Rare Plant Registers in Wales

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BSBI Welsh Officer

Rare Plant Registers in Wales

- What is a Rare Plant?

- What are Rare Plant Registers?

- Why are they useful in recording?

- How do you go about making a Rare Plant Register?
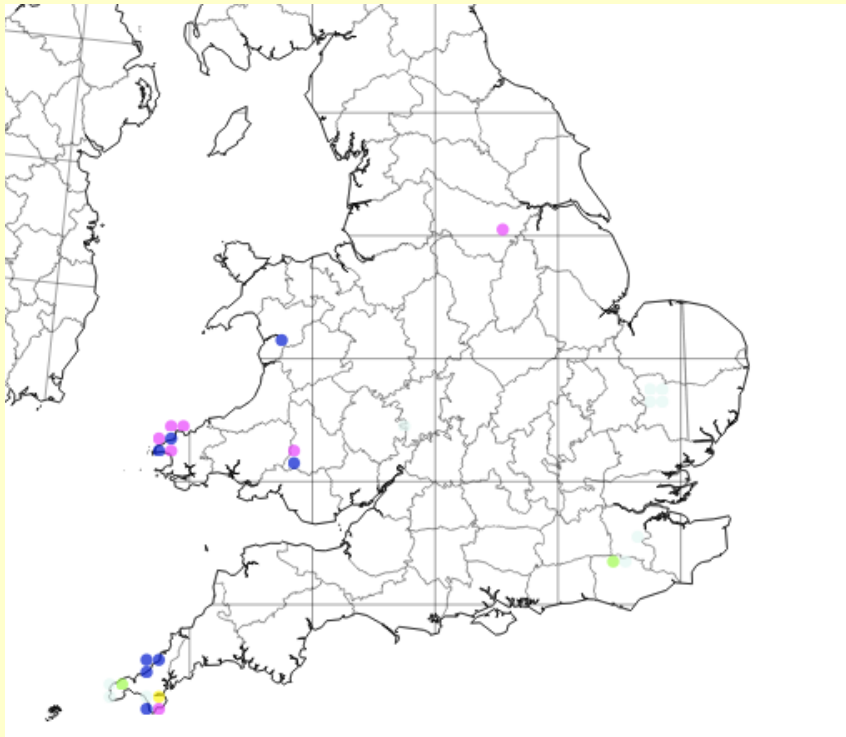 - How can a Country Officer help?
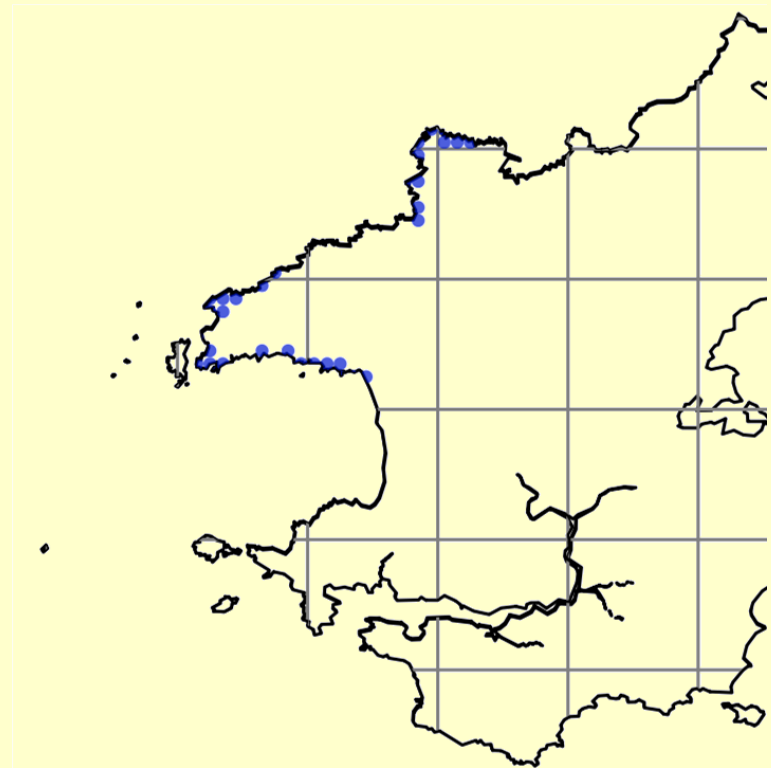
What is a Rare Plant?

Genista pilosa

What is a Rare Plant?

Genista pilosa: Nationally Rare
GB Red list: Near Threatened
Wales Red List: Vulnerable

Pembrokeshire: Not Locally Scarce (31 monads)

What is a Rare Plant?

