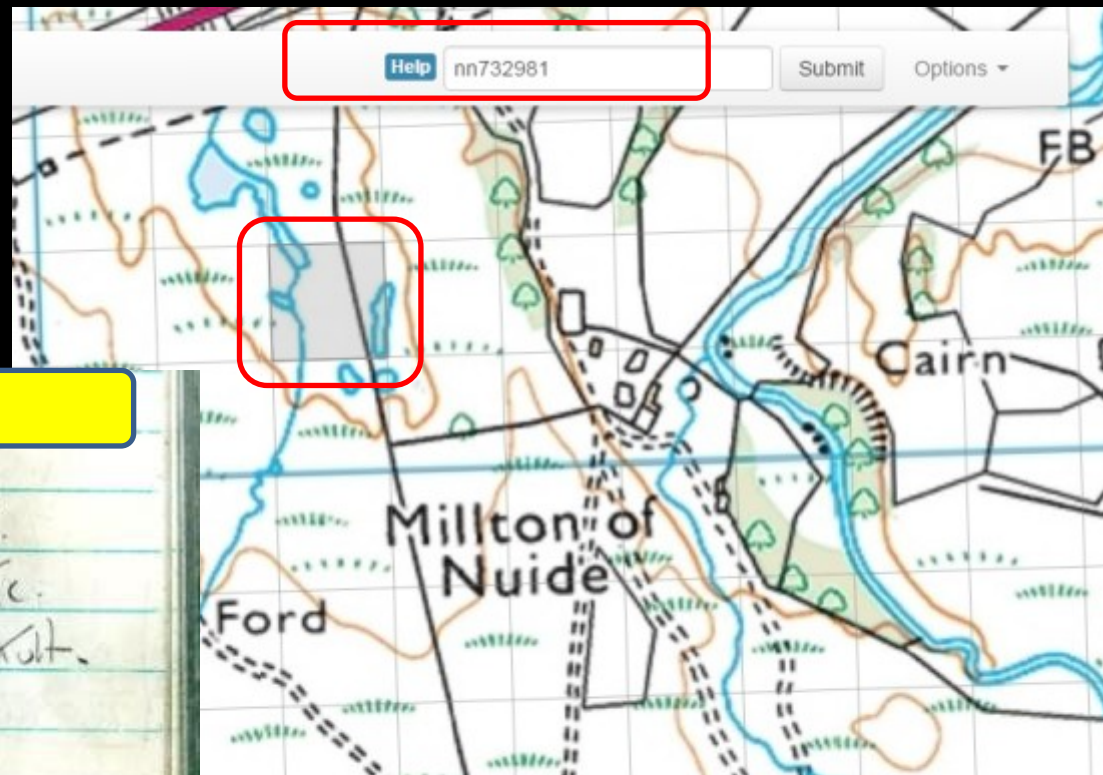


Tools and techniques to keep your records clean, tidy and correct before synching to the BSBI Hub / DDb

Andy Amphlett

- Check accuracy of grid references
- Choose suitable site name & proximity indicator

<http://www.cucaera.co.uk/grp/>



Nuide Glen
 Glegon Flutua (abundant) "Purine"
 Libella Des. setacea. Gleg. mult.
 732 982 - Des. setacea (1) Gleg. mult.
 Libella Gleg. Fluit. "Purine"
 731 982
 Gleg. Fluit. boggy Libella Gleg. mult.
 Gleg. Fluit. Gg. Fluit. Gleg. mult.
 730 979 - Gent. comp. (trab) (WSW)
 731 978 - " (SW)
 734 974 - Gent. comp. " "
 Linn 100 + 100 + 100 + 20 $\Sigma = 320$ + 90 = 410
 734 973 - Gent. comp. 100 + 100 + 95 = 295
 735 973 - Gent. comp. 100 + 60 = 160
 + Ant. digica (2 res. pollen)

Record (field observation)

taxon [Deschampsia setacea \(Huds.\) Hack. "Bog Hair-grass"](#)
 identified by [A. Amphlett](#)

date 10/8/2015

locality [Milton of Nuide \(NW of\) VC96 NN732981](#)

recorder [A. Amphlett](#) and [R.J. Amphlett](#)

Mapmate:status: Not recorded

attributes quantity: 2

Mapmate:method: Field record / observation

notes Lochan. Only 2 plant on shore.

validity confirmed: 2015-08-24 by Andy Amphlett

references [Amphlett, A. Field Notebooks](#)

source data set [MapMate centre 2dd \(Andy Amphlett\)](#)

