



An Introduction to the BSBI Distribution Database (DDb)

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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
 - Produce Reports & Summaries
- For which the user must be logged in.

The Amazing DDb!

There are also

Useful Tools – including...

- a grid reference to VC convertor
- taxa designation checklists
- a data validation system and

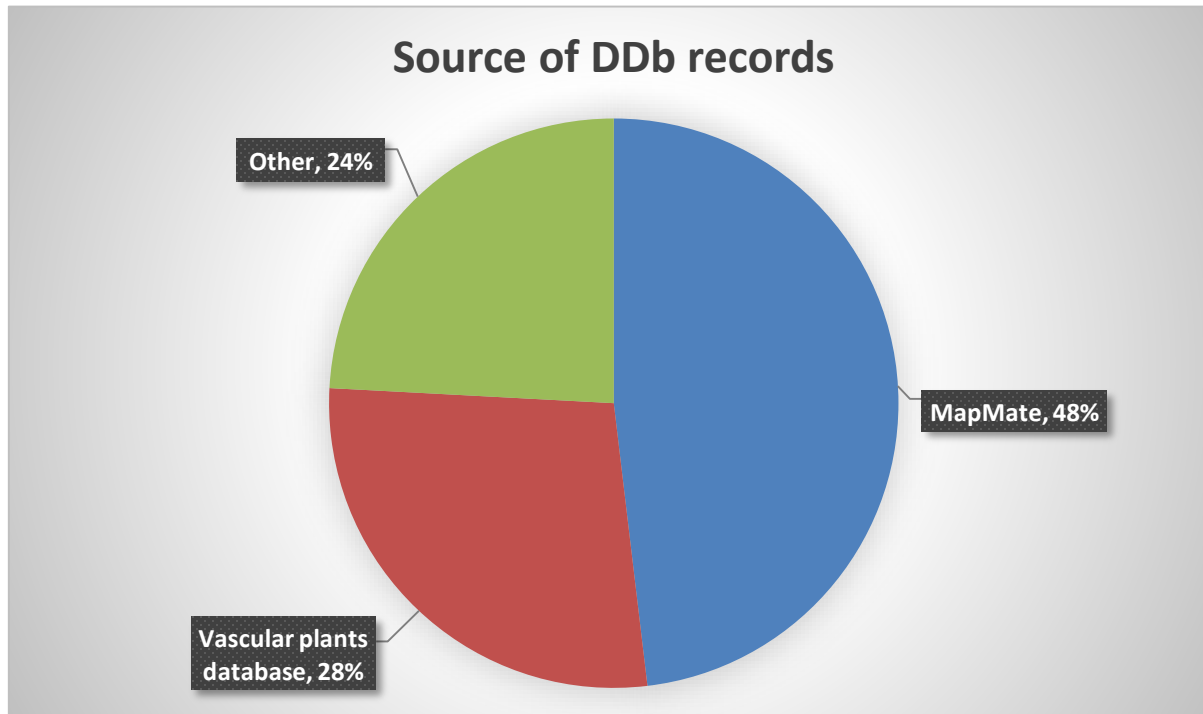
A simple mapping function (to tetrad resolution)