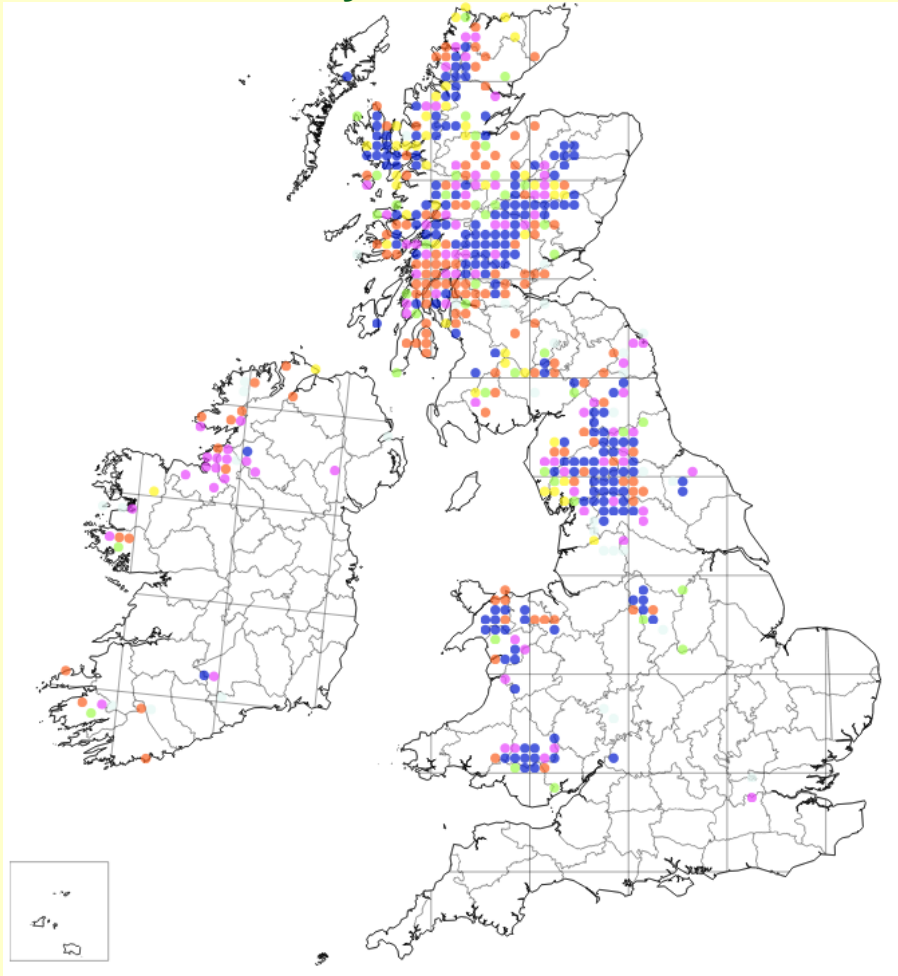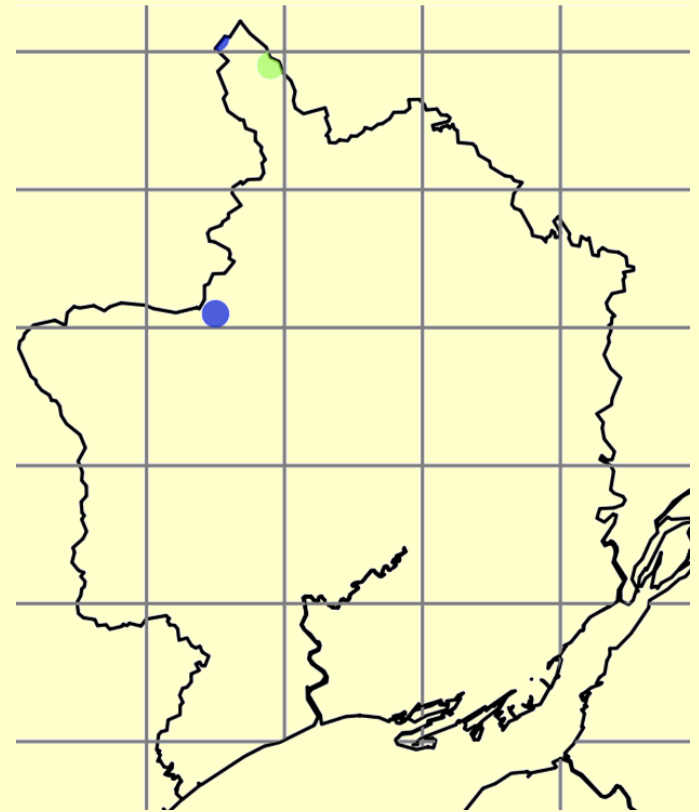*Asplenium viride*

What is a Rare Plant?