status unknown

external id MapMate:record:of9542dd

ddb row id 2cd4p9h.c450vc#2cd4p9h.c450vd

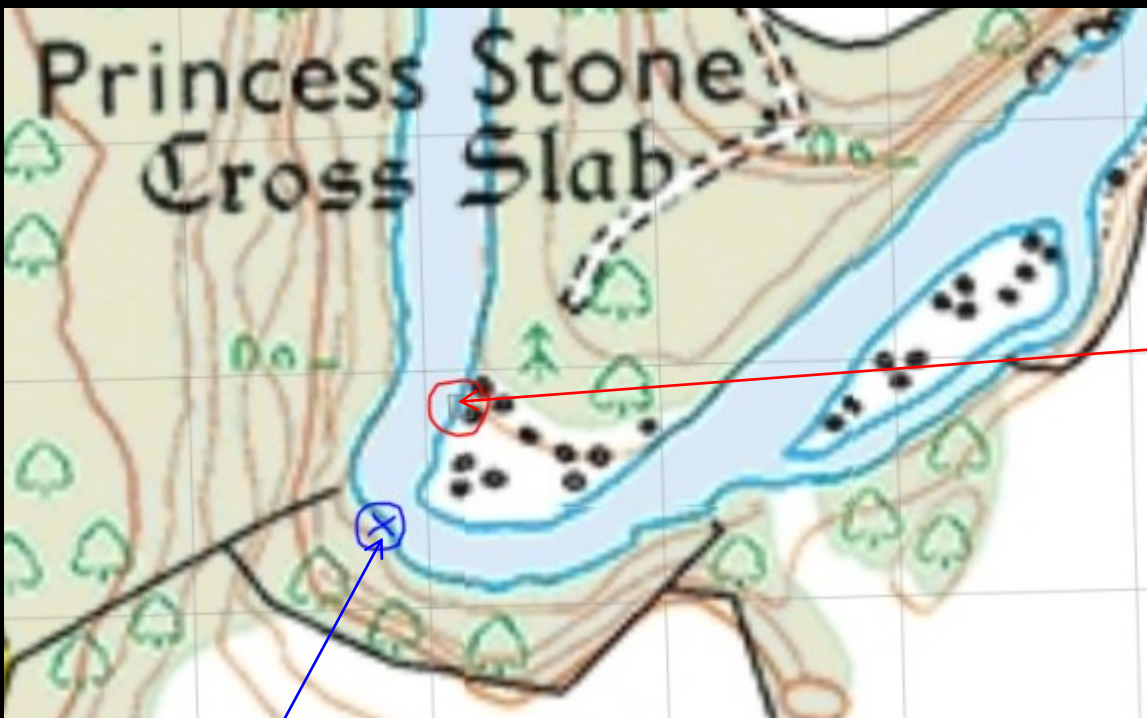
data source [MapMate](#) (via provider [MapMate](#))

last modified Mon, 24 Aug 15 14:11:24 +0100

Real world GPS accuracy

- On Garmin GPS units, the displayed EPE (Estimate of Precision Error) is the 50% probability radius of the indicated location. So if the GPS gives an EPE of 5m (pretty good reception conditions) then there is a 50% chance that the actual location is within 5m of the indicated position, **but a 50% chance that it is more than 5m away**. The EPE is often >5m, and when reception is poor, may be >10m.
- **Therefore in practice, the more precise the grid reference, the less accurate it is:**
 - 1m precision (10 figure) grid references are **almost always incorrect**
 - 10m precision (8 figure) grid references are **quite often incorrect**
 - 100m precision (6 figure) grid references are **occasionally incorrect**
 - 1000m precision (4 figure) grid references are **almost always correct**
- The best compromise between precision and accuracy, using currently available GPS units is a 100m precision (6 figure) grid reference

I use a mix of 6 and 8 figure grid references and check every grid reference using <http://www.cucaera.co.uk/grp/>



A case study in inaccuracy –
Juncus balticus on bank of the River
Findhorn

Where the GPS said the plant was ...

Where the plant actually was ...

Different side of the river &
different 100m grid square!

Record (field observation)

taxon	Juncus balticus Willd. "Baltic Rush" identified by A. Amphlett
date	1/6/2015
locality	River Findhorn (W. side) VC96 NH934424
recorder	A. Amphlett
attributes	Mapmate:status: Not recorded Mapmate:method: Field record / observation
notes	Patch c. 1m square, on sandy soil covered rocks close to river, in spate zone.
validity	confirmed: 2015-08-21 by Andy Amphlett
references	Amphlett, A. Field Notebooks
source data set	MapMate centre 2dd (Andy Amphlett)
status	unknown
external id	MapMate:record:8tz712dd
ddb row id	2cd4p9h.c30qfp#2cd4p9h.c30qfq
data source	MapMate (via provider MapMate)
last modified	Tue, 16 Jun 15 12:58:52 +0100

While 'cucaera' mapping is excellent, for greatest clarity of vc boundaries use the DDb grid reference lookup tool ...



grid reference [look-up grid reference](#)

[NC31](#) > [NC31E](#) > [NC3019](#) > **NC303191**

East Sutherland (VC107)

West Sutherland (VC108)