An interactive Message Board and a User Manual

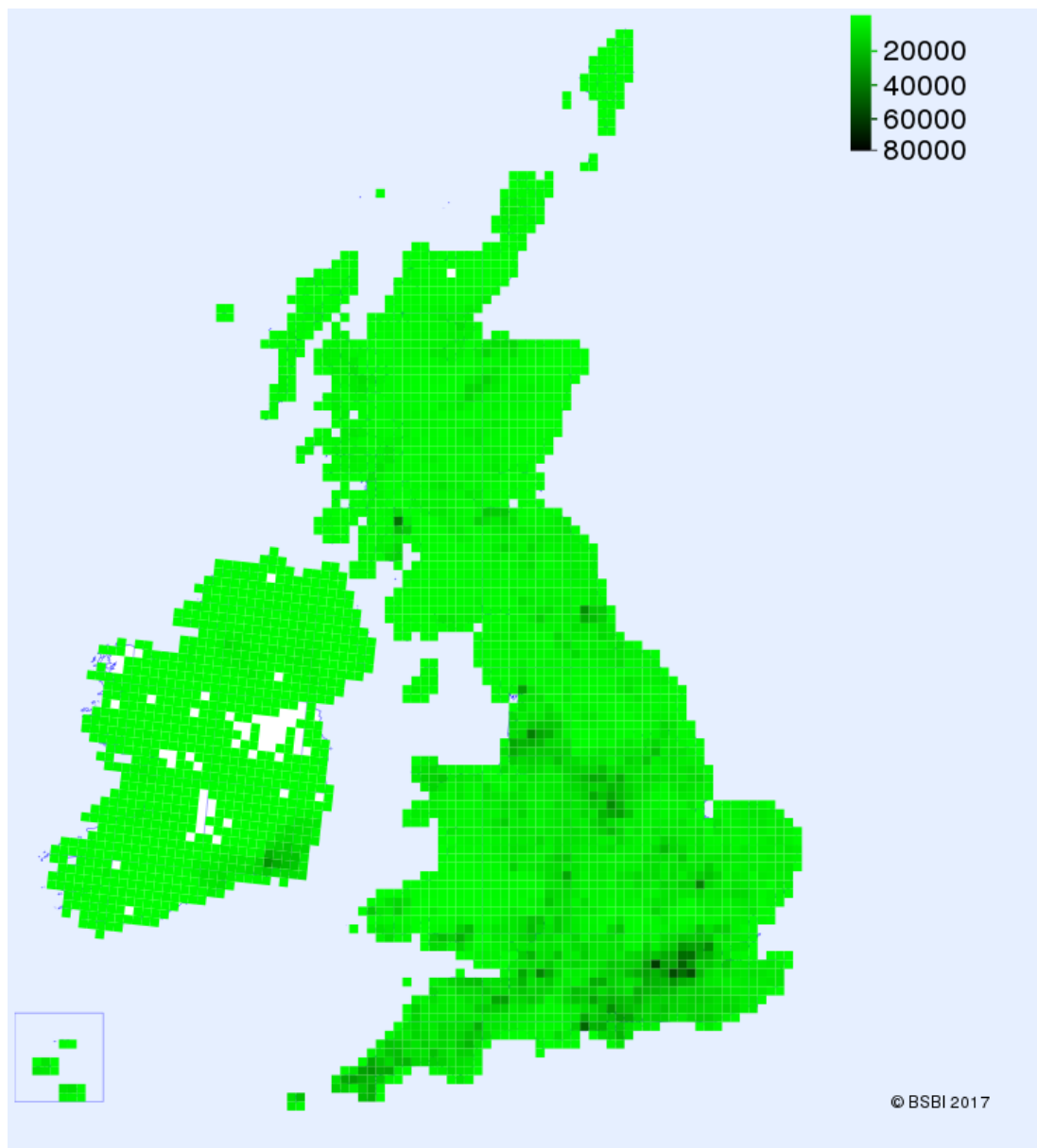
- None of which needs the user to be logged in.

Records in the DDb

Contains c. 34.8 million records in total



Records in the DDb



Records for Scotland in DDb

- 4.5 million records (all data classes)
- 2.3 million are post 1999

Of these post 1999 records:

- 2.2 million are from MapMate and
- 2.2 million records tetrad or better resolution
- 1.6 million records monad or better resolution

Use of the Database

- The DDb is primarily intended as a research tool for Recorders, Referees & other specialists
- Access to detailed records is limited to BSBI recorders and Referees
- Access for other users and organisations is **only**:
 - via data sharing agreements
 - or considered case-by-case

