



BSBI Atlas 2020

ATLAS 2020 – PROGRESS REPORT

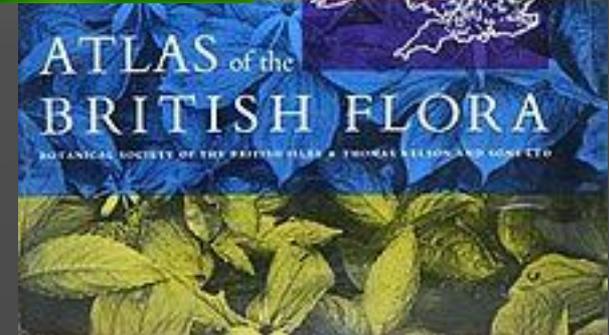
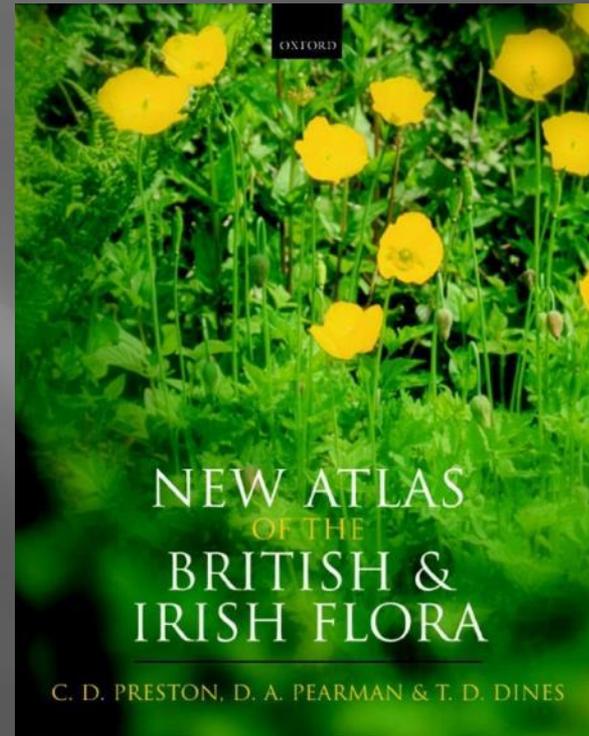
BSBI Scottish Recording Conference & Workshop
March, 2017

Jim McIntosh
BSBI Scottish Officer

Atlas 2020: Overall Aim

Like previous atlases it aims to:

- Produce comprehensive maps for all native and introduced taxa occurring in Britain and Ireland, and
- Analyse and report on the many changes that have occurred since the last Atlas(es).



Atlas 2020: Overall Aim

Unlike previous atlases we plan to:

- Printed Atlas with updated maps for all native species and well naturalised aliens as well as detailed accounts for c.300 species that have interesting stories to tell.
- Online version of the atlas & possibly a smartphone app
- Produce interpreted outputs e.g. new Scottish Red List, GB Red List

Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora

HOME / *ADOXA MOSCHATELLINA* (MOSCHATEL)

Adoxa moschatellina (Moschatel)

Summary Photos Maps Habitats Life Form Distribution Conservation Status References

Ecology i

A perennial rhizomatous herb of mesic brown earth soils on the shaded banks of rivers and streams, in deciduous woodlands and shaded hedge banks; also occasionally in shaded base-rich sites in mountains. This is a vernal species which disappears by May or June in the lowlands. It is self-fertile, reproducing by seed and vegetatively. 0-1065 m (Ben Lawers, Mid Perth).

Status

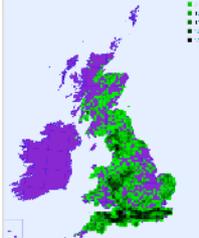
Native

Trends

Populations of *A. moschatellina* within old woodlands have remained stable. In some areas *A. moschatellina* is possibly under-recorded due to its early season. Its native status in Ireland has been questioned (Hackney, 1992).

World Distribution

Circumpolar Boreo-temperate element, with a disjunct distribution.



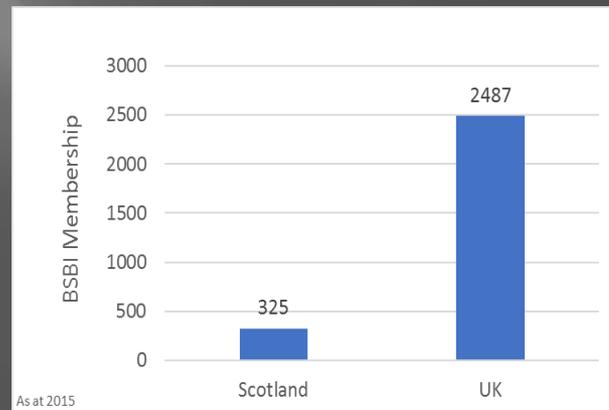
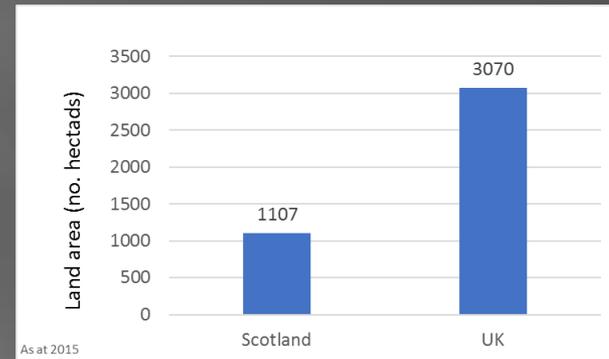
Atlas 2020: Recording Aim

Unlike previous atlases we are recording a sample of tetrads (or better) in every hectad throughout the UK & Ireland.

