



The BSBI Distribution Database

- An introduction for beginners!

Jim McIntosh,
BSBI Scottish Officer

The Amazing DDb!

BSBI's main database:

Retains and makes accessible all available details for records imported from external databases

The Amazing DDb!

Includes powerful on-line tools to:

- Search the database for records
- List or map records
- Check, Correct & Update records
- Download records
- Enter new records
- Produce Reports & Summaries

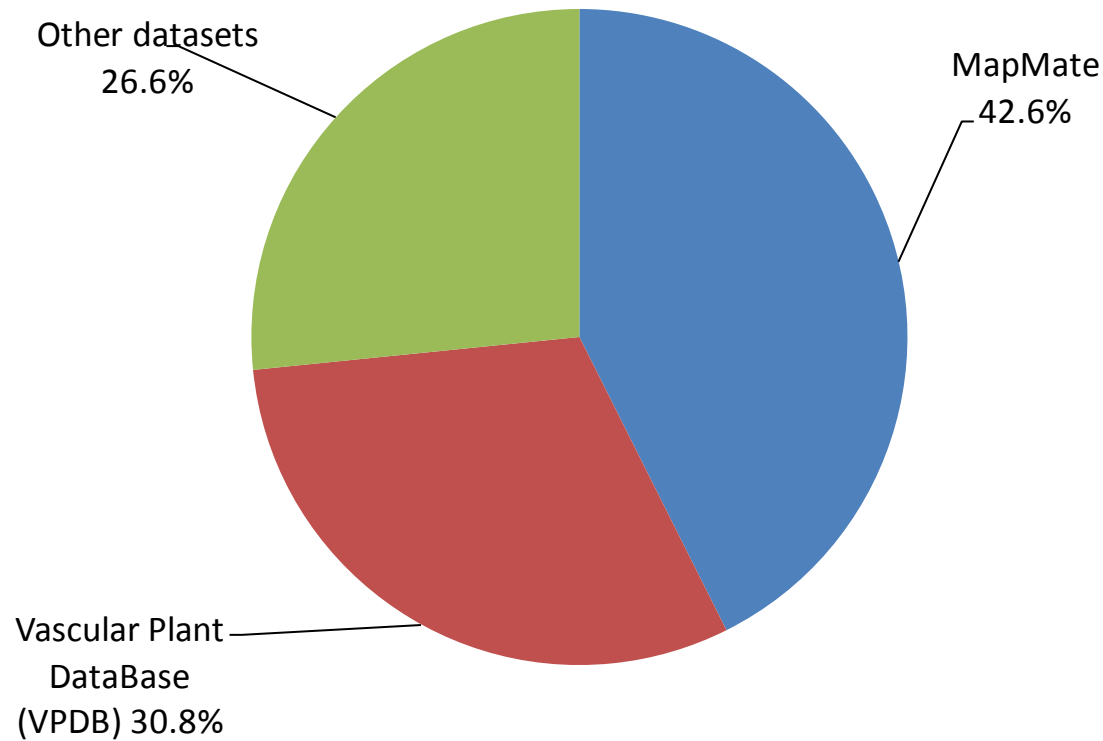
The Amazing DDb!

There are also

- Useful Tools - including a grid reference to VC convertor and a data validation system
- And an interactive Message Board forum