Search & Listing Records

1. Enter taxon here and

2. grid ref here then

3. Click “display results”

Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland

Distribution Database > search

Tools New maps search search history

Search form Search templates

search for

taxon

grid reference

county/region

date recorded

recorder

checklist/attributes

bounded area

place name

more options

Current search-form filter
records where taxon *Bartsia alpina* L. "Alpine Bartsia" and grid-reference NN42 and vice-county: VC88

display results email results download results save query reset search form help

results table download printable map zoomable map help

6 records matched your query.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
record	taxon	recorder	vc	locality	grid ref	date	status	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bartsia alpina	{ Thomas, R.E. }	VC88	VC88 Mid Perthshire	NN42	1987-1999	NR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bartsia alpina		VC88	Ben More	NN426248	15/7/1978	NR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bartsia alpina	Somerville, A.	VC88	Ben More	NN4324	31/7/1888	NR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bartsia alpina	Thomas, R.E. Merrie, D.	VC88	Ben More	NN434235	18/7/1999	NR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bartsia alpina	Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	VC88	Ben More	NN426248	1978	NR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bartsia alpina	Somerville, A.	VC88	Ben More	NN4324	1/8/1888	NR	

selected records action

mark validation state as


☐ hide duplicates

Then Click here to view record in detail

All records of Bartsia in Hectad NN42 in Mid-Perths (VC88)

View details for a single record

← → ↺ 🏠 | database.bsbi.org/object.php?objectid=2cd4p9h.30wqys&class=RecordInstance&branchid=0.1&branchview=c&branchstamp=0 | 📖 ☆ | ☰ 📏 📍 ⋮

 [Distribution Database](#) > Record (voucher specimen) [my mapmate records](#) | [my county](#) | [user manual](#) | [message board](#) | [my details](#) | [logout Jim\(jimmintosh\)](#) | [public mode](#)

[Tools](#) ▾ [New](#) ▾ [maps](#) [search](#) [search history](#)

Record (voucher specimen) [map](#) [status](#) [attributes](#) [admin](#)

Record (voucher specimen)

taxon	Bartsia alpina L. "Alpine Bartsia"
date	1/8/1888
locality	Ben More VC88 NN4324 📍
collector	A. Somerville
sex/stage	present
attributes	abundance: Present
curation	E
notes	comment: Craigmore, Mid-Perthshire. [Possibly therefore Ben More. A.J.L.]
references	2006. Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh (2000-2006)
source data set	Edinburgh Royal Botanic Garden (E)
status	unknown
external id	BSBI:TPDB record.268802
ddb row id	2cd4p9h.30wqyr#2cd4p9h.30wqys
data source	Threatened plants database (via provider The Botanical Society of the British Isles)
last modified	Tue, 14 Sep 10 12:16:42 +0100

Please cite this database record as <https://database.bsbi.org/record/2cd4p9h.30wqyr>

Modify this record

There are alternative ways of updating this record.

Make alterations to the record
In general you should avoid altering the content of records. There are [guidelines about the types of changes that are advisable](#). It's usually better to reject records rather than trying to correct them.

📄 [Edit this record](#)

[Search for similar records](#) | [search for duplicate records](#)

Downloading Records

1. Click “Download”

Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland

Distribution Database > search

my mapmate records | my county | user manual | message board | my details | logout Jim(jimmacintosh) | public mode

Tools ▾ New ▾ maps search search history

Search form Search templates

search for Records (specimens or observations) ▾

taxon Bartsia alpina

grid reference NN42

county/region Mid Perthshire,

date recorded equals ▾

recorder any role ▾ person or organisation broad match ▾

checklist/attributes checklist

bounded area area name any area type include this area ▾ include intersections ▾

place name place name broad match ▾

more options ▾

Current search-form filter
records where taxon *Bartsia alpina* L. "Alpine Bartsia", and grid-reference NN42 and vice-county: VC88

display results email results download results save query reset search form help...