- We suggest a minimum of 5 tetrads per hectad!
- Surveying each twice
- Just three seasons to go...

A Big Challenge in Scotland

- where we have one third of the total land area of the UK
- half of which is very remote and / or mountainous
- But just 13% of the BSBI membership!



Given the size of the challenge, we need to support and encourage all BSBI Recorders & members and non-members to participate fully!

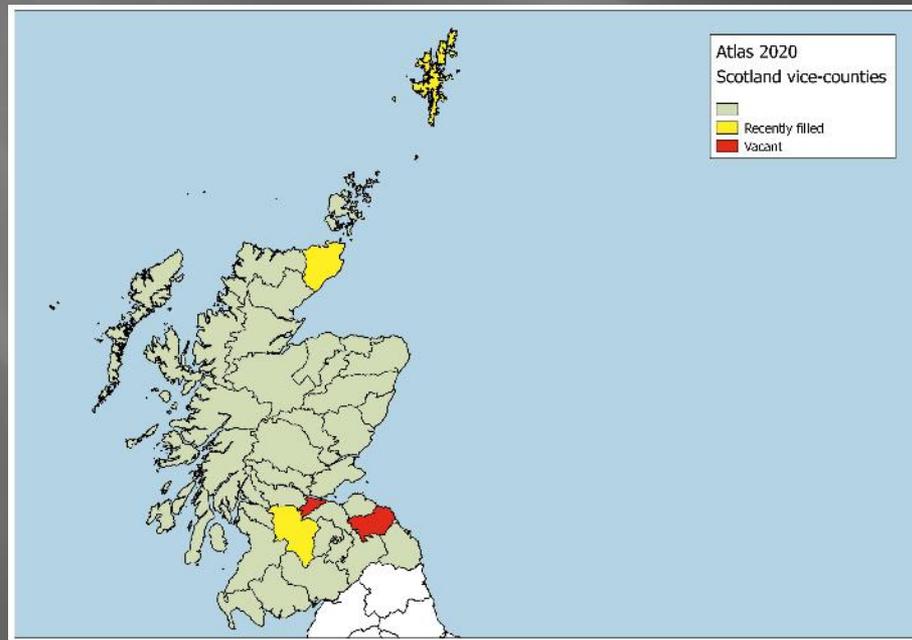
Atlas 2020: Progress

So what have we done centrally over the last year?

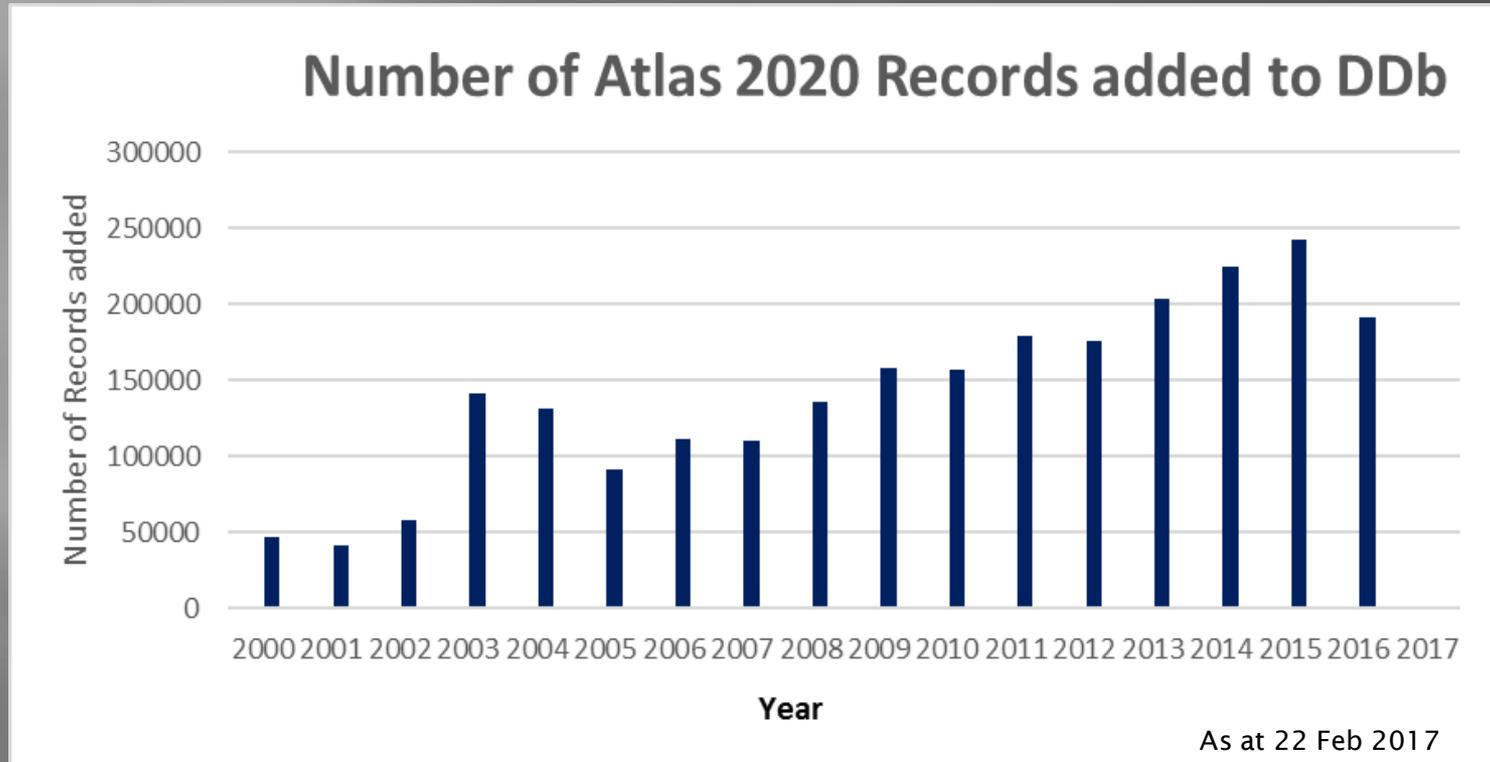
- Published new simple guidance on Validating & Editing records in the BSBI DDb.
- Published regular news & updates on Atlas 2020
- Including the new monthly BSBI eNews
- Talked at every major BSBI meeting on Atlas 2020.
- Organised Recorders' Conferences across the British Isles
- Bid for funds to support Atlas 2020 in remote areas
- Set up a working group to investigate the format of outputs