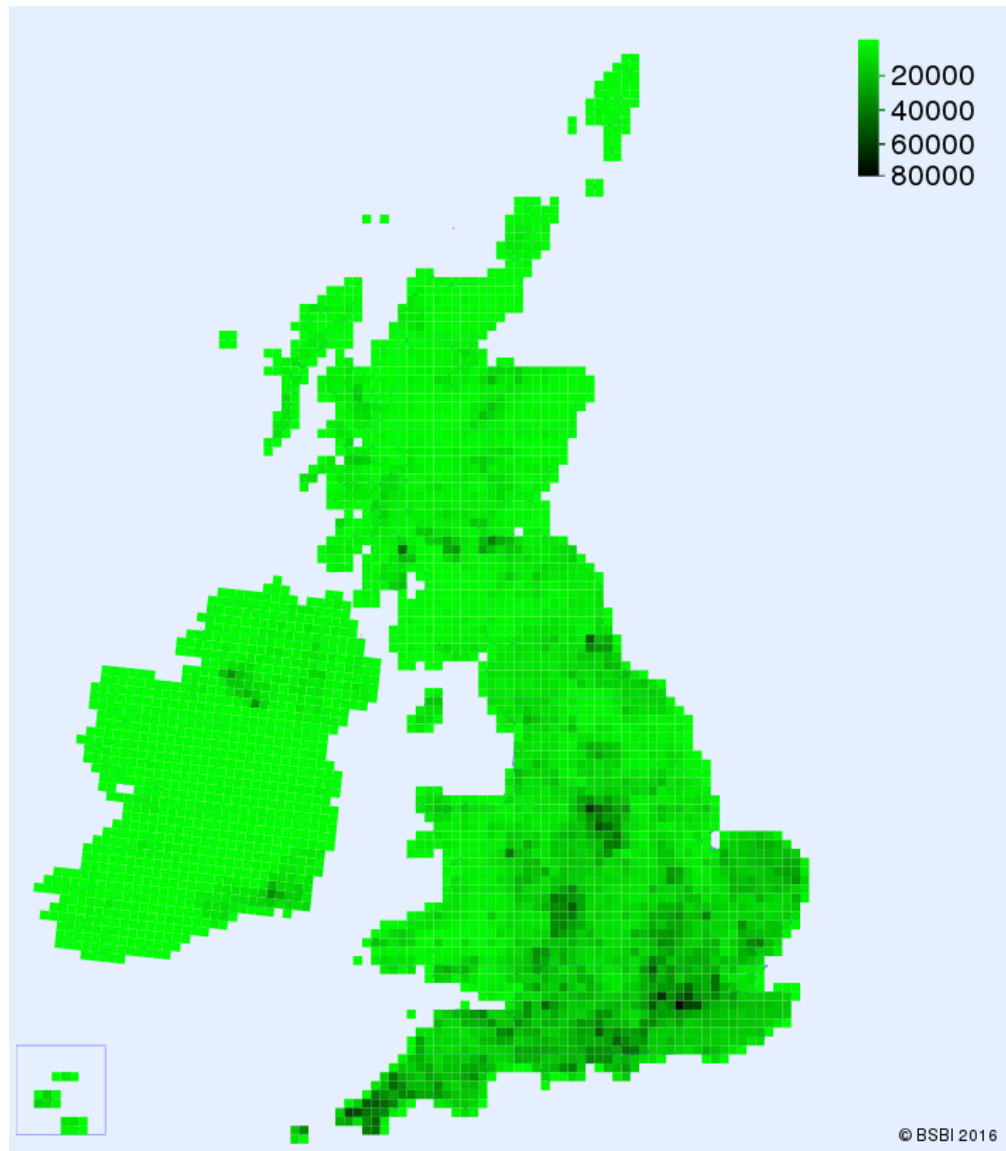
Records in the DDb

Contains c. 31.5 million records in total



As at 9 April 2016

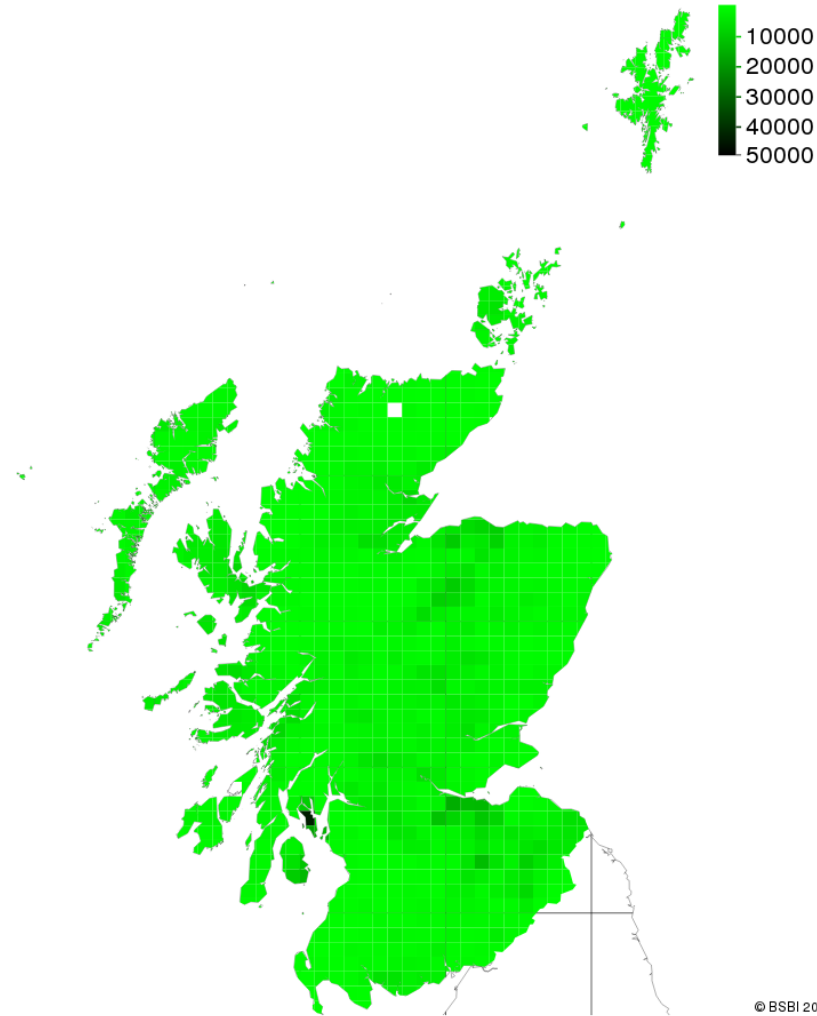
Records in the DDb



As at 9 April 2016

Grouped by hectad & duplicates filtered & grid-ref correct for vc or within 1km

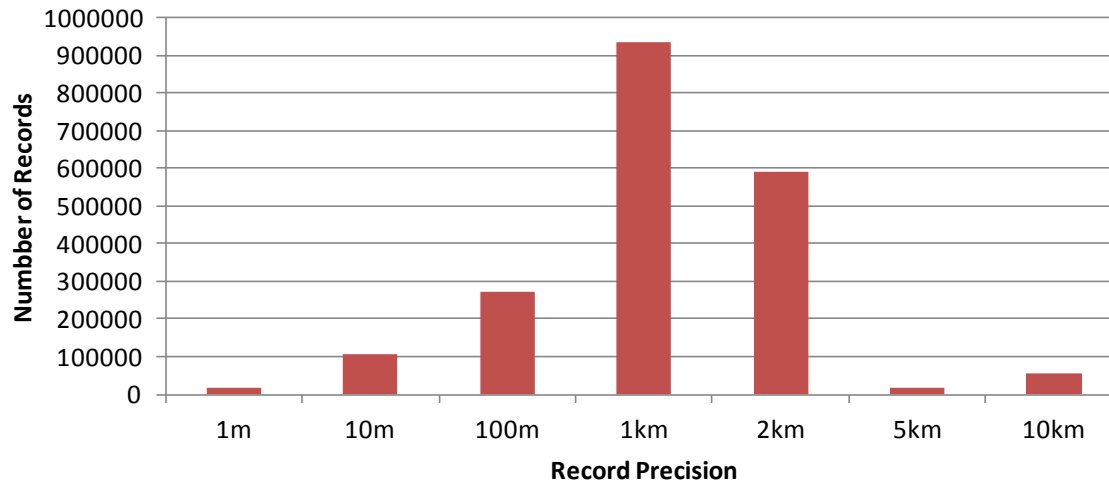
Scottish Records in the DDb



As at 9 April 2016

Records for Scotland in DDb

- 4.26 million records (all data classes)
 - 2.00 million are post 2000
- (Of which 1.63 million are from MapMate)



Use of the Database

- The DDb is primarily intended as a research tool for Recorders, Referees & other specialists
- Because it's largely unvalidated, live data it is not suitable for the general public or consultancies
- Access to detailed records is limited to Recorders and Referees by a password system
- Access for other users and organisations is **only**:
 - via data sharing agreements
 - or considered case-by-case

(Generally anyone contributes to Atlas 2020 is welcome)

Public use of the Database

Some features are publically available without registration or password. Google “BSBI DDb”.

The screenshot shows the BSBI Distribution Database website. The header includes the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland logo, the title 'Distribution Database > BSBI Distribution Database', and links for 'user manual', 'message board', 'login', and 'register'. A navigation bar contains 'Tools', 'maps', and 'search'. Below this is a sub-navigation bar with 'About', 'Getting started', and 'Capabilities' tabs. The main content area is titled 'Welcome to the BSBI Distribution Database' and contains several sections: 'Access', 'Key features', 'Detailed records', 'Editing and checking', 'Data validation', 'Workspaces', 'Reporting tools', and 'On-line editing'. Each section provides information about the database's capabilities and how to use it.

Welcome to the BSBI Distribution Database

The distribution database (DDb) is maintained by the [Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland](#), to store and make accessible the ever-growing pool of biological records created or collated by the society.

The DDb collates 36 million records from the BSBI's large and disparate range of databases, including 14 million from the VPDB at BRC, 14 million records from MapMate users, along with many county databases and data from specialist surveys.

The DDb can provide county-recorders and research workers with on-line access to large, detailed data sets and, where appropriate, allow data to be edited to correct mistakes or to add annotations.

The system provides sophisticated search and reporting tools. Additional capabilities are being added frequently.

Access

The DDb is primarily intended as a research tool for county-recorders, referees and other specialist users. It provides access to records in full detail and data is fully editable by users. Because this is research-level, live data it may not be appropriate for the general public or for consultancies. Filtered, interpreted data can be obtained from your local records centre, the NBN Gateway and from other public sources.

Please [register to request access to the DDb system](#). Access requests are welcomed and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If we can't grant you full access to the system, we may instead be able to provide an export of only the data relevant to your work or suggest other sources for the information that you need.

On-line editing

The system allows the possibility on-line editing of records and submission of new records. This capability may be made use of in the future, but there are no plans to replace other existing recording systems (e.g. MapMate) with an online system. Please continue to use whatever recording system you prefer - the DDb will accept and fully integrate records from a diverse range of sources and formats.

Key features

Detailed records

The DDb retains and makes accessible all available details for records imported from external databases.

Editing and checking

County-recorders and other users with editing rights can modify records online, or quickly mark records as confirmed or unconfirmed.

Data validation

Although not yet fully implemented the system is intended to semi-automate the detection of erroneous records. Currently, the system detects malformed dates and grid-references during data import and online tools can be used to check grid-references against county boundaries and to compare records against the expected distribution for a taxon (at hectad or tetrad level).

Workspaces

The database allows users to set up separate workspaces where they can freely modify or create records without impacting the public database. This could allow use of the system for 'working-copy' data that is not ready for public release.

Reporting tools

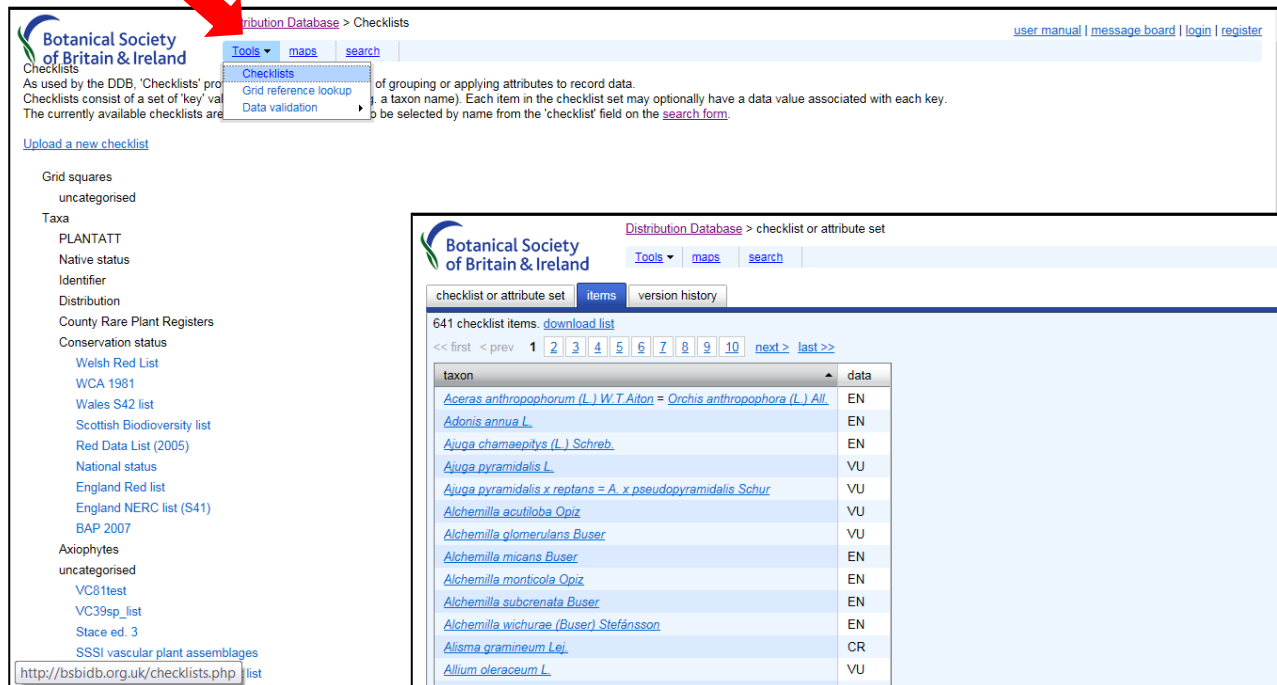
The system allows fairly complex queries to be run, the results of which can be displayed on maps. The range of output formats and visualisations possible will be expanded over the coming year.