Asplenium viride
Not Nationally Scarce, Least Concern

Monmouthshire: Locally Rare

What is a Rare Plant Register?

- Details of the sites occupied by Rare Plants in the county – especially Locally Rare - 3 or fewer "sites"

- (also usually includes species with national threat/ scarcity status, and Locally Scarce – ~10 or fewer sites)

VASCULAR PLANTS

Acer campestre	3	593798	2000		Penparcau
(**Field Maple**)		594862	2000		Wallog
(Native sites only)		600835	2000		Cwm Woods
! Acorus calamus	1	498427	2000		Highmead
(Sweet Flag)					
Alchemilla filicaulis ssp vestita	3	317462	1997		Brongest
(**Hairy Lady's Mantle**)		322460	1997		Brongest
		467611	1996	NT	Ddol-wen
		726581	1994		Cwm Berwyn
Alchemilla xanthochlora	3	679722	1971		Llanafan
(**Alpine Lady's Mantle**)		698665	1994		Swyddffynnon
		702677	1987		Ystrad Meurig
! Allium roseum ssp bulbiferum	2	448612	1999		Henfynyw
(Rosy Garlic)		455617	1996		Aberaeron
! Allium subhirsutum	1	410588	2000		Gilfachreda
(Hairy Garlic)					
! Allium triquetrum	2	387594	2000		New Quay
(Three-cornered Leek)		598810	1996		Llanbadarn Fawr
		599819	2000		Waun Fawr
! Alnus x pubescens	1	628752	2000		Llanilar
(A hybrid Alder)					

SN734417	yes	5/4/1988	J & M Iliff and R D Pryce	none	Merchon Valley near Cilycwm: on quarry face in Gala Shales. Det.G Hutchinson 13/3/89, Hb NMW
SN767478	yes	23/10/1997	A O Chater and A C Jermy	SSSI	Allt Rhyd-y-groes: on shaded rock outcrop in east-facing oakwood
c.SN75-48-	yes	3/8/1983	I K Morgan	none	Cribyn Du
SN74Y	yes	1972	Mrs I M Vaughan	none	Ystradffin, Rhandirmwyn
SN74Y	yes	1972	Mrs I M Vaughan	none	Rhuddallt, Rhandirmwyn

Asplenium trichomanes ssp. *trichomanes*
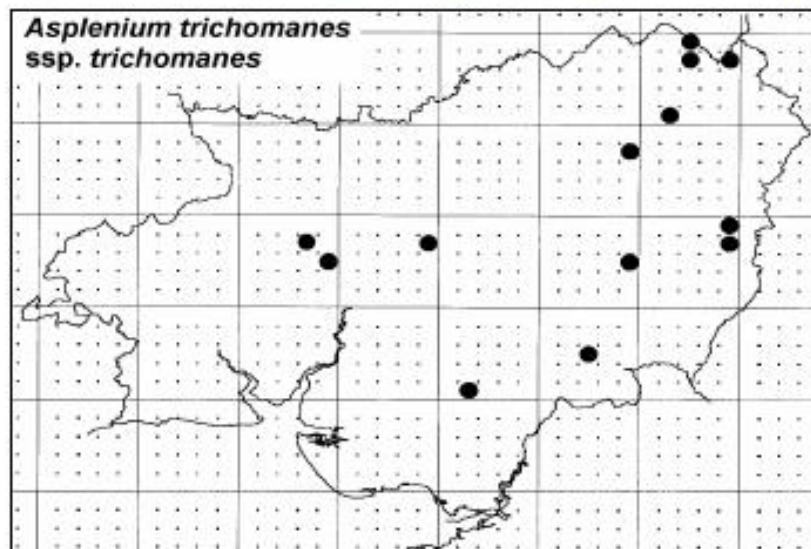
Asperula cynanchica, Pendine Burrows

Asplenium viride Green Spleenwort

SCARCE in vc   No of Wells sites: 10   Probably no change in status since production of 1984 list

Monitoring required

GRID REF	NATIVE	LAST SEEN	RECORDER	PROTECTION	SITE NAME, HABITAT, etc
SN679184	yes	28/6/1997	A O Chater, Jim Bevan, R D Pryce and G Hutchinson	SSSI NP	Pal-y-Cwrt: limestone crags and low cliffs
SN719195 to SN720194	yes	28/6/1997	A O Chater, Jim Bevan, R D Pryce and G Hutchinson	SSSI NP	Clogau Bach: limestone outcrops and old quarries
SN71H	yes	5/1983	G Hutchinson	SSSI NP	Foel Deg
SN724195	yes	15/10/1991	I K Morgan & RDP	SSSI NP	Clogau Bach: limestone outcrops and old quarries