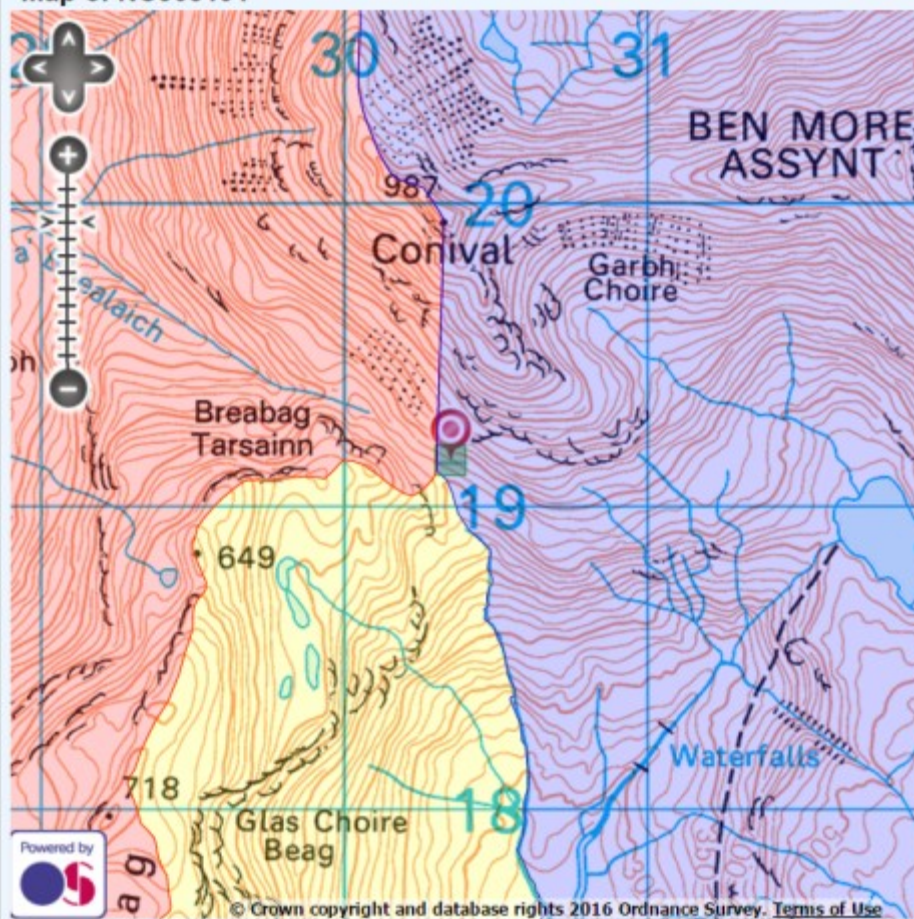
East Ross & Cromarty (VC106)

Grid square elevation estimates (m): mean height 551, min: 519, max: 592

[View detailed taxon list for NC303191](#)

[map \(Google\)](#) [map \(OS\)](#) [taxon list](#) [local pictures](#)

Map of NC303191



grid reference [reference](#)

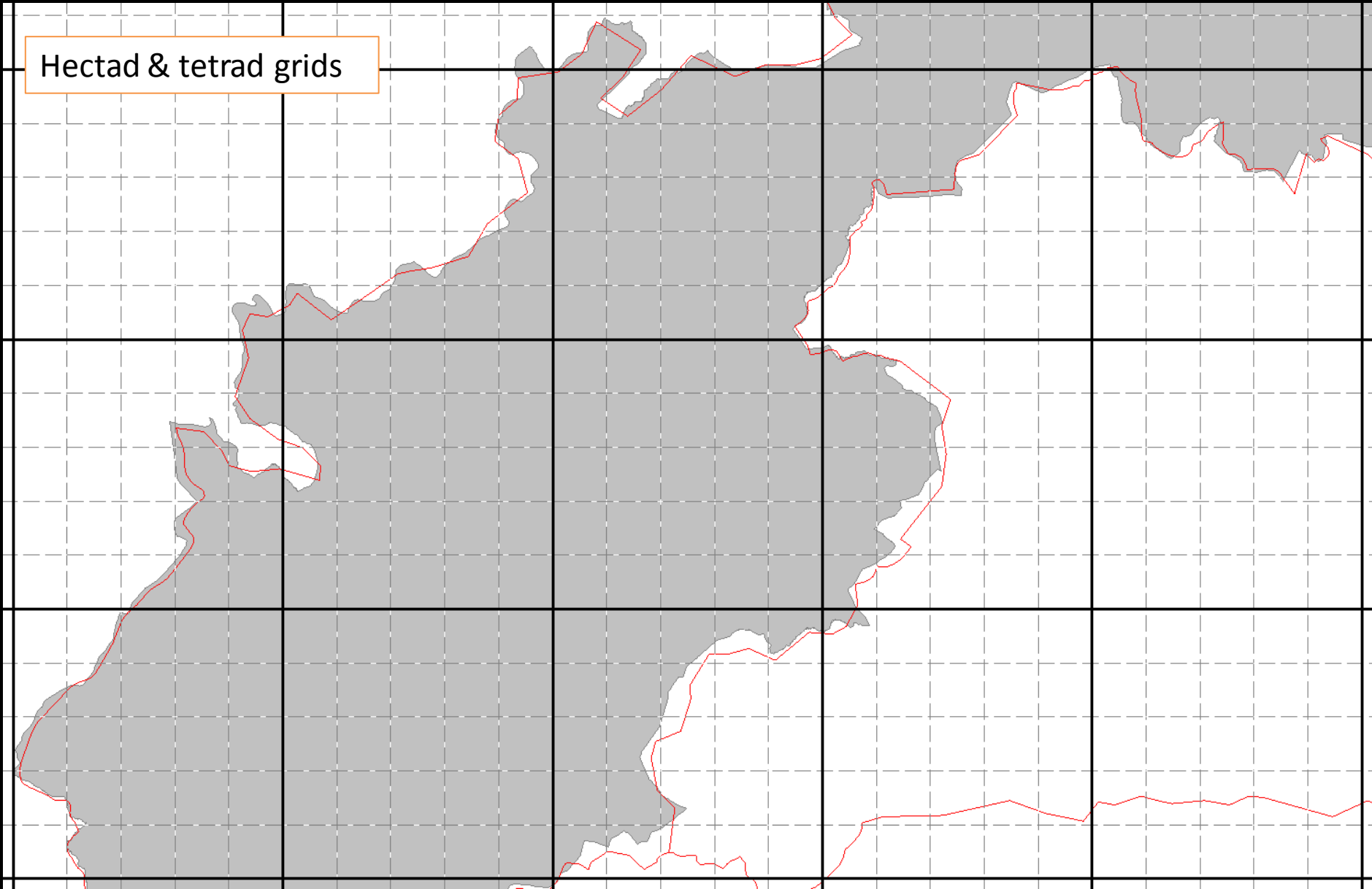
- Data import
- Overview Reports
- Checklists
- Grid reference lookup**
- Data validation
- DDb user list