For more details please click on the *Capabilities* tab.

Public use of the Database

Can view a huge variety of different Checklists

Tools > Checklists



Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland

Distribution Database > Checklists

user manual | message board | login | register

Tools | maps | search

Checklists

Grid reference lookup

Data validation

As used by the DDB, 'Checklists' provide a way of grouping or applying attributes to record data. Checklists consist of a set of 'key' values (a taxon name). Each item in the checklist set may optionally have a data value associated with each key. The currently available checklists are listed on the [search form](#).

[Upload a new checklist](#)

Grid squares

uncategorised

Taxa

PLANTATT

Native status

Identifier

Distribution

County Rare Plant Registers

Conservation status

Welsh Red List

WCA 1981

Wales S42 list

Scottish Biodiversity list

Red Data List (2005)

National status

England Red list

England NERC list (S41)

BAP 2007

Axiophytes

uncategorised

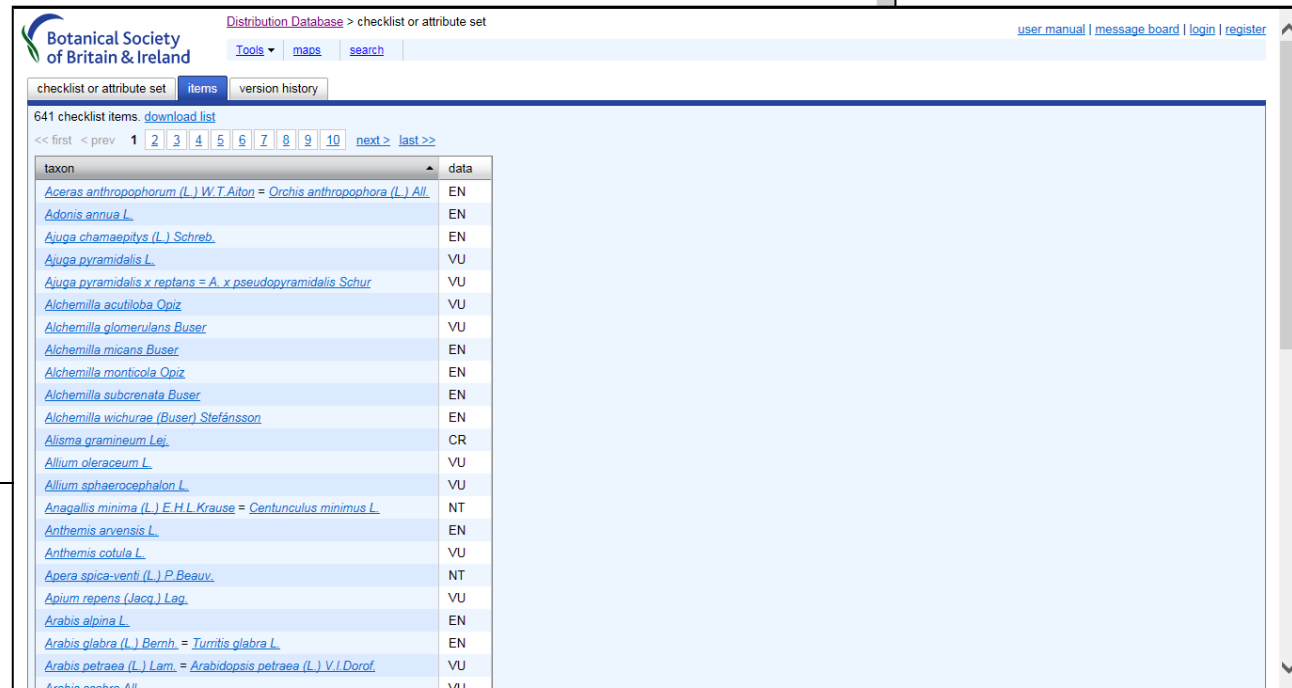
VC81test

VC39sp_list

Stace ed. 3

SSSI vascular plant assemblages

<http://bsbidb.org.uk/checklists.php> list



Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland

Distribution Database > checklist or attribute set

user manual | message board | login | register

Tools | maps | search

checklist or attribute set | items | version history

641 checklist items. [download list](#)

<< first < prev 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 next > last >>

taxon	data
Aceras anthrophorum (L.) W.T.Aiton = <i>Orchis anthrophora</i> (L.) All.	EN
Adonis annua L.	EN
Ajuga chamaepitys (L.) Schreb.	EN
Ajuga pyramidalis L.	VU
Ajuga pyramidalis x reptans = <i>A. x pseudopyramidalis</i> Schur	VU
Alchemilla acutiloba Opiz	VU
Alchemilla glomerulans Buser	VU
Alchemilla micans Buser	EN
Alchemilla monticola Opiz	EN
Alchemilla subcrenata Buser	EN
Alchemilla wickuriae (Buser) Stefánsson	EN
Alisma gramineum Lej.	CR
Allium oleraceum L.	VU
Allium sphaerocephalon L.	VU
Anagallis minima (L.) E.H.L.Krause = <i>Centunculus minimus</i> L.	NT
Anthemis arvensis L.	EN
Anthemis cotula L.	VU
Apera spica-venti (L.) P.Beauv.	NT
Apium repens (Jacq.) Lag.	VU
Arabis alpina L.	EN
Arabis glabra (L.) Bernh. = <i>Turnitis glabra</i> L.	EN
Arabis petraea (L.) Lam. = <i>Arabidopsis petraea</i> (L.) V.I.Dorof.	VU
Archio-cochlea All.	VU

Public use of the Database

Can check which Vice-county a grid reference is in
Tools > Grid Reference Lookup

The screenshot displays the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland website. A red arrow points to the 'Tools' menu in the top navigation bar. The 'Tools' menu is open, showing options: 'Checklists', 'Grid reference lookup', and 'Data validation'. The 'Grid reference lookup' option is highlighted. Below the menu, the 'grid reference' field contains the text 'NN578726', which is circled in red. To the right of the field is a 'look-up grid reference' button. Below the input field, the following information is displayed:

- [NN57](#) > [NN57B](#) > [NN5772](#) > **NN578726**
- East Inverness-shire (VC96)
- Mid Perthshire (VC88)
- East Perthshire (VC89)
- Grid square elevation estimates (m): mean height 834, min: 826, max: 841
- [View taxon list for hectad NN57](#)

Below this information are three tabs: 'map (Google)', 'map (OS)', and 'local pictures'. The 'map (OS)' tab is selected, showing a topographic map of the area. The map is titled 'Map of NN578726' and shows contour lines, a river, and a hill labeled 'Carn 'lc Loumhaidh'. A red dot marks the location of the grid reference. The map includes a compass rose and a scale bar. The bottom of the page shows the URL 'bsbidb.org.uk/gridref.php'.

Public use of the Database

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The screenshot displays the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland website. A red arrow points to the 'Tools' menu in the top navigation bar. The 'Tools' menu is open, showing options: 'Checklists', 'Grid reference lookup', and 'Data validation'. The 'Grid reference lookup' option is highlighted. Below the menu, the 'grid reference' field contains 'NN5772', which is circled in red. To the right of the field is a 'look-up grid reference' button. Below the field, the following information is displayed: 'NN57 > NN57B > NN5772', 'East Inverness-shire (VC96)', 'Mid Perthshire (VC88)', 'East Perthshire (VC89)', 'Grid square elevation estimates (m): mean height 794, min: 650, max: 878', and a link 'View taxon list for hectad NN57'. Below this information are three map options: 'map (Google)', 'map (OS)', and 'local pictures'. The 'map (OS)' option is selected, showing a topographic map of the area. The map includes labels for 'Beinn Udlamain', 'Càrn 'Ic Loumhaidh', and 'An Sgùlan'. A grid reference 'NN5772' is marked on the map. The map also shows contour lines and a scale bar. The bottom of the page has a footer with 'bsbidb.org.uk/gridref.php'.

Public use of the Database

Can create a taxon list for a 10 x 10 km square

Tools > Grid Reference Lookup

The screenshot displays the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland website interface. A red arrow points to the 'Tools' menu, which is open, showing 'Grid reference lookup' as the selected option. Below this, the 'Grid reference parser' tool is shown with 'NF19' entered in the 'grid reference' field. A red circle highlights the 'View taxon list for hectad NF19' link. The 'Map of NF19' section shows a map of the grid square with various locations marked. The 'Taxon list for NF19' section displays a list of plant species and their distribution records.

Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland
Grid-square map, vice-county and summary taxon list tool

Distribution Database > Grid-reference parser

Tools | maps | search

message board | login | register

grid reference OS GRID-REFERENCE

Tools | maps | search

message board | login | register

grid reference NF19 look-up grid reference

NF19
Outer Hebrides (VC110)
Grid square elevation estimates (m): mean height 129, min: 2, max: 399
[View taxon list for hectad NF19](#)

map (Google) map (OS)

Map of NF19

Map showing the grid square NF19, including locations like ST KILDA, Boreen/Borranigh, and ST KILDA.

Taxon list for NF19

exclude taxa with fewer than records.
earliest year 1987
recent record boundary year 2010
☐ include taxon list from the whole county
☐ sort recent records separately
☐ include infra-specific taxa

show taxon list

Taxon list for NF19:

<i>Achillea millefolium</i> (2010) 2 2	<i>Equisetum arvense</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Poa angustifolia</i> (2005) 1 0
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Erica cinerea</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Poa annua</i> (2010) 1 1
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i> (2010) 1 2	<i>Poa pratensis</i> (2010) 0 1
<i>Aira praecox</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Poa trivialis</i> (2010) 1 1
<i>Alopecurus geniculatus</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Festuca ovina</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Polygala serpyllifolia</i> (2010) 1 1
<i>Anagallis tenella</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Festuca rubra</i> (2010) 1 3	<i>Polypodium vulgare</i> (2010) 0 1
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Festuca vivipara</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Potentilla anserina</i> (2010) 1 1
<i>Antennaria dioica</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Ficaria verna</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Potentilla erecta</i> (2010) 1 2
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> (2010) 1 2	<i>Galium saxatile</i> (2010) 1 2	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> (2010) 1 1
<i>Apium nodiflorum</i> (2006) 1 0	<i>Glyceria fluitans</i> (2013) 0 1	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> (2010) 1 1
<i>Armeria maritima</i> (2013) 1 4	<i>Holcus lanatus</i> (2010) 1 2	<i>Ranunculus acris</i> (2010) 1 2
<i>Asplenium marinum</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Ranunculus flammula</i> (2010) 0 1
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i> (2013) 0 1	<i>Hypericum pulchrum</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Ranunculus repens</i> (2010) 0 1
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> (2013) 1 3	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Rumex acetosa</i> (2013) 1 4
<i>Bellis perennis</i> (2010) 1 2	<i>Juncus articulatus</i> (2000) 1 0	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> (2010) 1 1
<i>Briza media</i> (2010) 1 2	<i>Juncus bufonius</i> (2010) 2 1	<i>Sagina procumbens</i> (2010) 1 2
<i>Briza media</i> (2010) 1 2	<i>Juncus bulbosus</i> (2013) 1 2	<i>Sagina subulata</i> (2013) 0 1
<i>Carex binervis</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Juncus effusus</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Salix repens</i> (2000) 1 0
<i>Carex demissa</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Juncus gerardi</i> (2013) 0 1	<i>Scorzonera odora</i> (2010) 1 1
<i>Carex echinata</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Juncus ranarius</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Sedum rosea</i> (2010) 1 2
<i>Carex nigra</i> (2010) 1 1	<i>Juncus squarrosus</i> (2000) 1 0	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> (2010) 0 1
<i>Carex oederi</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Ligusticum scoticum</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Silene flos-cuculi</i> (2010) 0 1
<i>Carex pilulifera</i> (2010) 0 1	<i>Lolium perenne</i> (2010) 1 2	<i>Silene uniflora</i> (2013) 1 3
	<i>Lucula multiflora</i> (2010) 1 2	<i>Sonchus asper</i> (2010) 2 1

Public use of the Database

Can validate (check) record datasets

Tools > Data validation

Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland
Gridref parser

Distribution Database > Grid-ref parser (bulk)

[message board](#) | [login](#) | [register](#)

[Tools](#) | [maps](#) | [search](#)

Upload a delimited file containing a

file No file chosen

format of references

column number for grid-refs

vice-county bias

input file delimiter

output file-format

optional output columns

☐ include quadrant column (only if co-ordinates are exact multiple of 5km)

☐ easting/northing (metre co-ordinates) of grid-square SW corner

☐ easting/northing (metre co-ordinates) of grid-square centre point

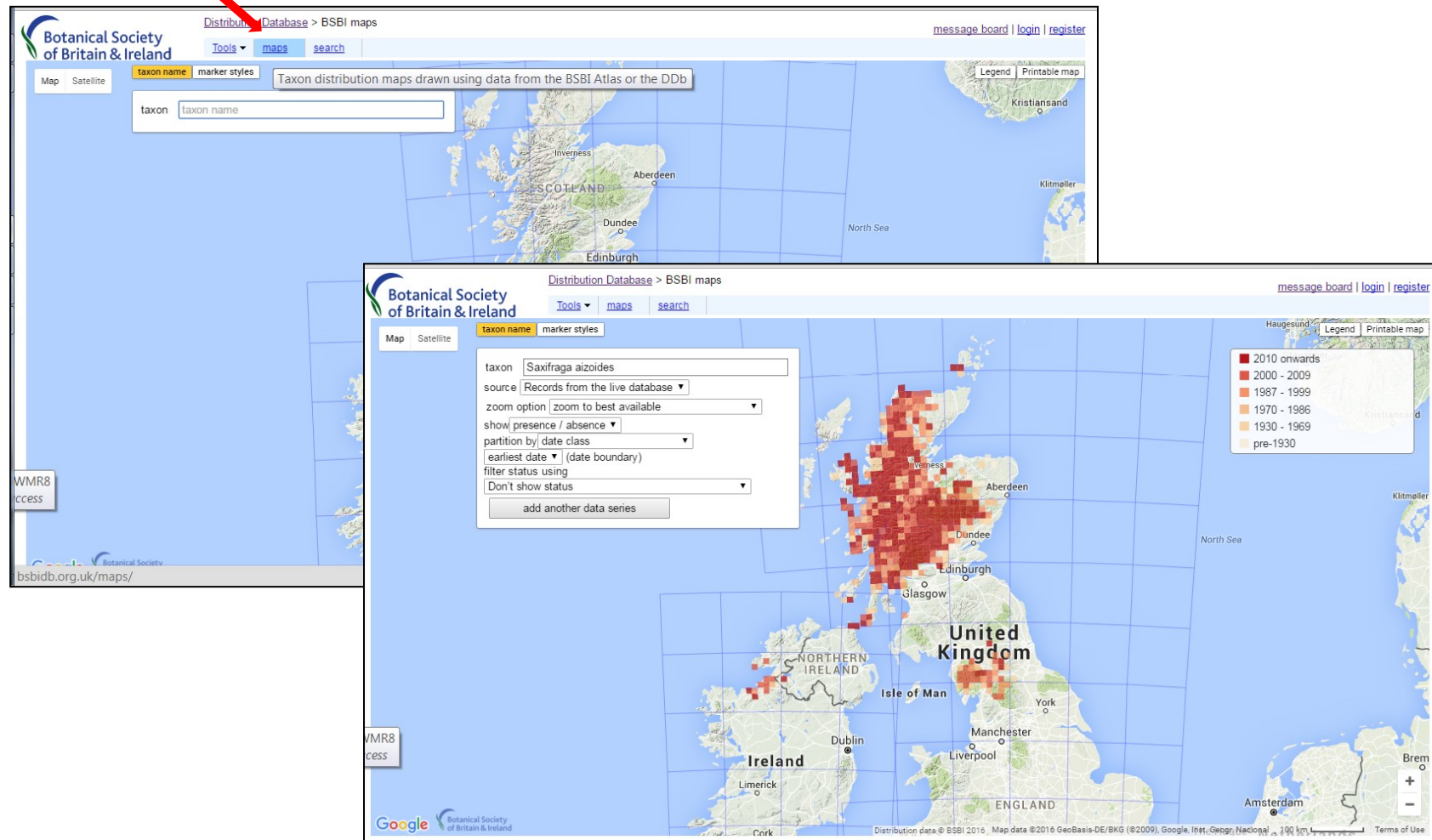
Processing of large files may take a few minutes, if this causes problems with your connection then please contact [Tom](#), who can run the command-line version of this page