Monmouthshire – 2007

Euphrasia nemorosa x pseudokerneri - a hybrid Eyebright

National rarity:

Local rarity: 1 Wells site

Grid Ref	Date	Site	Location	Habitat	Number	Threat
ST 466 921	2003		M.o.D. Caerwent (1 of 6 sites)		c.50 plants	

Euphrasia pseudokerneri - An Eyebright

National rarity: Scarce, Red List 'Endangered'

Local rarity: 1 Wells site

Grid Ref	Date	Site	Location	Habitat	Number	Threat
ST 47 91	2003	None	S.of Little Dinham Wood	turf over Carboniferous Limestone	c.30 plants	

Euphrasia scottica - An Eyebright

National rarity:

Local rarity: 1 Wells site

Grid Ref	Date	Site	Location	Habitat	Number	Threat
ST 24 92	1986		Twmbarlwm	wettish area, S.W. side	1-5 plants	

Festuca altissima - Wood fescue

National rarity:

Local rarity: 5 (1) Wells sites

Grid Ref	Date	Site	Location	Habitat	Number	Threat
SO 544 139	1905	AONB	N.of Suckstone	woodland.	1000+ plants	

Frank Perring found in 1975, where it Wigginton (1979), Walker (1987-1992) and Perring again (1993). Walker added Marton Pool, Chirbury (SJ2902) to the site list in 1988. In 1990 Pat Parker and Jane Ing found it in Walford Pool (SJ4320), where it had apparently been introduced with other rare water plants, and where it persisted until 1991.

Callitriche hermaphroditica
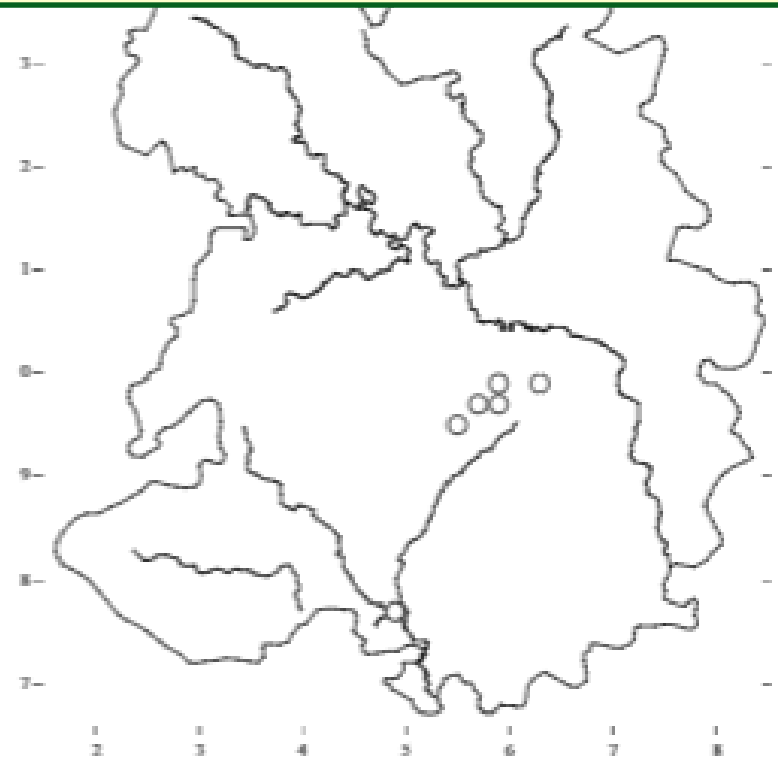
Campanula patula L.
Spreading Bellflower
Native. Scarce.

The natural habitat of this plant is woodland edge alongside rivers. It is also found on hedgebanks along quiet lanes. It is Nationally Scarce and declining in Britain, with just 37 dots in the New Atlas. In Britain it is almost entirely restricted to the catchment of the River

County Rare Plant Registers

Counties with Registers in Britain and Ireland

First RPR

- 2014 – 2016
- 2010 – 2013
- 2005 – 2009
- 2001 – 2004
- 1984 – 1995
- 1978
- No RPR

Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
**Natural
Resources**
Wales

**Botanical
Society of
Britain &
Ireland**

Why are Rare Plant Registers useful?