Atlas 2020: Progress in Scotland

- Success in filling VC Recorder vacancies in Shetland, Caithness & Lanarkshire
- Some Recorders have been appointed just to help with Atlas 2020 (South Ebudef)
- But we still have two vacancies – Berwickshire & West Lothian

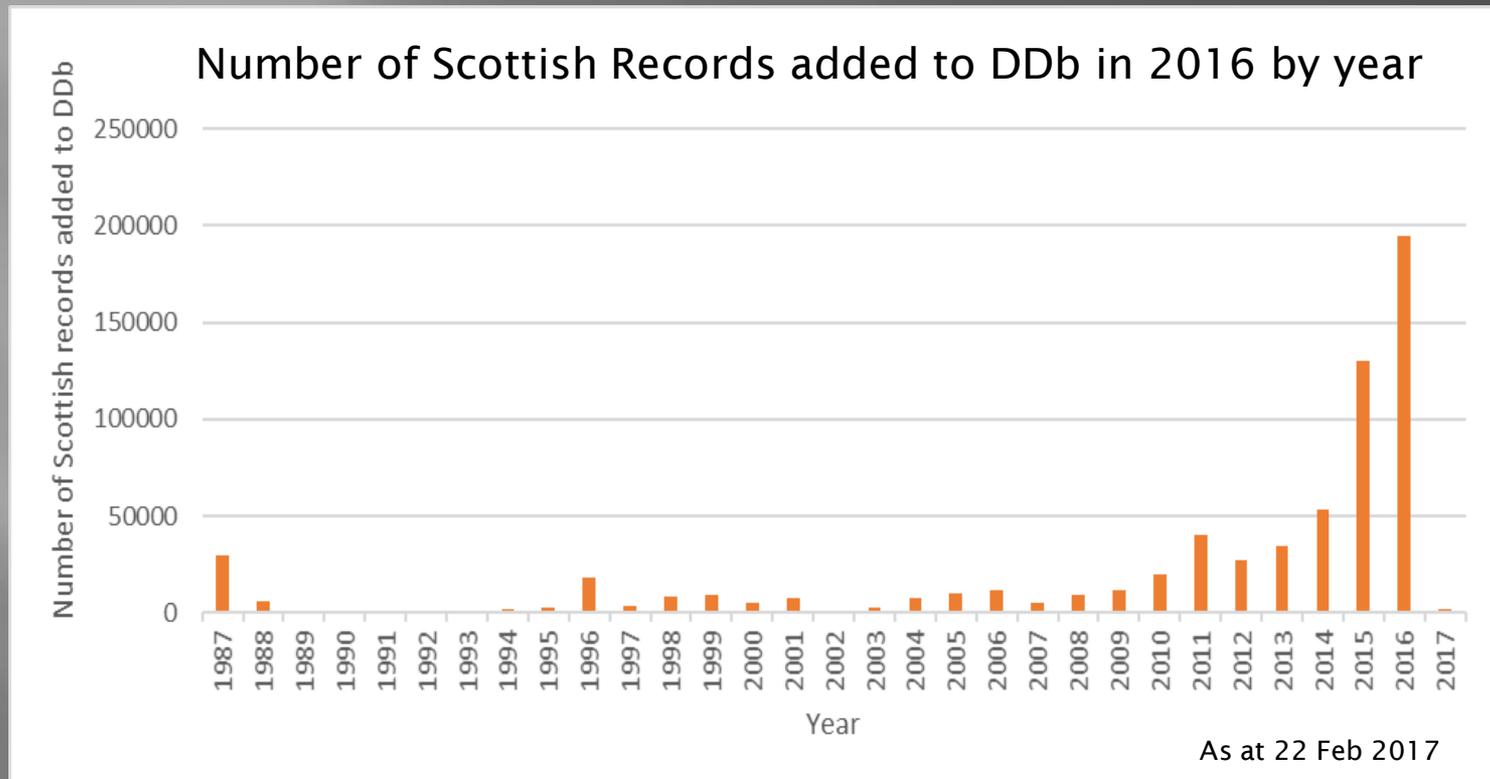


Atlas 2020



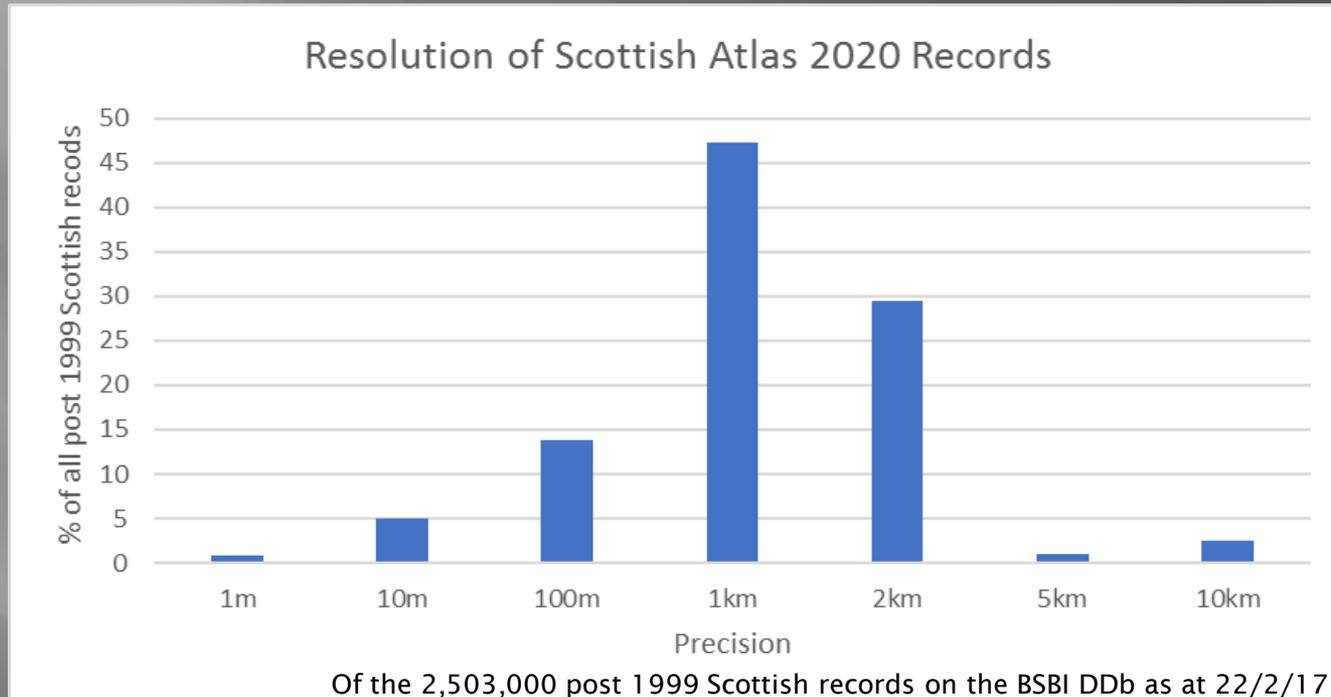
There is an amazing amount of recording and data entry!