<http://www.cucaera.co.uk/grp/>

MapMate vc boundaries are **NOT** very accurate!
(vc94 example – **red line**) cf NBN vc boundary – (grey) - up to 1km mismatch

Hectad & tetrad grids



MapMate F5 query – check vc of your records

The screenshot shows the MapMate F5 query interface. The main window displays a table of records with columns: Code, Taxon, Vernacular, Site, Gridref, and Vice County. The 'Vice County' column is highlighted in yellow. A red circle highlights the 'Data Entry' icon in the toolbar. A red arrow points from this icon to the 'Data Entry - Properties' dialog box.

Data Entry - Properties

General | Training List | Defaults | Customize | Validation

Default to Sites in...
VC94

Default to Taxa in...
Vascular Plants (microspecies) and Charophytes

Note: Default Sites and Taxa are used for all data entry and analysis. Choose definitions that best match your interests.

Save Favourites

Help OK Cancel

Code	Taxon	Vernacular	Site	Gridref	Vice County
5	Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
14	Aconitum napellus	Monk's hood	S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
19	Adoxa moschatellina	Moschatel	Aikenway (S. of)	NJ291491	94
19	Adoxa moschatellina	Moschatel	Aikenway Castle	NJ292507	94
19	Adoxa moschatellina	Moschatel	Aikenway (S. of)	NJ290490	94
19	Adoxa moschatellina	Moschatel	Aikenway (S. of)	NJ290495	94
75			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ295501	94
75			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ294502	94
239			Old airfield, Bogmoor	NJ3563	94
272			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ295501	94
272			Boat o' Brig	NJ318517	94
327			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ296500	94
329			Upper Dallachy, disu	NJ360628	94
505			Track, E. side of Aik	NJ291507	94
508			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
542			Upper Dallachy, disu	NJ360628	94
582			Moor of Dallachy	NJ366640	94
341			Upper Dallachy, disu	NJ360628	94
648			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
164			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
841			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
860			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
860			Upper Dallachy, disu	NJ360628	94
120			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
129			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
433			Upper Dallachy, disu	NJ360628	94
144			S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
1445	Petasites albus	White Butterbur	S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94

Ensure that options are set to 'Default to Sites in ALL'

MapMate F5 query – check vc of your records

TemporaryQuery

SQL

	Code	Taxon	Vernacular	Site	Gridref	Vice County
▶	7927	Abies nordmanniana	Caucasian Fir	Quarry Wood	NJ188627	95
	4	Acer platanoides	Norway Maple	Bridge of Findhorn(E.	NJ019583	95
	5	Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
	5	Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	Bridge of Findhorn(E.	NJ017582	95
	5	Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	St Marys (SE of)	NJ328549	95
	14	Aconitum napellus	Monk's-hood	S.E. of Aikenway Ca	NJ293503	94
	14			St Marys (SE of)	NJ328550	95
	19			Aikenway (S. of)	NJ291491	94
	19			St Marys (SE of)	NJ328549	95
	19			Haugh Island	NJ320537	95
	19			Haugh Island	NJ319534	95
	19			St Marys (NE of)	NJ331556	95
	19			Aikenway (S. of)	NJ290490	94
	19			Haugh Island	NJ319536	95
	19			Aikenway (S. of)	NJ290495	94
	19			Aikenway Castle	NJ292507	94
	19			Haugh Island	NJ319533	95
	19			Loathill	NJ013582	95
	19			St Marys (NE of)	NJ332557	95
	19			Wreshop Wood	NJ024590	95
	20			Loathill	NJ013582	95
	20			Findhorn	NJ040645	95
	20			St Marys (SE of)	NJ328549	95
	40			Culbin Forest	NJ017624	95
	40			Culbin Forest	NJ020628	95
	42			Culbin Forest	NJ019627	95
	42			Culbin Forest	NJ020628	95
	64	Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	Haugh Island	NJ319534	95
	67	Allium carinatum	Keeled Garlic	By River Findhorn	NJ020591	95
	69	Allium paradoxum	Few-flowered Garlic	Bridge of Findhorn(E.	NJ019583	95
	69	Allium paradoxum	Few-flowered Garlic	St Marys (NE of)	NJ331556	95
	75	Allium ursinum	Ramsons	Muir of Gyles (SE of)	NJ223540	95

Data Entry - Properties

General | Training List | Defaults | Customize | Validation

Default to Sites in...