- Interesting for Vice-County Recorder – allows them to value rare species objectively

- Recording – suggests areas to target

- Planning – locally rare species may be listed separately

- Conservation – allows those working in conservation to locate most important local species

Use in GIS

- Conservation professionals e.g. Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, Local Government Ecologists, etc. etc.…

- (and you too if you have the desire, and will to learn a new computer program)

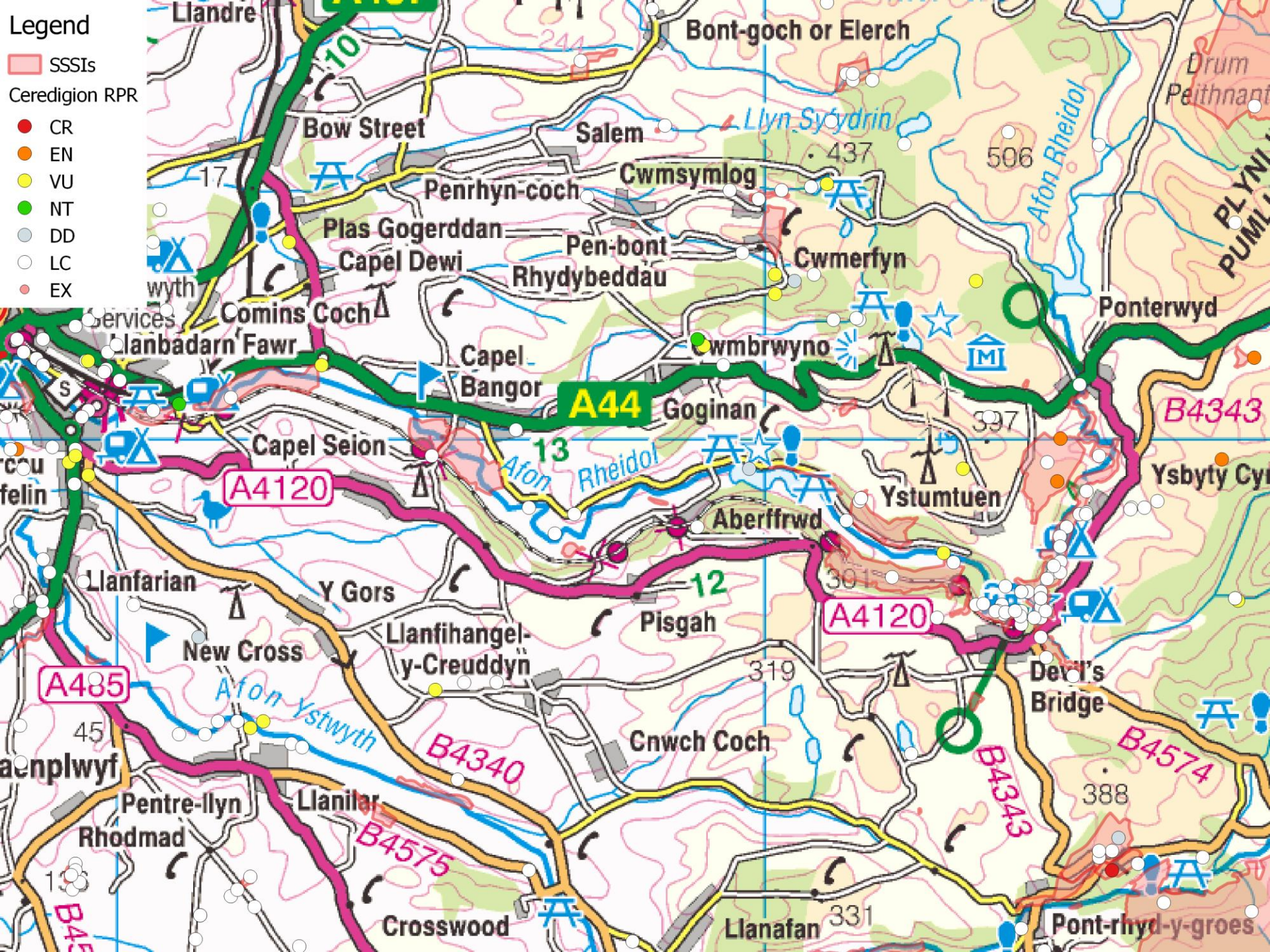- Display in Arc/ MapInfo/ QGIS – over maps or aerial photographs