Atlas 2020



And an amazing amount of digitising of older records!

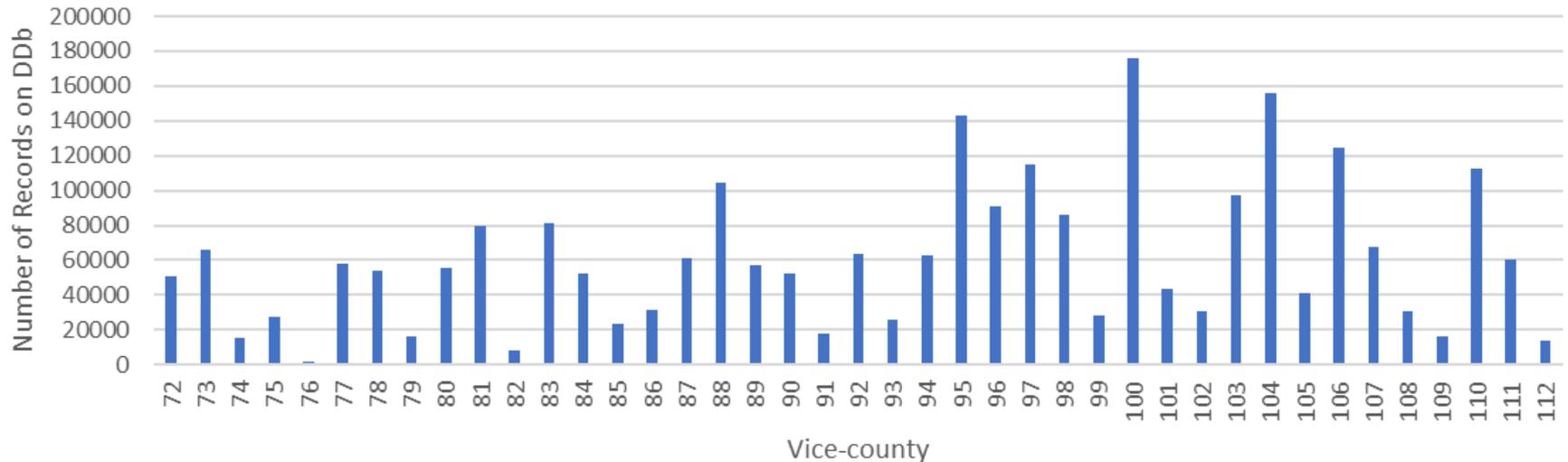
Quality of Recording



- The quality – in terms of precision or resolution is much better for Scotland than I could have hope for.
- There has also been some great finds – like the new populations of *Oxytropis halleri* and *Saxifraga hirculus* in Perthshire and *Ophioglossum azoricum* in Westernness.