All

Default to Taxa in...

Vascular Plants (microspecies) and Charophytes

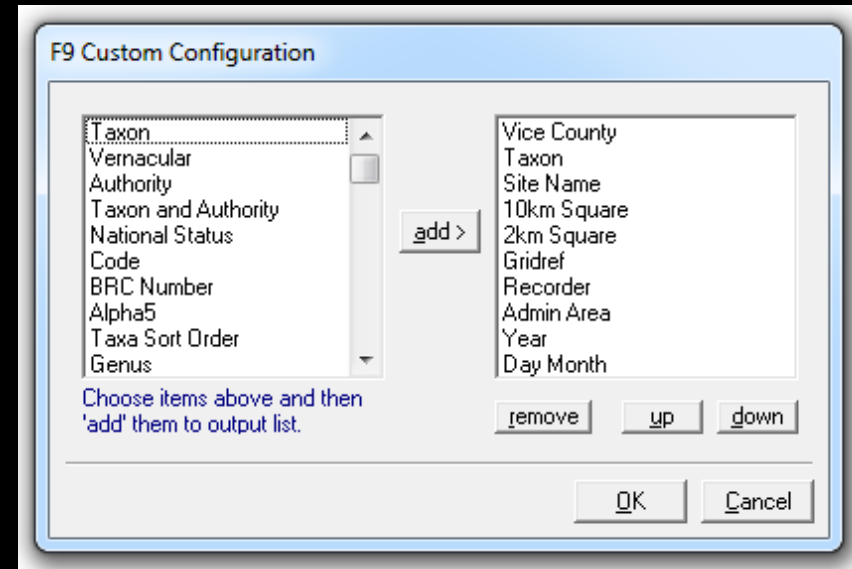
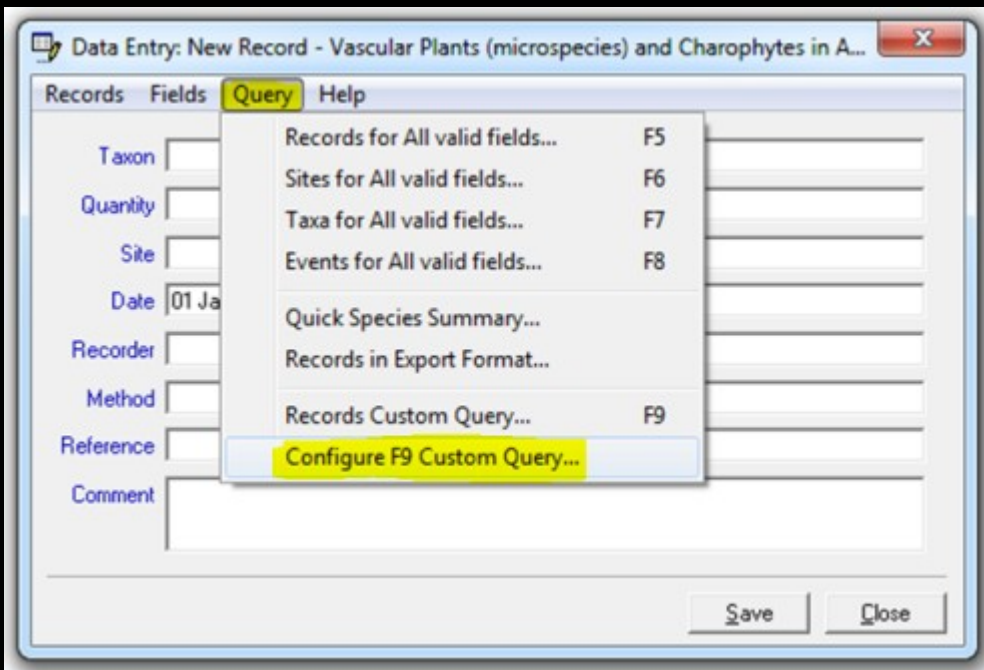
Note: Default Sites and Taxa are used for all data entry and analysis. Choose definitions that best match your interests.

