Over half of the world’s species of horsetails grow in County Fermanagh!
# Fermanagh’s Horsetails

There are eight species in Fermanagh (and Ireland) and fifteen species in the world!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E. arvense:</td>
<td>Field Horsetail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. palustre:</td>
<td>Marsh Horsetail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. fluviatile:</td>
<td>Water Horsetail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. telmatia:</td>
<td>Great Horsetail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. sylvaticum:</td>
<td>Wood Horsetail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. pratense:</td>
<td>Shade Horsetail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. hyemale:</td>
<td>Dutch rush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. variegetum:</td>
<td>Variegated Horsetail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are also six hybrids in Ireland

- *E. arvense* x *E. fluviatile* = *E. x littorale*: Shore Horsetail is widespread.
- *E. hyemale* x *E. variegetum* = *E. x trachyodon*: Mackay’s Horsetail is local.
- *E. hyemale* x *E. ramosissimum* = *E. x moorei*: Moore’s Horsetail; only occurs in Wexford and Wicklow.
- *E. fluviatile* x *E. palustre* = *E. dycei*: in five hectads in Ireland.
- *E. palustre* x *E. telmatia* = *E. x font-queri*: in three hectads in Sligo.
- *E. fluviatile* x *E. telmatia* = *E. x willmotii*: at one site in Cavan.
Equisetum telmetia = E. maximum
Great Horsetail
Equisetum fluviatile: Water Horsetail
Equisetum arvense: Field Horsetail
Equisetum arvense: Field Horsetail

- First internode on branch is much longer than the adjacent stem sheath.
- Internodes on branches are white tipped and spreading.
Equisetum palustre: Marsh Horsetail
Equisetum palustre
Marsh Horsetail

• First internode on branch is much shorter than the adjacent stem sheath.

• Internodes on branches are black tipped and clasping.
Equisetum sylvaticum: Wood Horsetail
Equisetum pratense: Shade Horsetail
E. pratense and E. sylvaticum
Shade Horsetail and Wood Horsetail
Equisetum hyemale: Dutch Rush
Equisetum variegatum: Variegated Horsetail
Equisetum x trachyodon: Mackay’s Horsetail
Dutch Rush x Variegated Horsetail
Equisetum x trachyodon
Mackay’s Horsetail
Equisetum x trachyodon
Mackay’s Horsetail

- Distribution of the species in Britain and Ireland from the DDb.
Equisetum x littorale: Shore Horsetail
E. fluviatile x E. arvense
Water Horsetail x Field Horsetail

James Merryweather
E. fluviatile: Water Horsetail
E. arvense: Field Horsetail
E. X littorale: Shore Horsetail
E. arvense: Field Horsetail
E. X littorale: Shore Horsetail
E. fluviatile: Water Horsetail
Number of Horsetail records per Hectad in the BSBI’s database
Distribution map of Field, Marsh and Water Horsetails in Ireland. All hectads appear to have at least one of these species. There must be some Horsetails near you!!

Go and find them!