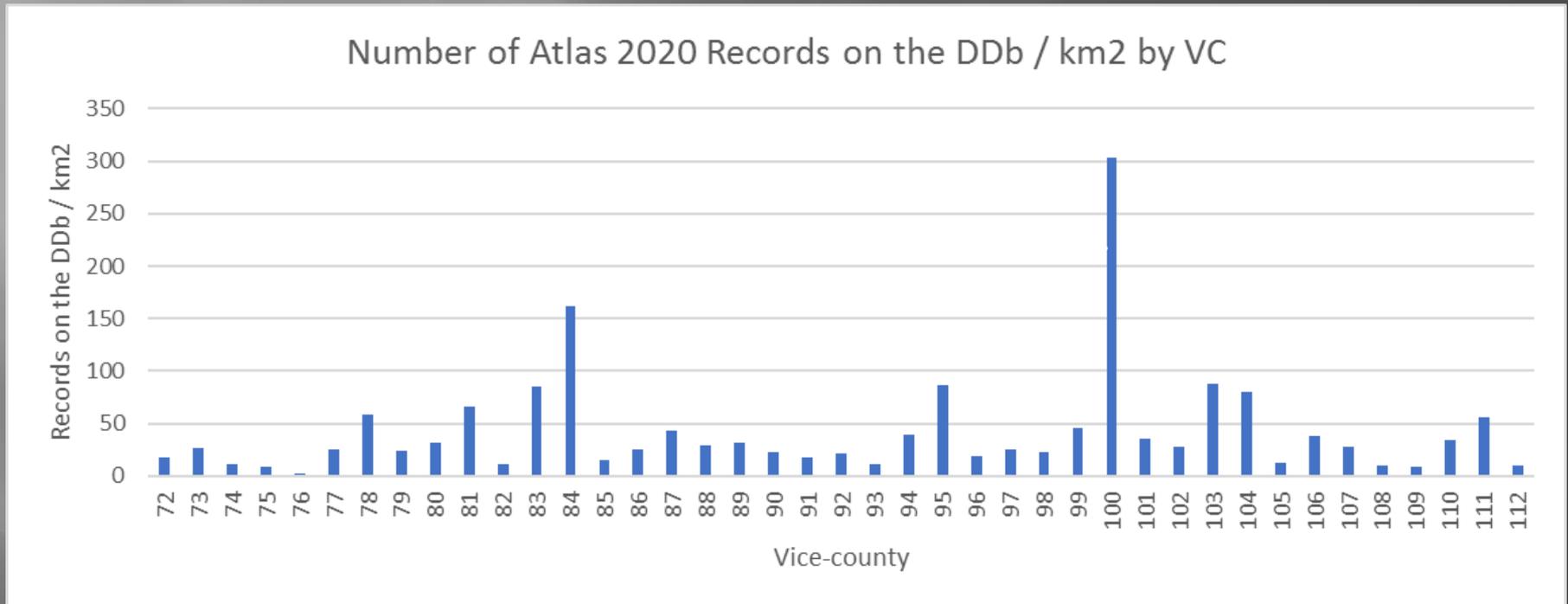
Atlas 2020: where is help needed?

Number of Atlas 2020 Records by VC



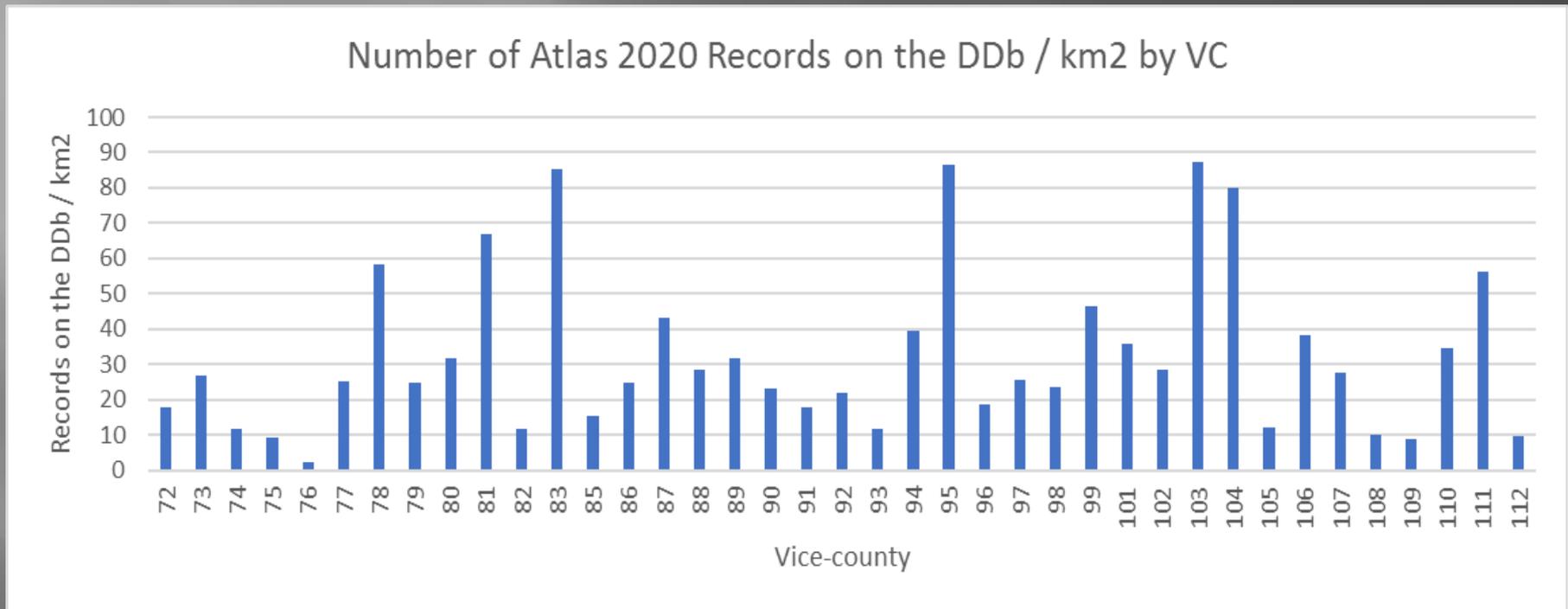
- This VC by VC chart shows huge variation between VCs. NB Some low bars are due to data blockages rather than under-recording
- It does not allow for the huge variation in VC landarea.