Save Favourites

Help OK Cancel

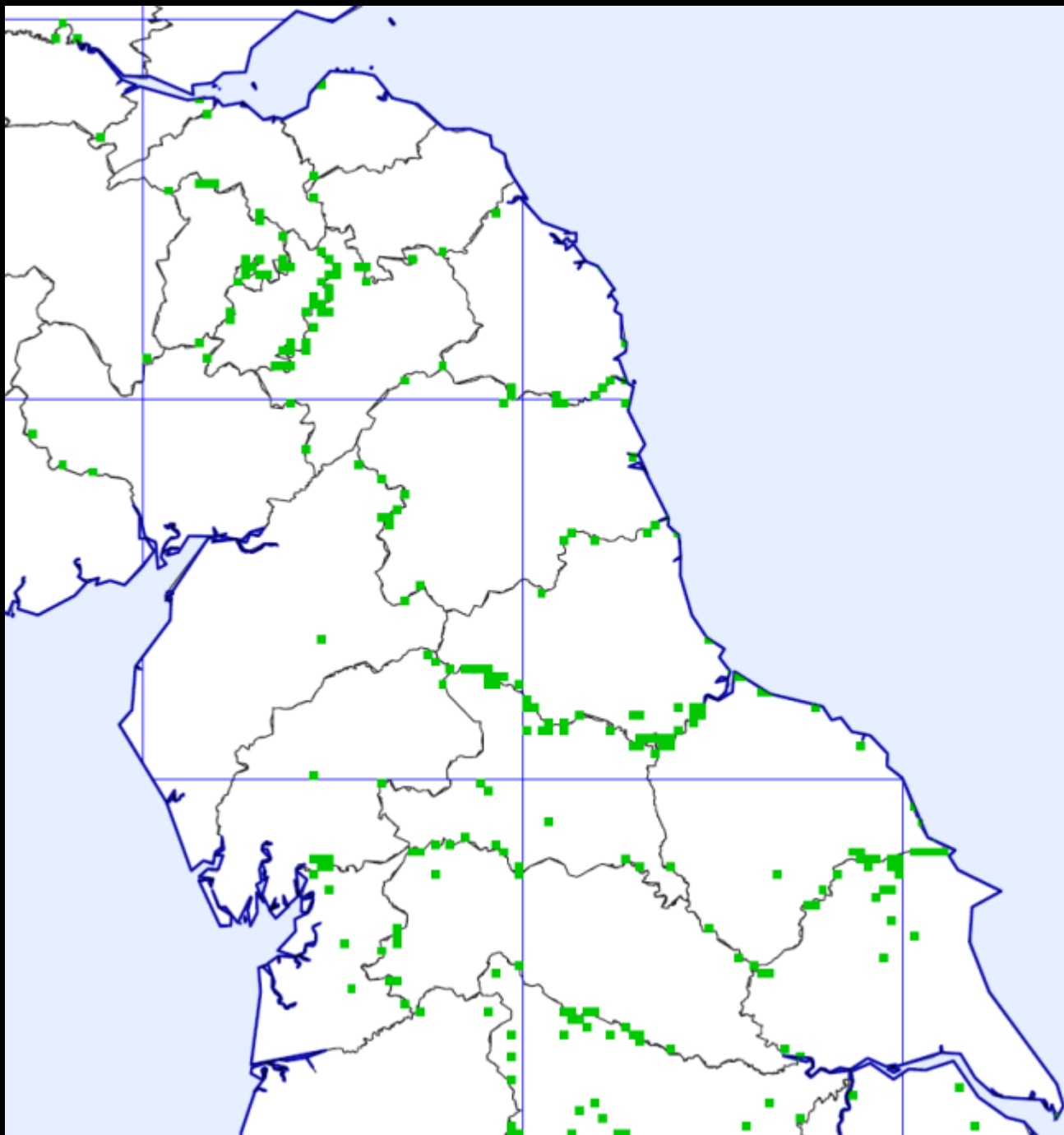
Ensure that options are set to 'Default to Sites in ALL'

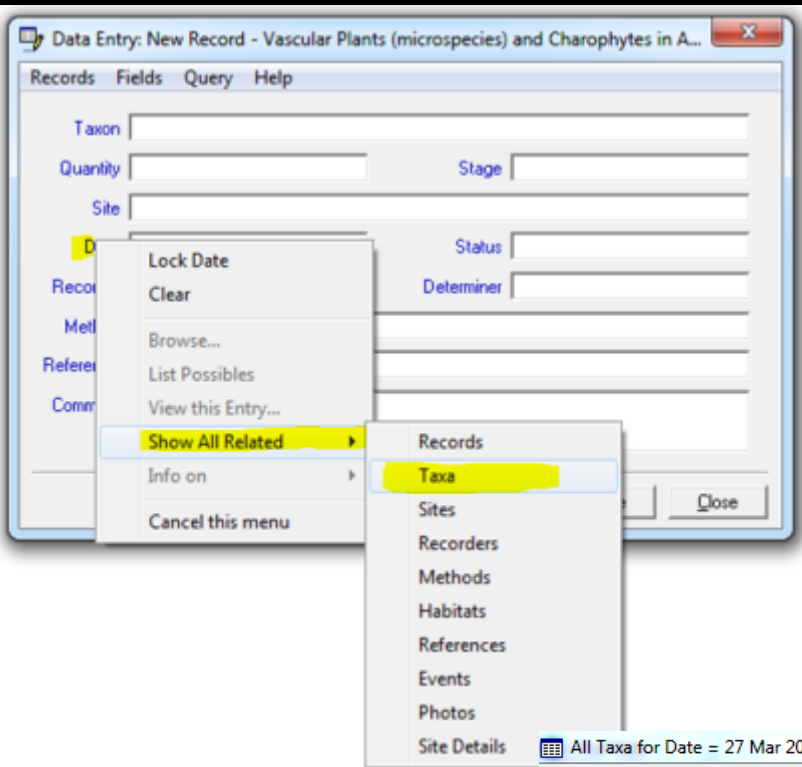
F9 query is customisable eg. include vc, hectad and tetrad in results