WVMR8
ccess

bsbidb.org.uk/gridrefparser.php

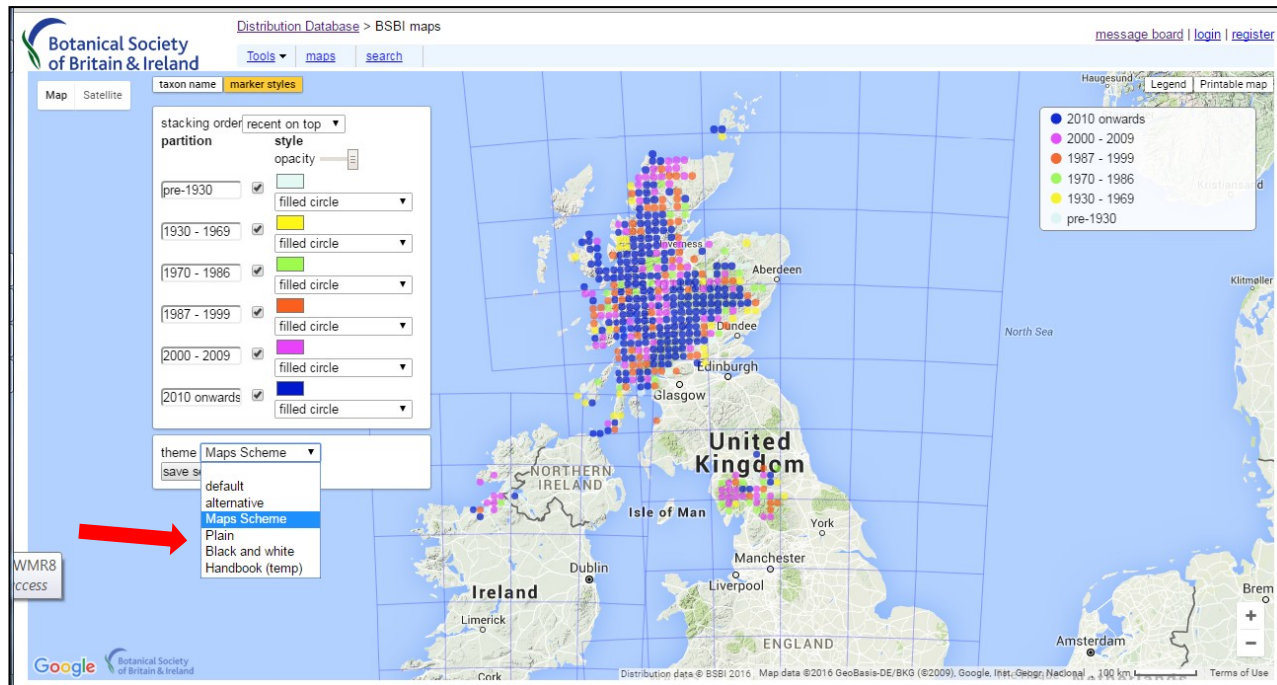
Public use of the Database

Can map species distributions



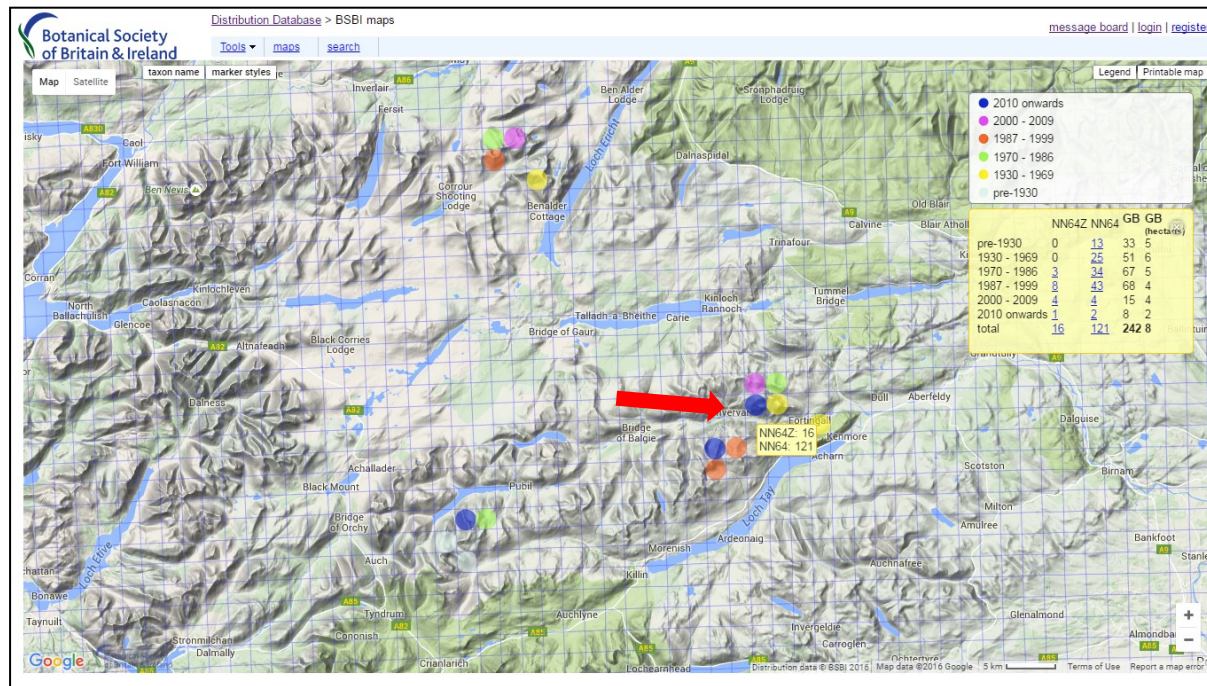
Public use of the Database

Species distribution maps have loads of options and it is worth playing around with the different menus.



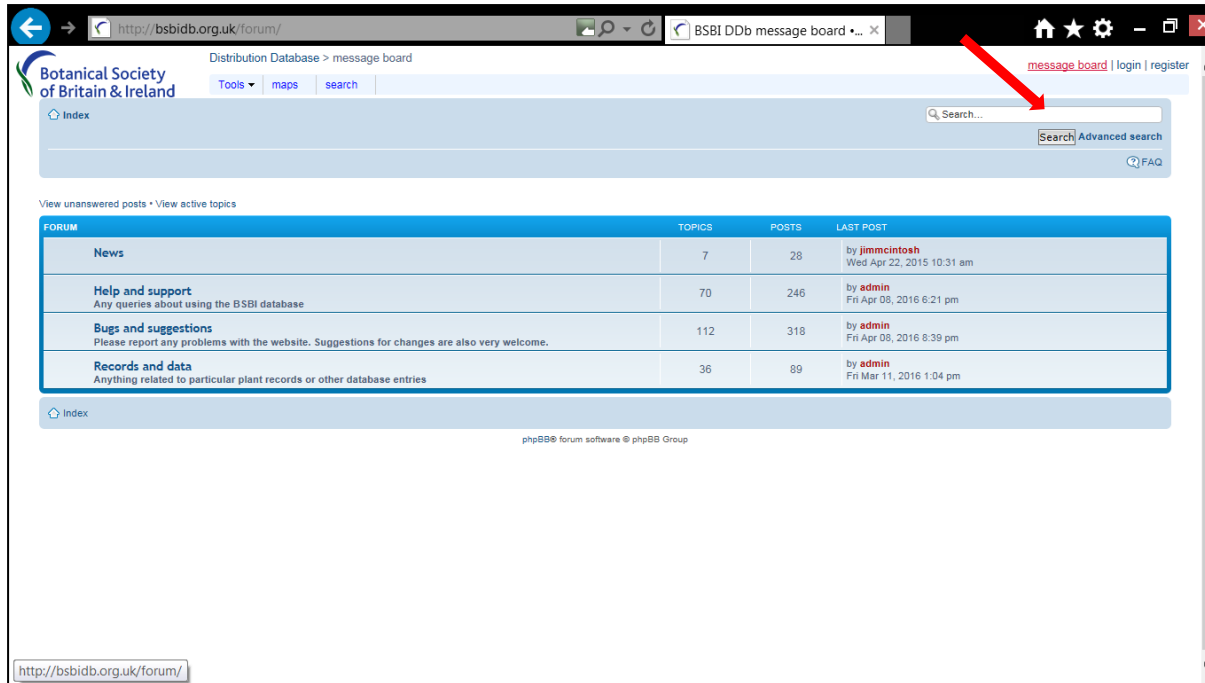
Public use of the Database

Tetrad distribution of *Carex atrofusca* (Scorched Alpine-sedge).



Public use of the Database

Finally, there is read-only access to the Message Board.



The screenshot shows the BSBI DDb message board interface. At the top, the browser address bar shows <http://bsbidb.org.uk/forum/>. The page header includes the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland logo, navigation links (Tools, maps, search), and a search bar. A red arrow points to the search bar. Below the header, there is a table with forum topics. The table has columns for Forum, Topics, Posts, and Last Post. The forum topics listed are News, Help and support, Bugs and suggestions, and Records and data. The footer shows the URL <http://bsbidb.org.uk/forum/>.

Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland

Tools maps search

Search... Search Advanced search FAQ

View unanswered posts • View active topics

FORUM	TOPICS	POSTS	LAST POST
News	7	28	by jimmcintosh Wed Apr 22, 2015 10:31 am
Help and support Any queries about using the BSBI database	70	246	by admin Fri Apr 08, 2016 6:21 pm
Bugs and suggestions Please report any problems with the website. Suggestions for changes are also very welcome.	112	318	by admin Fri Apr 08, 2016 8:39 pm
Records and data Anything related to particular plant records or other database entries	36	89	by admin Fri Mar 11, 2016 1:04 pm

Index

phpBB® forum software © phpBB Group

<http://bsbidb.org.uk/forum/>

Registering

- It is very simple to register – just Google the site and click the registration link in top right corner
- Your application will be approved within 2 or 3 days by email.
- Most Recorders already have a registration - let me know if you need reminding of your username.
- If members contribute to Atlas 2020 they should ask Recorders to vouch for them if they want access.
- Once registered you are able to do much more, such as...

Search & List Records

Enter taxon here & grid ref here

Enter VC here

Click here to view record

Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland

Distribution Database > search

my mapmate records | my county | message board | my details | logout Jim(jimmcintosh) | public mode

Tools New maps search search history

Search form Search templates

search for Records (specimens or observations)

taxon taxon name

grid reference grid square

county/region vc

date recorded 1999 equals

recorder any role Mcintosh, J.W. broad match

checklist/attributes checklist

bounded area area name any area type

include this area include intersections buffer 0

place name place name broad match

more options

Current search-form filter

records where recorded in 1999 and associated with Mcintosh, J.W.

display results email results download results save query reset search form

help...

results table download printable map zoomable map help

36 records matched your query.


first < prev 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 next > last >>

record	taxon	recorder	vc	locality	grid ref	date	status
	<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	Farrell, L.	VC103	Beach	NM42R	17/7/1999	
	<i>Aira praecox</i>	Farrell, L. Collins, B.M. McTeague, F.	VC103	Little Colonsay	NM33T	26/6/1999	


All records of *Cymbalaria muralis* in Hectad O13 in Co. Dublin (VCH21)

View details for a single record

The screenshot shows a web browser window with two tabs: 'search' and 'Record'. The address bar displays the URL bsbidb.org.uk/object.php?objectid=2cd4p9h.6fkhp4&class=RecordInsta. The page header includes the 'BSBI Distribution Database' logo and navigation links: [message board](#), [my details](#), and [logout Tom\(admin\)](#). Below the header is a toolbar with buttons for 'Tools', 'Links', 'New', 'maps', 'search', 'search history', and a 'workspace' dropdown menu set to 'BSBI public data set'. A 'current' dropdown menu is also present. The main content area has a tabbed interface with 'Record' selected, and other tabs for 'map', 'attributes', 'version history', and 'admin'. The 'Record' tab displays the following information:

- Record
- taxon [Cymbalaria muralis subsp. muralis P. Gaertn., B. Mey. & Scherb.](#)
- determiner: [Green, Paul Richard](#)
- date 9/5/2007
- locality [Beaumont Hospital, Dublin VCH21 O180393](#) 
- recorder [Green, Paul Richard](#)
- tag/attribute [Mapmate:status: Established](#)
- [Mapmate:method: Field record](#)
- notes notes: Growing in grounds of Beaumont Hospital.
- references [Miscellaneous records \(that are not entered on a recording card, no paper copy kept\)](#)
- [Green, Paul R.](#)
- source data set [MapMateCentre:2vp \(2vp\)](#)
- type field observation
- status established in wild for at least five years and spreading
- external id MAPMATE:record:5tuki2vp
- bsbidb object **2cd4p9h.2b6tag#2cd4p9h.6fkhp4**
- data source [MapMate](#) (via provider [MapMate](#))
- last modified Tue, 19 Jul 11 18:11:29 +0000

Please cite this database record as <http://bsbidb.org.uk/object/RecordInstance/2cd4p9h.2b6tag>

 [Edit this record](#)

[Search for similar records](#)

Can Search for records in a huge variety of ways

- By Species, Grid Ref, Vice-county, Date, or Date Range, Recorder, Site, Placename
- For bounded areas such as SSSIs, National Parks (or any supplied GIS boundary)
- 'More Options' gives even more constraints

Or any combination of the above constraints!

Searching for Records – example 1

To find and list all records of *Carex atrofusca* in Mid-Perthshire.

Enter
taxon
here

Enter
VC here

Then
click
display
results
to map
records

Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland

Distribution Database > search

Tools New maps search search history

my mapmate records | my county | message board | my details | logout_jim(jimmcintosh) | public mode

Search form Search templates

search for ☐ Records (specimens or observations) ☐

taxon

grid reference

county/region

date recorded

recorder person or organisation broad match

checklist/attributes

bounded area any area type

place name broad match

more options

Current search-form filter
records where taxon *Carex atrofusca* Schkuhr "Scorched Alpine-sedge" and vice-county: VC88

display results email results download results save query reset search form

help

results table download printable map zoomable map help

218 records matched your query.

<< first < prev 1 2 3 4 5 next > last >>

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	record	taxon	recorder	vc	locality	grid ref	date	status
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Carex atrofusca</i>	Ray, Howard	VC88	Meall na Aighean	NN6923249722	17/7/2012	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Carex atrofusca</i>	McIntosh, J.W. Watson, D.	VC88	Meall Garth	NN6576344076	1/9/2010	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Carex atrofusca</i>	McIntosh, J.W.	VC88	Beinn Heasgarnich	NN4184138544	31/8/2010	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Carex atrofusca</i>	McIntosh, J.W.	VC88	Beinn Heasgarnich	NN4177238536	31/8/2010	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Carex atrofusca</i>	McIntosh, J.W.	VC88	Beinn Heasgarnich	NN4138	31/8/2010	<input type="checkbox"/>

Downloading Records – example 1

To download all records of *Carex atrofusca* in Mid-Perthshire.

Click
Download

Then
select
format
(CSV,
Excel).

The screenshot shows a web application interface for downloading records. The top section contains search filters: 'grid reference' (set to 'grid square'), 'county/region' (set to 'Mid Perthshire'), 'date recorded' (set to 'equals'), 'recorder' (set to 'any role'), 'checklist/attributes' (set to 'checklist'), 'bounded area' (set to 'area name'), 'place name' (set to 'place name'), and 'more options'. Below these filters is a 'Current search-form filter' section showing 'records where taxon *Carex atrofusca* Schkuhr "Scorched Alpine-sedge" and vice-county: VC88'. There are buttons for 'display results', 'email results', 'download results', 'save query', and 'reset search form'. Below the filters is a 'results table' section with tabs for 'download', 'printable map', 'zoomable map', and 'help'. The 'download' tab is selected, showing options for 'Tabular data' (suitable for import into spreadsheets) and 'csv format'. Under 'Tabular data', there are checkboxes for 'optional additional columns to include': 'GIS bounded areas', 'estimated mean altitude of grid square', 'calculated vice-county based on grid-ref (where different)', 'status (of taxon-hectad combination) from the BSI 2000 Atlas', and 'taxon authority'. Under 'csv format', there are links for 'download email', 'Excel spreadsheet download email', and 'OpenDocument spreadsheet download email'. At the bottom, there is a note about large result sets and links for 'Mapmate', 'Dmap', and 'Export as DMap .dis file'.

grid reference

county/region

date recorded

recorder

checklist/attributes

bounded area

place name

Current search-form filter
records where taxon *Carex atrofusca* Schkuhr "Scorched Alpine-sedge" and vice-county: VC88

[reset search form](#)

[help](#)

results table

Tabular data
Tabular data suitable for import into spreadsheets etc
optional additional columns to include:
☐ GIS bounded areas
☐ estimated mean altitude of grid square
☐ calculated vice-county based on grid-ref (where different)
☐ status (of taxon-hectad combination) from the BSI 2000 Atlas
☐ taxon authority

csv format [download email](#)
Excel spreadsheet [download email](#)
OpenDocument spreadsheet [download email](#)

For large result sets (> 30000 records) the email options are strongly recommended; CSV format reports are usually generated more quickly than Excel files.