Llandre

Bont-goch or Elerch

Drum Peithnant

Llyn Syfydrin

· 437

506

Afon Rheidol

Bow Street

Salem

10

17

Cwmsymlog

Penrhyn-coch

Plas Gogerddan

Pen-bont

Cwmerfyn

PLYNL PUML

Capel Dewi

Rhydybeddau

Comins Coch

Ponterwyd

Services

Cwmbrwyno

lanbadarn Fawr

Capel

397

B4343

Bangor

A44

Goginan

wyth

S

13

Afon Rheidol

Ystumtuen

Capel Seion

Ysbyty Cy

A4120

Aberffrwd

301

rcou felin

Llanfarian

Y Gors

12

Pisgah

A4120

Devil's

New Cross

Llanfihangel-

y-Creuddyn

319

Bridge

A485

Afon Ystwyth

B4343

45

Cnwch Coch

B4574

aenplwyf

B4340

388

Pentre-llyn

Llanilar

Rhodmad

B4575

Crosswood

Llanafan

331

Pont-rhyd-y-groes

Legend

SSSIs

Ceredigion RPR
- 🔴 CR
- 🟠 EN
- 🟡 VU
- 🟢 NT
- ⚪ DD
- ⚪ LC
- 🔴 EX

Hypericum hirsutum
Ponterwyd
Llywernog
Banc Bwa-drain
Diphasiastrum alpinum
Hammarbya paludosa
Hymenophyllum wilsonii
Diphasiastrum alpinum
Galeopsis speciosa
Hammarbya paludosa
Meconopsis cambrica
Pimpinella saxifraga subsp. alpes
Vicia orobus
Sedum forsterianum
Hymenophyllum wilsonii
Meconopsis cambrica
Saxifraga granulata
Trollius europaeus
Trollius europaeus
Solanum nigrum subsp. schultesii
Rubus saxatilis
Ystumtuen
Saxifraga granulata Hymenophyllum wilsonii
Sedum forsterianum
Cuscuta epithymum
Hymenophyllum wilsonii
Erigeron acris
Saxifraga stellaris
Festuca altissima Meconopsis cambrica
Dryopteris aemula
Saxifraga granulata
Rhiwfon
Meconopsis cambrica
Festuca altissima
Hymenophyllum wilsonii
Sedum forsterianum
Hymenophyllum tunbridgense
Dryopteris aemula
Hymenophyllum wilsonii
Meconopsis cambrica Dryopteris aemula
Dryopteris aemula
Rubus angloserpens
Hymenophyllum wilsonii
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Hymenophyllum wilsonii
Meconopsis cambrica
Devil's Bridge
Festuca altissima
Rorippa islandica s.s.
Pontarfynach /
Devil's Bridge
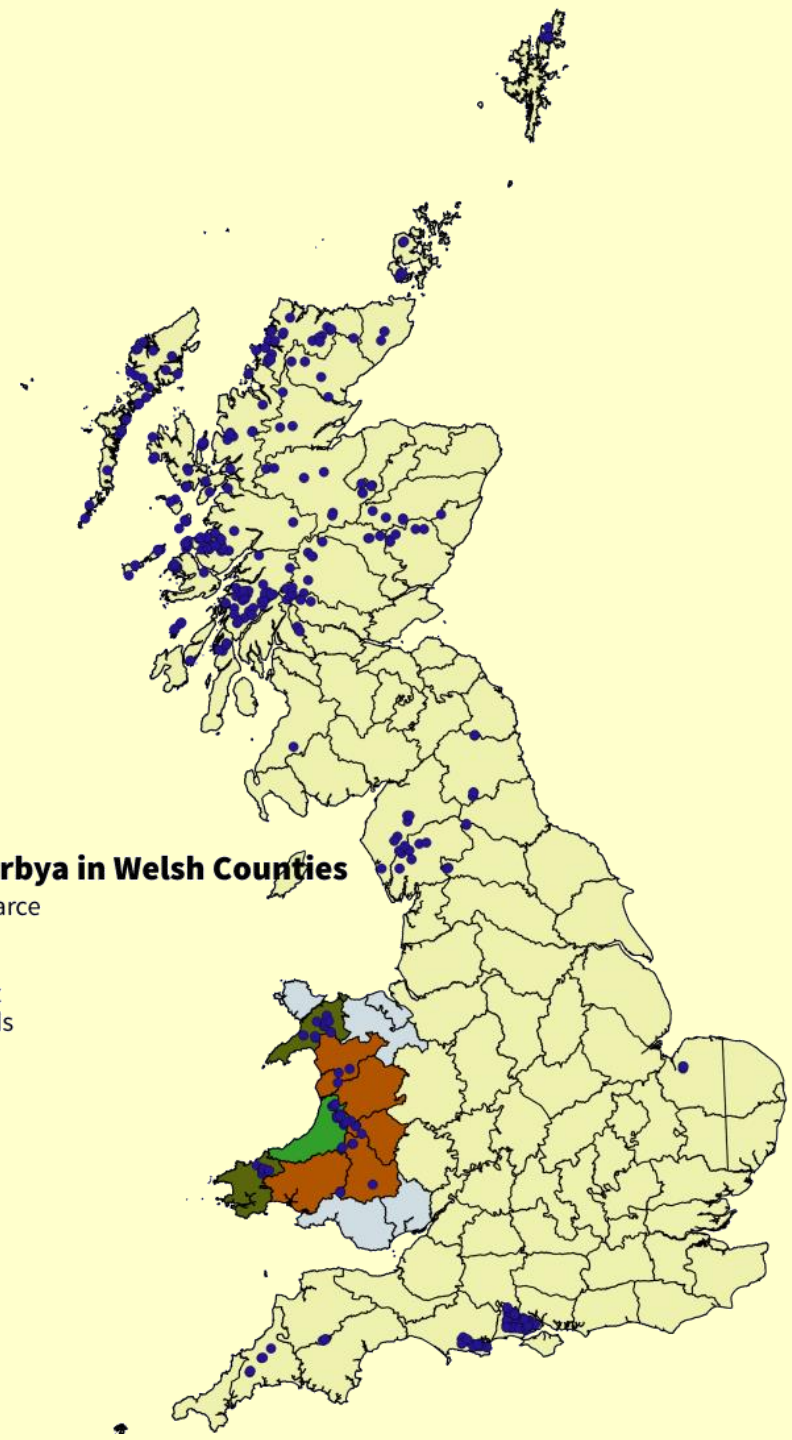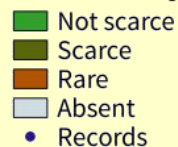Rubus anglofuscus