results table **download** printable map zoomable map help

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 BSBI 2000 Atlas
- ☐ taxon authority
- ☐ NHM TVK (NBN taxon key)
- ☐ internal id code (entityid) for localities

csv format [download](#) [email](#)
Excel spreadsheet [download](#) [email](#)
OpenDocument spreadsheet [download](#) [email](#)
export in NBN Data Exchange format [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)

2. Then select download option

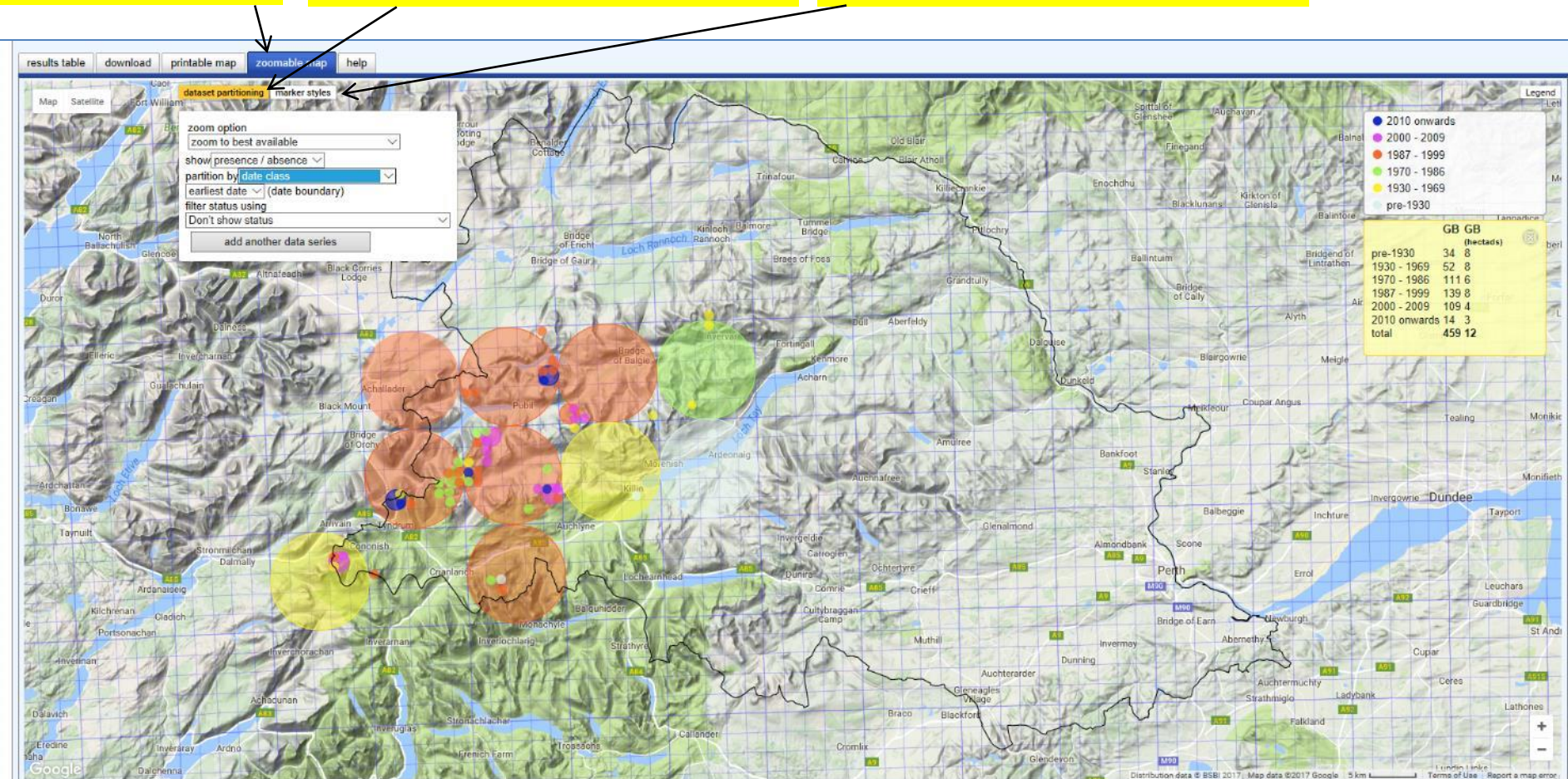
To download all records of Bartsia in NN42 in vc88.