Mapmate
To load records into MapMate please follow [this link](#) [opens in a new window]

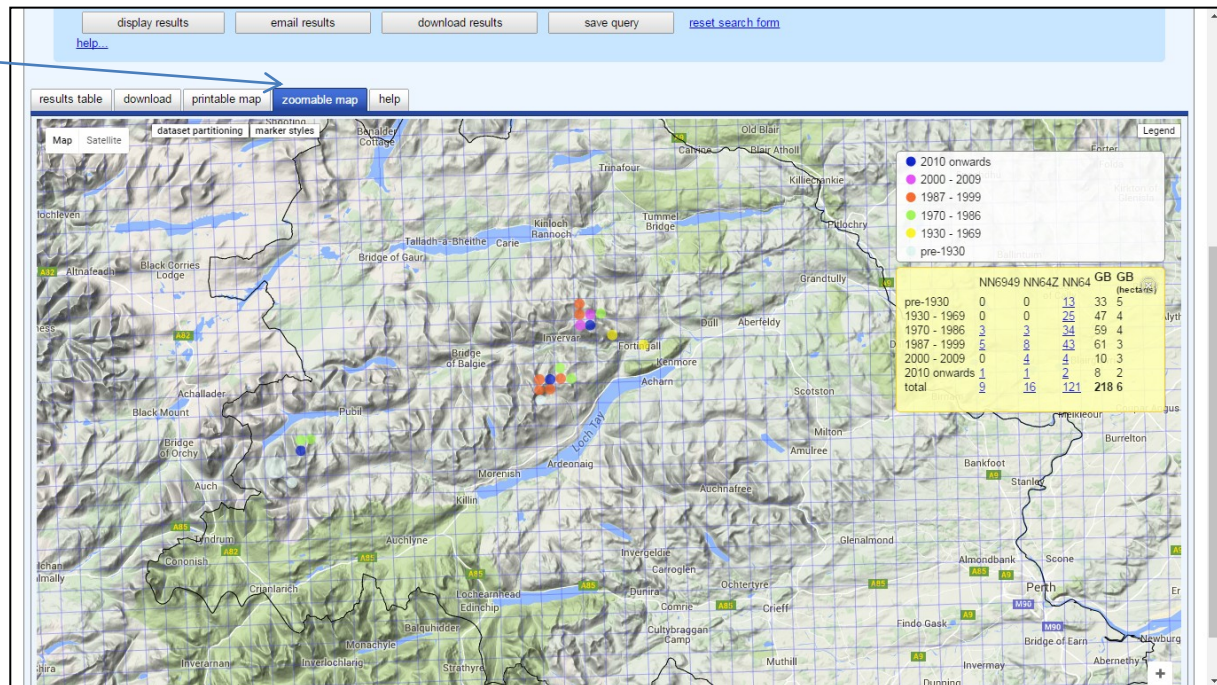
Dmap
[Export as DMap .dis file](#) (for mapping using DMap)

To link to this search please copy [this link](#) (or the [expanded version](#)).

Mapping Records – example 1

Then to map all records of *Carex atrofusca* in Mid-Perthshire.

Click here
on
zoomable
map



Searching for Records – example 2

To find all post 2000 records of Nationally Rare or Scarce species in Arthur's Seat SSSI

Enter Date
and “from”
here

Enter
National
Status here

Enter name
of SSSI here

Then click
display results
to list records

Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland Distribution Database > search

Tools New maps search search history

my mapmate records | my county | message board | my details | logout Jim(jimmintosh) | public mode

Search form Search templates

search for Records (specimens or observations)

taxon taxon name

grid reference grid square

county/region VC

date recorded from 2000 from for vague record date ranges use start date

recorder any role person or organisation broad match

checklist/attributes National status value value (optional)

bounded area Arthur's Seat Volcano include this area contained within buffer 0

place name place name broad match

status (external scheme) native Hectad status (including revisions since Atlas 2000)

more options

Current search-form filter
records where recorded since 2000 and external status scheme Hectad status (including revisions since Atlas 2000) status: 'native' and area within Arthur's Seat Volcano and matching checklist National status

display results email results download results save query reset search form

help

results table download printable map zoomable map help

65 records matched your query.

<< first < prev 1 2 next > last >>

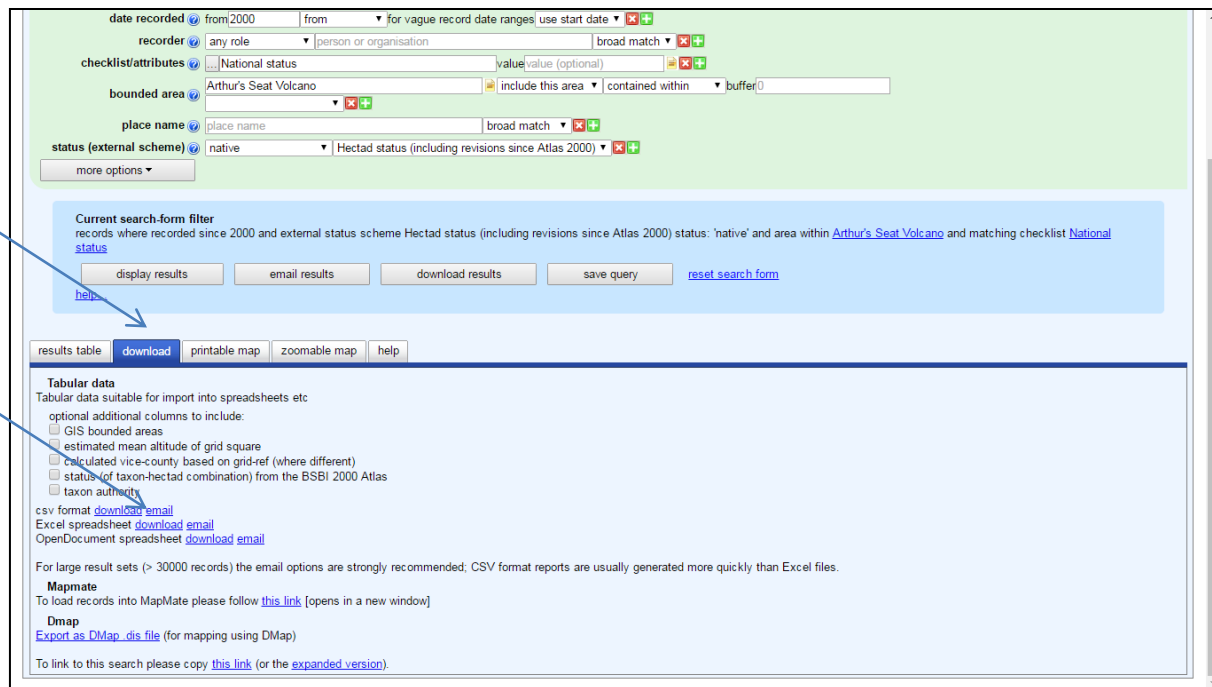
record	taxon	recorder	vc	locality	grid ref	date	status
	Asplenium septentrionale	Crowther, N.	VC83	Holyrood Park	NT27347254	2002	
	Sorbus rupicola	Crowther, N.	VC83	Arthur's Seat Volcano SSSI	NT26777330	2002	
	Silene acaulis	Roger Holmes (Edinburgh Natural History Society)	VC83	Samsone's Ridge, Arthur's Seat	NT276726	26/5/2004	

Downloading Records – example 2

To download all these records in Arthur Seat Volcano SSSI.

Click
Download

Then
select
format
(CSV,
Excel).