	Vice County	Taxon	Site Name	10km Square	2km Square	Gridref	Recorder	Admin Area	Year	Day Month
►	Moray (Elgin)	Abies nordmanniana	Quarry Wood	NJ16	NJ16W	NJ188627	Green, Ian P.	Moray	2016	24 Feb
	Moray (Elgin)	Acer platanoides	Bridge of Findhorn(E. of)	NJ05	NJ05E	NJ019583	Amphlett, A., Green, Ian P. & Moray Botany Group	Moray	2016	26 Mar
	Banffshire	Acer pseudoplatanus	S.E. of Aikenway Castle	NJ25	NJ25V	NJ293503	Amphlett, A. & Amphlett, E.C.	Moray	2016	25 Mar
	Moray (Elgin)	Acer pseudoplatanus	Bridge of Findhorn(E. of)	NJ05	NJ05E	NJ017582	Amphlett, A., Green, Ian P. & Moray Botany Group	Moray	2016	26 Mar
	Moray (Elgin)	Acer pseudoplatanus	St Marys (SE of)	NJ35	NJ35H	NJ328549	Amphlett, A. & Amphlett, E.C.	Moray	2016	27 Mar
	Banffshire	Aconitum napellus	S.E. of Aikenway Castle	NJ25	NJ25V	NJ293503	Amphlett, A. & Amphlett, E.C.	Moray	2016	25 Mar
	Moray (Elgin)	Aconitum napellus	St Marys (SE of)	NJ35	NJ35H	NJ328550	Amphlett, A. & Amphlett, E.C.	Moray	2016	27 Mar
	Banffshire	Adoxa moschatellina	Aikenway (S. of)	NJ24	NJ24Z	NJ291491	Amphlett, A. & Amphlett, E.C.	Moray	2016	25 Mar
	Moray (Elgin)	Adoxa moschatellina	St Marys (SE of)	NJ35	NJ35H	NJ328549	Amphlett, A. & Amphlett, E.C.	Moray	2016	27 Mar
	Moray (Elgin)	Adoxa moschatellina	Haugh Island	NJ35	NJ35G	NJ320537	Amphlett, A. & Amphlett, E.C.	Moray	2016	27 Mar
	Moray (Elgin)	Adoxa moschatellina	Haugh Island	NJ35	NJ35H	NJ319534	Amphlett, A. & Amphlett, E.C.	Moray	2016	27 Mar
	Moray (Elgin)	Adoxa moschatellina	St Marys (NE of)	NJ35	NJ35H	NJ331556	Amphlett, A. & Amphlett, E.C.	Moray	2016	27 Mar

MapMate gridref x vc
mismatches (7/4/2016)





(Date) > Show all related > Taxa

• Did I see all these taxa on this date?

All Taxa for Date = 27 Mar 2016...

	Code	Taxon	Vernacular	Parent	Taxon Status
▶	5	Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	Aceraceae	
	14	Aconitum napellus	Monk's-hood	Ranunculaceae	
	19	Adoxa moschatellina	Moschatel	Adoxaceae	
	20	Aegopodium podagraria	Ground-elder	Apiaceae	
	64	Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	Brassicaceae	
	69	Allium paradoxum	Few-flowered Garlic	Liliaceae	
	75	Allium ursinum	Ramsons	Liliaceae	
	77	Alnus glutinosa	Alder	Betulaceae	
	239	Betula pendula	Silver Birch	Betulaceae	
	505	Chrysosplenium alternifolium	Alternate-leaved Golden-saxifrage	Saxifragaceae	
	541	Conopodium majus	Pignut	Apiaceae	
	648	Doronicum pardalianches	Leopard's-bane	Asteraceae	
	1528	Fallopia japonica	Japanese Knotweed	Polygonaceae	
	1649	Ficaria verna	Lesser Celandine	Ranunculaceae	
	860	Galanthus nivalis	Snowdrop	Liliaceae	
	1209	Luzula sylvatica	Great Wood-rush	Juncaceae	
	1291	Mercurialis perennis	Dog's Mercury	Euphorbiaceae	
	2614	Narcissus agg.	Cultivated Daffodil	Liliaceae	
	1443	Pentaglottis sempervirens	Green Alkanet	Boraginaceae	
	1445	Petasites albus	White Butterbur	Asteraceae	
	3338	Scilla luciliae	Boissier's Glory-of-the-snow	Liliaceae	
	2014	Stellaria nemorum	Wood Stitchwort	Caryophyllaceae	
	2028	Symphytum tuberosum	Tuberous Comfrey	Boraginaceae	
	2112	Ulex europaeus	Gorse	Fabaceae	