Atlas 2020: where is help needed?



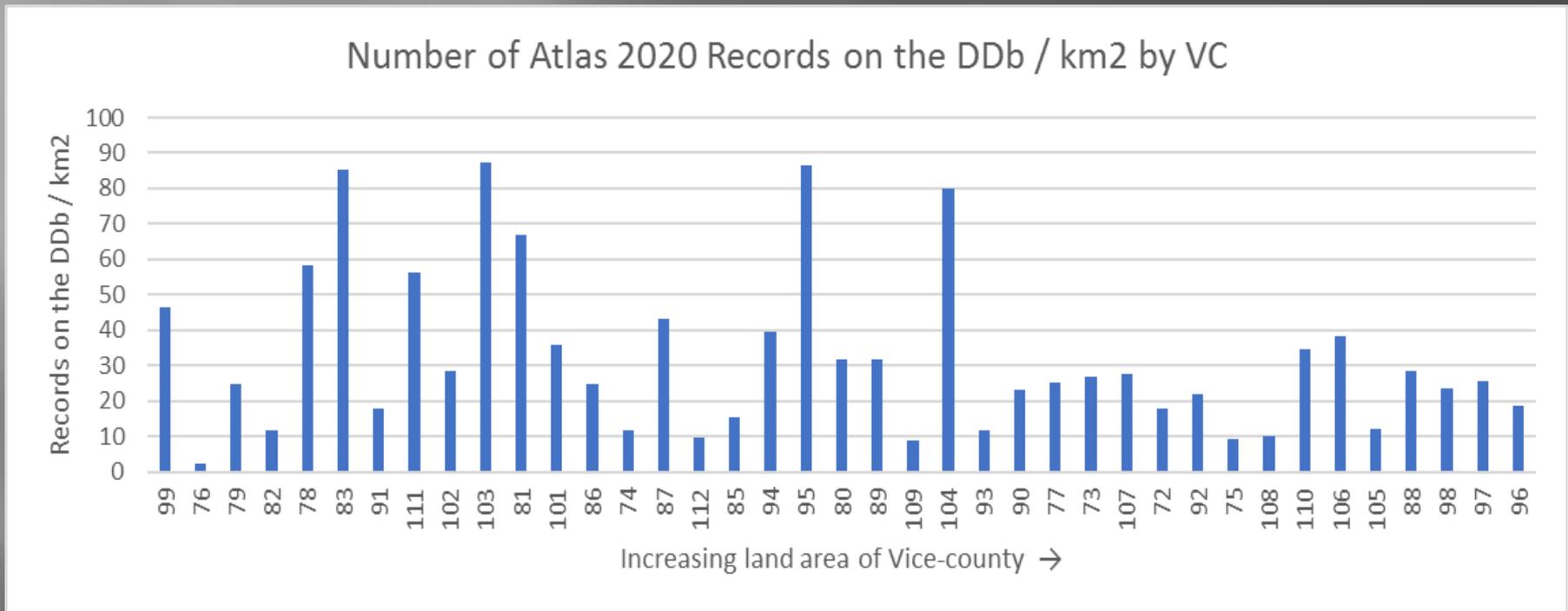
- This normalised chart still shows enormous variation.
- Mainly due to two of the smallest VCs having very active recorders!

Atlas 2020: where is help needed?