Mapping Records

1. Click on zoomable map

2. Click dataset partitioning and Select “date class” then

3. Click Marker styles and Select “Maps Scheme”



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
- Possibly mismatched sitenames and grid refs

Can also use it to detect & hide duplicate records

Checking Records

Unchecked records are shown in blue when they arrive at the DDb

Recorders can **reject bad records**, **mark records as doubtful** or confirm good ones

Can also mark records as needs checking.

results table download map help

4 records matched your query.

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

Arrows from text above point to: 'taxon' column, 'locality' column, 'grid ref' column, and 'hide duplicates' checkbox.







Blue: unchecked (default)

Also Grey = duplicate

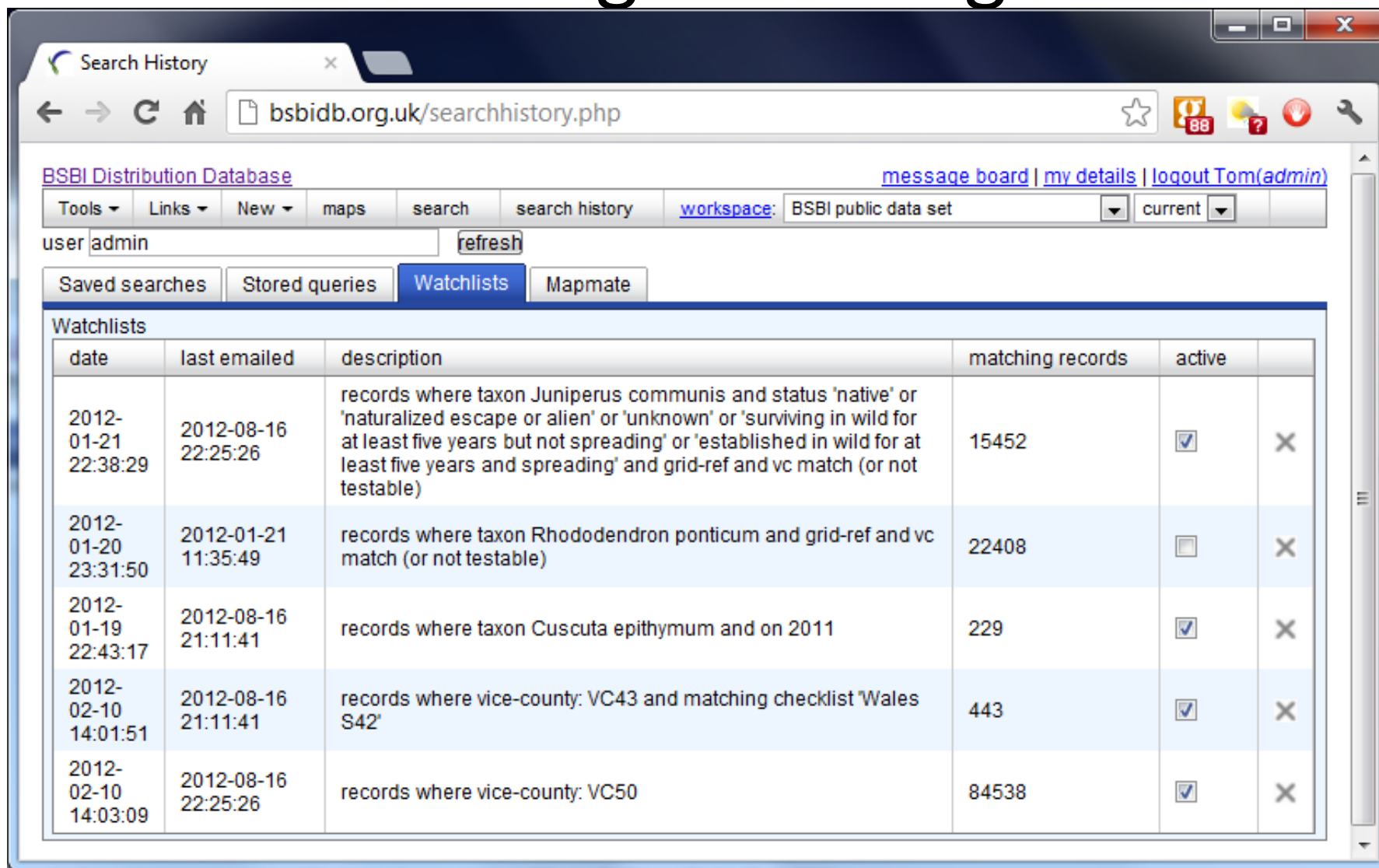
Validation States in the DDb

The validation symbol for each record in the DDb is listed in the Record column on the left-hand side of a results table. The text in the record uses the colouring system below. Hold the cursor over the symbol to the left of the word “Record”

in the column header to see the key:

	State	Validation State description	Mapped?	Returned by default queries?
	Unchecked	Records are given this validation state when they enter the DDb by default.	✓	✓
	Confirmed	A record that has been checked subsequently in the DDb and is recognised as accurate is given the “confirmed” validation state.	✓	✓
	Needs verification	This state is applied when the record is not currently acceptable, but further investigation or correction of some inconsistent details might make it valid.	X	✓
	Doubtful	This state is used if you feel the record details might have some merit, but for whatever reason the record is thought to be incorrect.	X	X
	Rejected	The “rejected” state is applied if the record is obviously erroneous and fundamental flaws mean that the details aren't worth salvaging.	X	X
	Duplicate	It is not necessary or recommended to mark records as “duplicate” as the DDb can detect and exclude most duplicates automatically.	X	X

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.

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"/>	×
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"/>	×
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"/>	×
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"/>	×
2012-02-10 14:03:09	2012-08-16 22:25:26	records where vice-county: VC50	84538	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	×