Examples of RPR data

- *Hammarbya paludosa*
- Western distribution in GB (LC in GB Red List but EN in Wales)
- Not scarce in Cardiganshire
- Scarce in Pembrokeshire and Caernarvonshire
- Rare in Merionethshire, Monmouthshire (discovered 2015!), Radnorshire, Breconshire and Carmarthenshire
- Absent from other counties
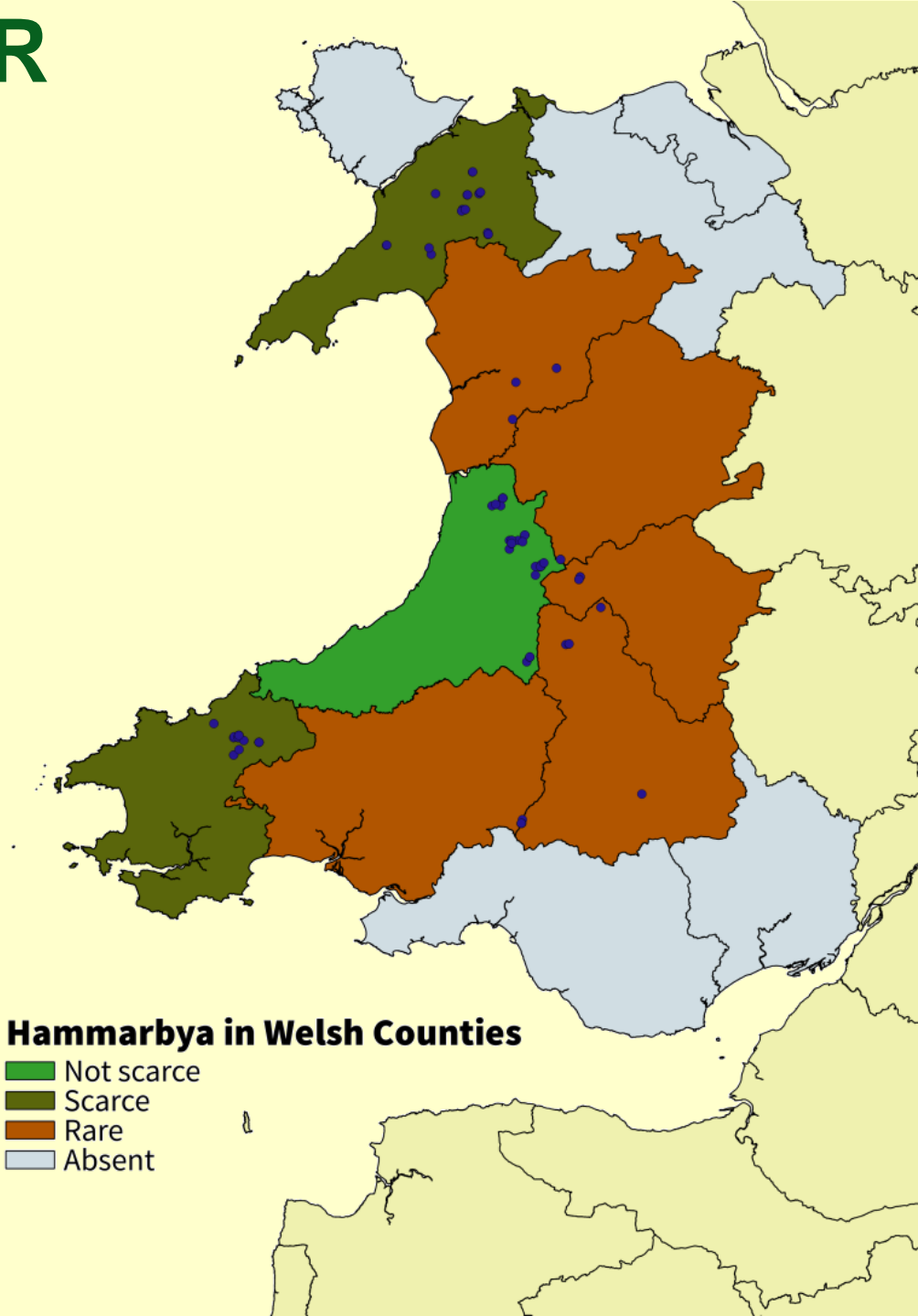