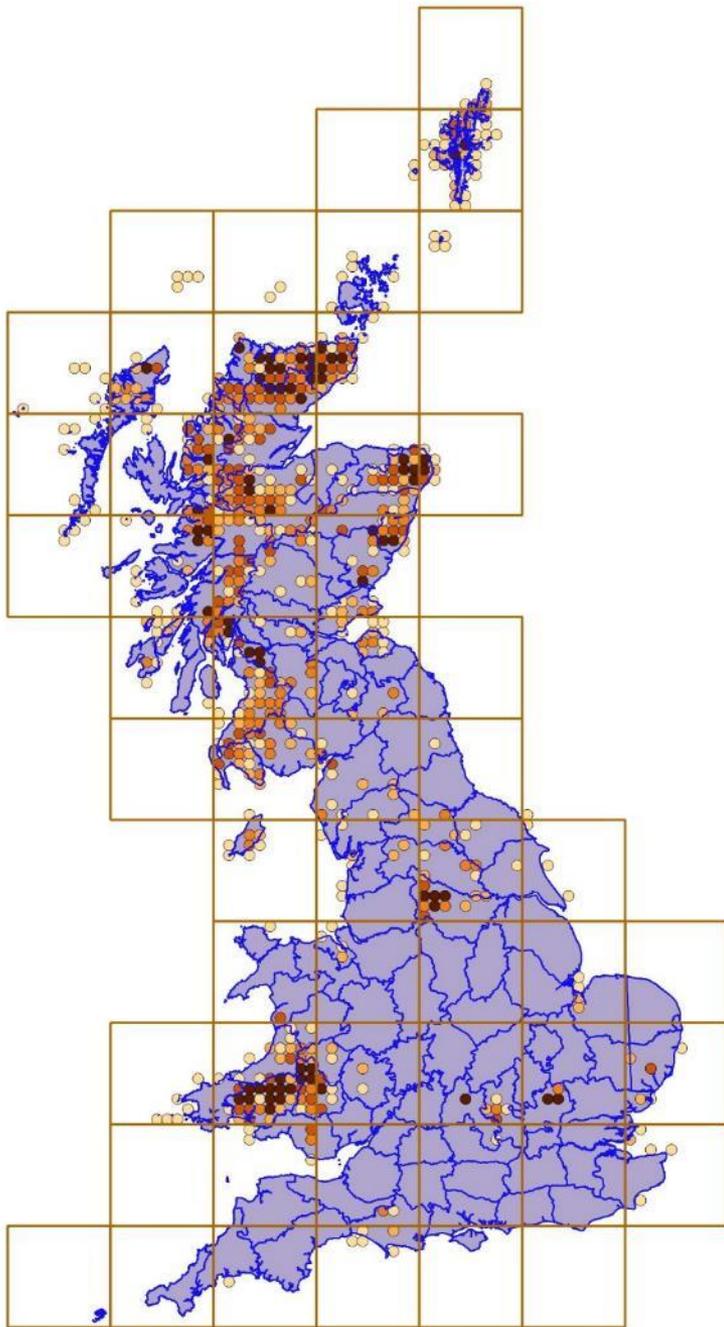


- Here those small VCs are excluded from the analysis
- The results are more comparable although still show big variations
- But you can begin to see where help is needed.

And how much help is needed?



- A further refinement is to sort the results by VC landarea
- It will be a lot easier to help the small VCs (on the left) that need help
- Than the big VCs (on the right) that need help

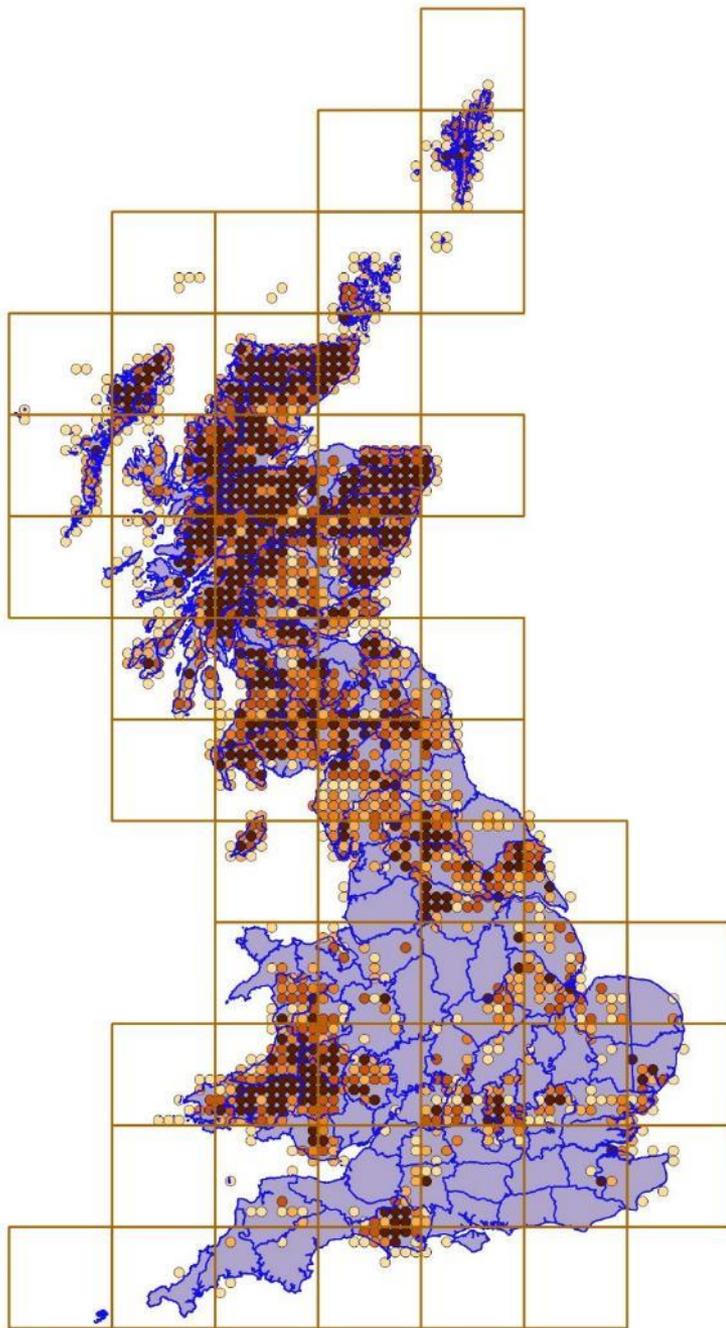


Number of tetrads BELOW target per hectad
(target = 5 tetrads with 100 or more taxa
per hectad since 2000) from DDb 9th Feb 2017



A target of 5 tetrads with 100 taxa (species & hybrids) per hectad (or pro rata) should be achievable in all hectads except perhaps for a few in the northern and western Isles, and a few in the far north of mainland Scotland. The target is easily met in most lowland areas, such that the map is not very informative in those areas.