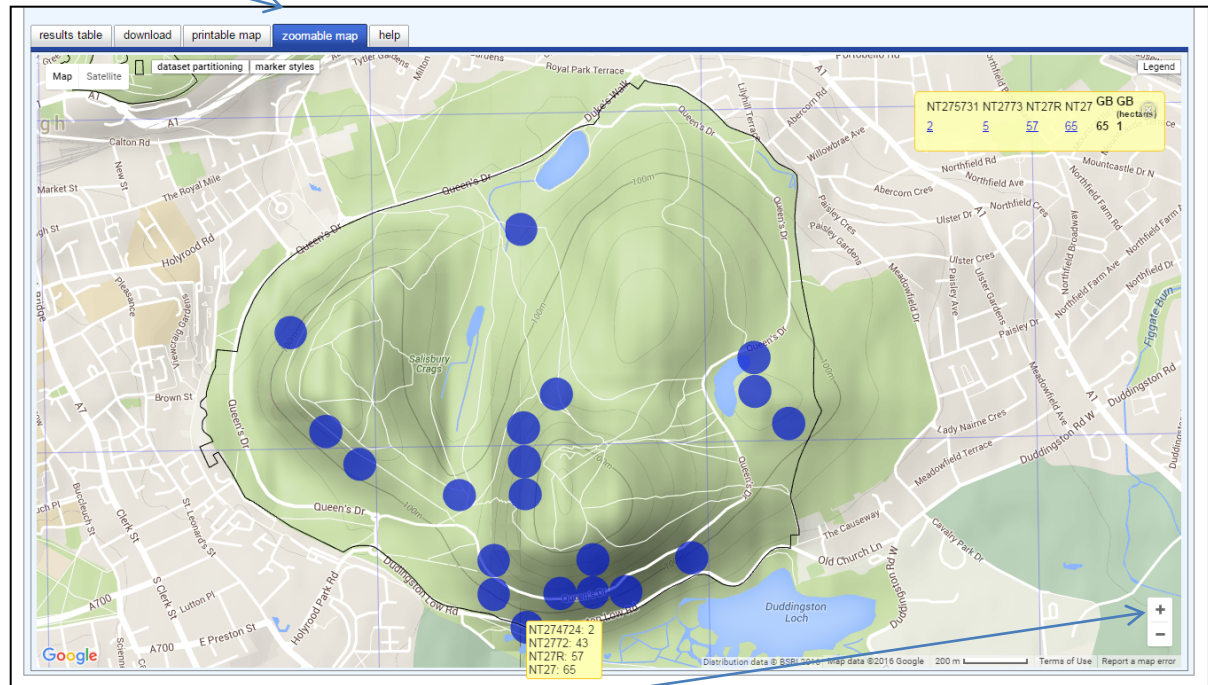


The screenshot shows a web application interface for downloading records. The top section contains search filters for 'date recorded', 'recorder', 'checklist/attributes', 'bounded area', 'place name', and 'status (external scheme)'. Below these filters is a 'Current search-form filter' summary and a row of buttons: 'display results', 'email results', 'download results', 'save query', and 'reset search form'. The 'download results' button is highlighted with a blue arrow from the yellow box 'Click Download'. Below the buttons is a 'results table' tab, and the 'download' tab is selected. The 'download' section offers 'Tabular data' for import into spreadsheets, with options to include GIS bounded areas, estimated mean altitude, calculated vice-county, status of taxon-hectad combination, and taxon authority. Below these options are links to download the data in CSV, Excel, or OpenDocument format, each with a 'download' and 'email' link. A blue arrow from the yellow box 'Then select format (CSV, Excel)' points to the 'download' link for the CSV format. The bottom section contains links for 'Mapmate', 'Dmap', and 'Export as DMap .dis file'.

Mapping Records – example 2

Then to map these Arthur Seat records...

Click on
zoomable
map



Then Zoom
and pan in

Can use DDb to check records

For:

- Mismatched counties and grid-references
- Records that are outside known distribution
- Single records of a taxon in a VC or hectad

Can also use it to detect & hide duplicate records

Validating (Correcting) Records

Registered users can mark bad records & confirm good ones

Yellow: doubtful

red (with strike-through): rejected

Blue: not classified (default)

Olive: accepted

Also Grey = duplicate

record	taxon	recorder	vc	locality	grid ref	date	status
	Garex acuta		VCH22	VCH22 Meath	N86	1950-1969	
	<u>Carex acuta</u>		VCH22	<u>VCH22 Meath</u>	N86	-1996	
	<u>Carex acuta</u>	<u>Webb, D.A.</u>	VCH22	<u>Navan, River Boyne</u>	N86	3/6/1950	
	<u>Sorbus aucuparia</u>	{ <u>Lockton, A.J.</u> }	VCH22	<u>VCH22 Meath</u>	N67	1950-1969	

select all select none selected records action change record validation state ▼

mark validation state as ▼

apply change to selected records

hide duplicates ☐

Updating records

Registered VC Recorders can edit records

Record of a plant occurrence, based on a field observation, voucher specimen or literature report.

type of record

taxon
identified by
identification date
id comment

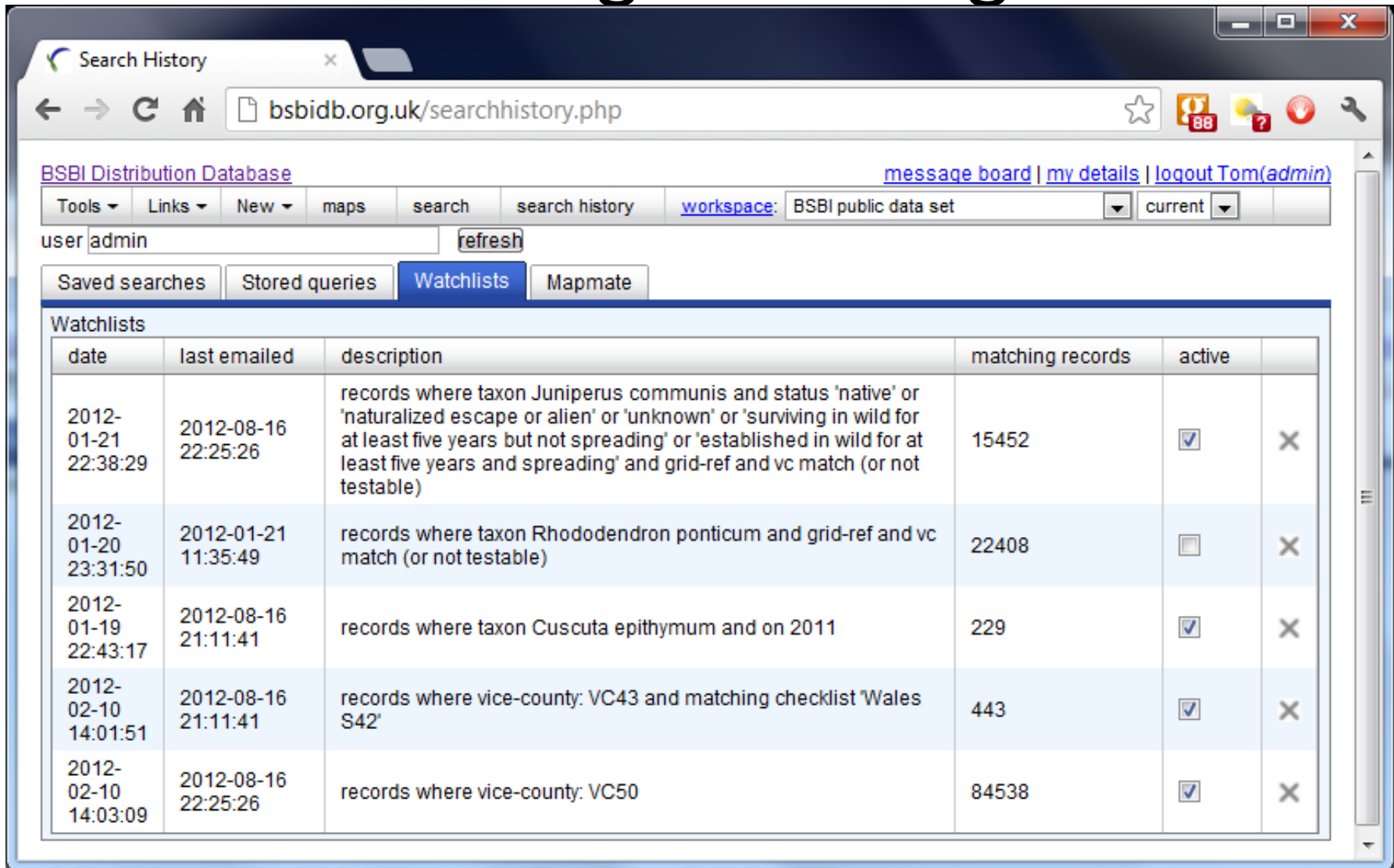
date **basis**

locality
site name
grid reference
altitude (m)
site notes

people

tags
label
label
notes
label
note
reference
data set
record status
last modified

Watching for changes



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `bsbidb.org.uk/searchhistory.php`. The page title is "Search History". The navigation bar includes links for "Tools", "Links", "New", "maps", "search", "search history", and "workspace". The "workspace" dropdown is set to "BSBI public data set". The user is logged in as "admin".

The "Watchlists" tab is selected, showing a table of watchlists. The table has columns for "date", "last emailed", "description", "matching records", "active", and a delete icon (X).

date	last emailed	description	matching records	active	
2012-01-21 22:38:29	2012-08-16 22:25:26	records where taxon <i>Juniperus communis</i> and status 'native' or 'naturalized escape or alien' or 'unknown' or 'surviving in wild for at least five years but not spreading' or 'established in wild for at least five years and spreading' and grid-ref and vc match (or not testable)	15452	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X
2012-01-20 23:31:50	2012-01-21 11:35:49	records where taxon <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> and grid-ref and vc match (or not testable)	22408	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
2012-01-19 22:43:17	2012-08-16 21:11:41	records where taxon <i>Cuscuta epithymum</i> and on 2011	229	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X
2012-02-10 14:01:51	2012-08-16 21:11:41	records where vice-county: VC43 and matching checklist 'Wales S42'	443	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X
2012-02-10 14:03:09	2012-08-16 22:25:26	records where vice-county: VC50	84538	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X

Can set up a watchlist which can (for example) let you know if new records are added for your VC

Adding New Records

- Using MapMate – records go to the DDb automatically every two weeks
- Subsequent corrections made in MM and synched to the hub will update DDb
- Can send records in Recorder, spreadsheet or database format (preferably already validated)
- Future proposal: Online entry, either to a linked website or to the DDb



The amazing [DDb](#) – try it out!
For help – see the [User Manual](#)
and [Message Board](#)