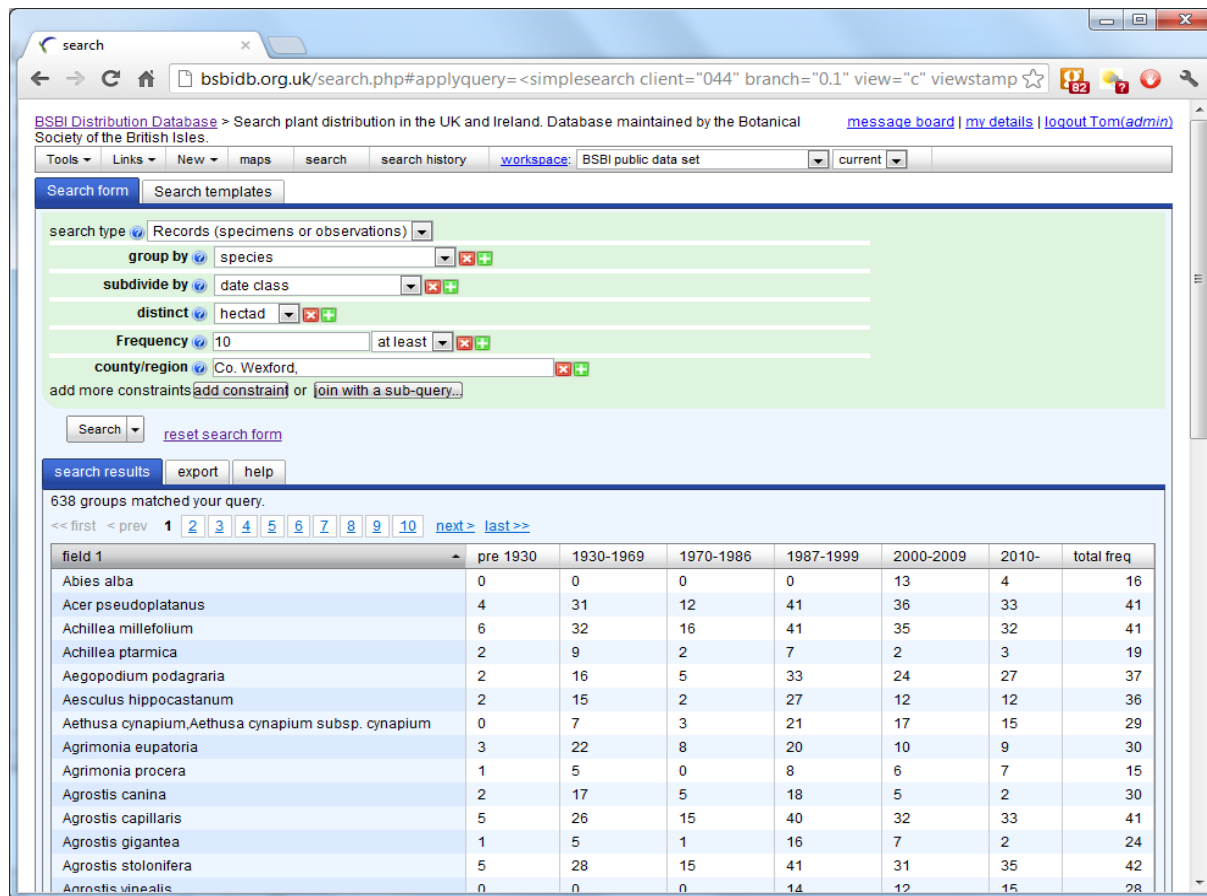
Can set up a watchlist which can (for example) let you know if new records are added for your VC

Adding New Records

- Preferred option: Using MapMate – records go to the DDb automatically within an hour or so
- You will get two confirmation emails
- Subsequent corrections made in MM and synched to the hub will update DDb
- Can also send records in Recorder, spreadsheet or database format (preferably already validated)
- Or using iRecord online or smartphone app

Reporting

Can view summarised or grouped data



BSBI Distribution Database > Search plant distribution in the UK and Ireland. Database maintained by the Botanical Society of the British Isles. [message board](#) | [my details](#) | [logout Tom\(admin\)](#)

Tools Links New maps search search history workspace BSBI public data set current

Search form Search templates

search type Records (specimens or observations)

group by species

subdivide by date class

distinct hectad

Frequency 10 at least

county/region Co. Wexford

add more constraints [add constraint](#) or [join with a sub-query...](#)

Search reset search form

search results export help

638 groups matched your query.

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

field 1	pre 1930	1930-1969	1970-1986	1987-1999	2000-2009	2010-	total freq
Abies alba	0	0	0	0	13	4	16
Acer pseudoplatanus	4	31	12	41	36	33	41
Achillea millefolium	6	32	16	41	35	32	41
Achillea ptarmica	2	9	2	7	2	3	19
Aegopodium podagraria	2	16	5	33	24	27	37
Aesculus hippocastanum	2	15	2	27	12	12	36
Aethusa cynapium, Aethusa cynapium subsp. cynapium	0	7	3	21	17	15	29
Agrimonia eupatoria	3	22	8	20	10	9	30
Agrimonia procera	1	5	0	8	6	7	15
Agrostis canina	2	17	5	18	5	2	30
Agrostis capillaris	5	26	15	40	32	33	41
Agrostis gigantea	1	5	1	16	7	2	24
Agrostis stolonifera	5	28	15	41	31	35	42
Anrostis vinealis	0	0	0	14	12	15	28

e.g. Number of hectads each species was found in for each dateclass in Co. Wexford



BSBI Atlas 2020