If you receive lots of records in a spreadsheet, use the DDb 'gridref parser' to run a check

Grid-ref parser (bulk) x

bsbidb.org.uk/gridrefparser.php

Distribution Database > Grid-ref parser (bulk)

Tools ▾ New ▾ maps search search history

my n

Gridref parser

Upload a delimited file containing a column of grid-references. Output consists of the uploaded file with additional columns showing the formatted gridref and corresponding vice-county and highlighting problems.

file Choose File No file chosen required, comma or tab-delimited text file

format of references grid-reference

column number for grid-refs 0 required, 0 is left-most column

vice-county bias expected vc code (optional)

input file delimiter tab-delimited (TSV)

output file-format comma-separated-variables (.csv)

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

send

	A2			
	A	B	C	D
1	parsed gridref	vice-counties	gr errors/warnings	New grid ref
2			failed to parse gridref	NH2576585394-NH2580985452
3			failed to parse gridref	NG850426@c
4			failed to parse gridref	NH02255551508
5			failed to parse gridref	NG84/NG83
6	NH912914		no counties matched	NH912914
7	NH953908		no counties matched	NH953908
8	NH953908		no counties matched	NH953908
9	NG947897	VC105		NG947897
10	NH0056048665	VC105		NH0056048665
11	NH0039048554	VC105		NH0039048554
12	NG82	VC105;VC97;VC104		NG82
13	NG83032753	VC105		NG83032753
14	NH932304	VC95		NH932304
15	NG9749	VC105		NG9749
16	NH932304	VC95		NH932304
17	NH930304	VC95		NH930304

If you don't use MapMate or receive records from non-MM users, use a pre-formatted spreadsheet available on BSBI Resources webpage for entering records, eg.

A10										
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Code	Taxon	Common name	Site	Gridref	Check GR length	VC	Recorder	Determiner	Date
2	1055	Juncus balticus	Baltic Rush	W. side of R. Avon (Na Tri Chaochain)	NJ160119	OK	94	Amphlett, A. & Green, I.P.	Amphlett, A. & Green, I.P.	26/06/2009
3	506	Chrysosplenium oppositifolium	Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage	Deskford: Linn Burn	NJ512617	OK	94	Amphlett, A. & Amphlett, R.J.	Amphlett, A.	20/04/2011
4	1912	Sherardia arvensis	Field Madder	Boyndie Airfield	NJ61706392	OK	94	Amphlett, A. & Green, I.P.	Amphlett, A. & Green, I.P.	17/04/2011
5	1437	Parnassia palustris	Grass-of-Parnassus	Ailnack Gorge	NJ145149	OK	94	Amphlett, A. & Rothero, G.	Amphlett, A. & Rothero, G.	25/08/2007
6	555	Ceratocapnos claviculata	Climbing Corydalis			OK				
7	444	Centaurea nigra	Common Knapweed			OK				
8	569	Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn			OK				
9	891	Genista anglica	Petty whin			OK				
10		#N/A	#N/A			OK				
11		#N/A	#N/A			OK				
12		#N/A	#N/A			OK				
13		#N/A	#N/A			OK				

J	K	L	M	N	O	P
Date	Quantity	Method	Sex	Stage	Status	Comment
26/06/2009		Field record / observation	u	Not recorded	Not recorded	2 clumps.
20/04/2011		Field record / observation	u	Not in flower	Not recorded	Basal leaves only.
17/04/2011		Field record / observation	u	Flowering	Not recorded	Several good sized plants, with a few flowers open, most still in bud.
25/08/2007	500	Field record / observation	u	Flowering	Not recorded	West side of river.
		Field record / observation	u			
		Field record / observation	u			
		Field record / observation	u			
		Field record / observation	u			
		Field record / observation	u			
		Field record / observation	u			
		Field record / observation	u			
		Field record / observation	u			

Mapmate Importing Sheets

The following spreadsheets (xlsx format) were created by Andy Amphlett to assist in importing data to Mapmate:

- [BRC codes sheet \(GB\)](#)
- [BRC codes sheet \(Ireland\)](#)
- [Species names sheet \(GB\)](#)
- [Species names sheet \(Ireland\)](#)

B	
IMPORTANT PLEASE READ THIS - notes for using the 'Recording sheet for Mapmate Import (using BRC codes)' file	

In Summary

- Make sure you set your GPS to give the most accurate readout possible; that is with WAAS enabled and using both GLONASS and GPS satellite systems (if available on your GPS).
- Enter records to MapMate / spreadsheet / database as soon as possible after making the records. This ensures the greatest accuracy of records, as still fresh in your mind.
- Sync MapMate records to the BSBI Hub regularly. Do not wait until end of the year.
- MapMate records are uploaded to the DDb every 2 weeks.
- Correct any errors in MapMate and send a sync to the Hub there and then.
- Watch for newly added records to appear on the DDb.
- Because you will 😊 have submitted clean and tidy records, few errors should reach the DDb. Validate records as they arrive on the DDb (only takes 5 minutes every 2 weeks).