Photo: Sarah

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Hammarbya in Welsh Counties
- Not scarce
- Scarce
- Rare
- Absent
- Records

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland

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How to make a Rare Plant Register?

1. Create a species list
2. Add information for each species
3. Create a spreadsheet of sites
4. Format a printable version

Create a species list

- Spreadsheets available from Andy Amphlett – allow download and selection according to varying criteria from DDB; automate first draft list (based on number of tetrads/ monads)

- Add species of national importance (Red Data Books, Nationally Rare/ Scarce)

- Review list using local knowledge (may for example exclude *Taraxacum/ Hieracium/ Rubus*

Species or hybrid	Native or Archaeophyte (from VCCC)	VC Frequency	Caveat applies
244 Callitriche platycarpa	NATIVE	Scarce	
248 Calystegia sepium	NATIVE	Last recorded 1972	
249 Calystegia sepium x silvatica = C. x lucana	NATIVE	Rare	
250 Campanula glomerata	NATIVE	Rare	
253 Campanula latifolia	NATIVE	Rare	Check
257 Campanula trachelium	NATIVE	Rare	Check
259 Cardamine flexuosa x pratensis = C. x fringsii	NATIVE	Last recorded 1972	
261 Cardamine impatiens	NATIVE	no most recent year	
262 Carduus crispus x nutans = C. x stangii	NATIVE	Last recorded 1943	
266 Carex acuta	NATIVE	Scarce	
270 Carex acuta x elata = C. x prolixa	NATIVE	Last recorded 1904	
273 Carex acuta x nigra	NATIVE	Last recorded 1904	
274 Carex diandra	NATIVE	Last recorded 1950	
275 Carex dioica	NATIVE	Rare	
276 Carex divisa	NATIVE	Rare	Check
277 Carex elata	NATIVE	Scarce	Check
278 Carex elata x nigra = C. x turfosa	NATIVE	Last recorded 1904	
282 Carex limosa	NATIVE	Rare	
283 Carex muricata	NATIVE	Scarce	
286 Carex muricata	NATIVE	Last recorded 1970Scarce	
289 Carex oederi	NATIVE	Scarce	Check
291 Carex otrubae x remota = C. x pseudoaxillaris	NATIVE	Rare	
292 Carex paniculata x remota = C. x boenninghausiana	NATIVE	Rare	
293 Carex rostrata x vesicaria = C. x involuta	NATIVE	Last recorded 1927	

Add information for each species

- Could include:
  - Historical information (first county record, sites where not found since 19XX)
  - Local views (apparently declining in the county, widely planted in wildflower mixes, etc.
  - General species account – may be available centrally

Create a spreadsheet of sites

- Depends upon the nature of records
- Ideally, remove majority of repeat records for each site (but this is laborious)

Hippocrepis comosa
(Horseshoe Vetch)
GB/ Wales: Least
Concern
Caernarvon: Rare

Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
**Natural
Resources**
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Ireland

Format a printable version

- With two spreadsheets this can be automated (Access = database program)
- I can create a printable version in a few hours
- Can include maps (to replace tables for species with numerous sites)
- Could include occasional photographs if desired
- pdf or spreadsheet could be downloaded from BSBI website (county page)

How can we help?

- Advice on method – (keeping it simple)
- Extracting information from DDB
- Providing national information – Red Lists, National Status lists, Species Accounts?
- A second opinion for choices
- Formatting – converting spreadsheet to printable

Any questions?

- Thanks to
  - The Vice-County Recorders of Wales
  - Natural Resources Wales