Maps such as these are another
way to look at the same data



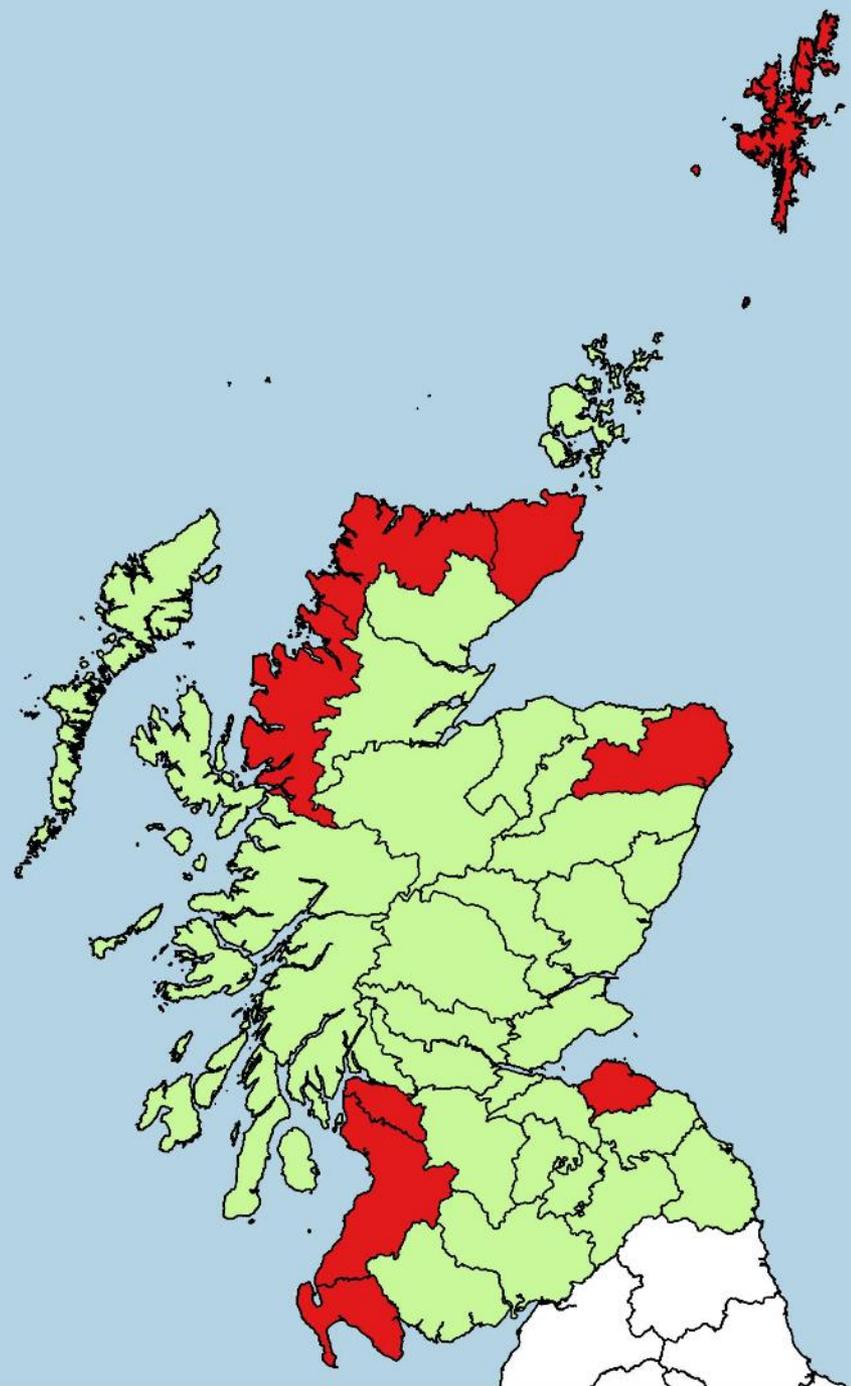
Number of tetrads BELOW target per hectad
(target = 5 tetrads with 200 or more taxa
per hectad since 2000) from DDb 9th Feb 2011

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 100km grid

A target of 5 tetrads with 200 taxa (species & hybrids) per hectad (or pro rata) should be achievable in the majority of hectads in lowland and southern areas. Over much of the uplands this target is too high to be realistic. However, for lowland areas, this target is more informative re. survey coverage than the 100 taxa per tetrad one.

Atlas 2020
Scotland vice-counties

Help needed



Where extra help is needed.

Atlas 2020: Progress in 2016

- Everywhere Recorders have been busy recording for Atlas 2020
- They have also been very busy digitising Atlas 2020 Records
- And a few have even made a start to validating their records
- They organised 12 field meetings to help with Atlas 2020

- Two one day Workshops in spring on the theme of Atlas 2020
- Two Recording Weeks: Shetland & Lanark
- Andy did loads of recording in Easternness
- Collected 27k records in third and final year of CNP project which was funded by the CNP and organised by Andy
- Used WFS funding to employ a contractor to help in West Ross
- Used WFS funding to allow the VC Recorder of West Sutherland to base himself in the east of the county with a team of botanists for three weeks

Atlas 2020: Plans for 2017

- We've appointed a contractor to digitise the backlog of records in West Sutherland.
- We are applying to GNHS for a small grant to help recording in West Sutherland.
- We are planning 2 Recording weeks: West Ross & Argyll
- We are using WFS funding to enable us to record uninhabited islands on Mull & Orkney.
- We have approval from SNH to use the under-spend in the BSBI funding to gap fill in 2017.
- Do hope to get Rough Crew off the ground this year.

Thank you!



BSBI Atlas 2020