants manage to survive in the hostile locations of bus stops with herbicide, trampling and pollution to contend with.
- More species were recorded in the small Easter Ross towns and villages, probably reflecting less disturbance and the relative proximity of wild land.
- No rarities but it was interesting to see *Succisa pratensis* at Invergordon, *Cirsium palustre* at Kildary and *Vulpia myuros* at Arabella in urban settings.
- In Dundee *Asplenium ruta-muraria* was by 4 bus stops and *A. trichomanes* by 2.
- When you are waiting for that bus look around and down.