

Meeting report – *Hammarbya paludosa* (Bog Orchid)

Andy Amphlett kindly agreed to take the group to see the **Bog Orchids** he and his wife Liz had found the previous week on the very southern slope of Knock of Braemoray. Ten of us joined Andy to search the area. Andy and Liz found thirteen orchids, but with lots of extra pairs of eyes the group found another twenty-one **Bog Orchids** so a total of thirty-four, so a good population. Looking at the BSBI database this is the first time this orchid has been found in the modern district of Moray. The tallest we saw were no more than two inches high, but most were generally a lot shorter. This made it hard to spot them especially as there were also lots of *Selaginella selaginoides* (**Lesser Clubmoss**) which were near enough the same colour green and height as the **Bog Orchids**.

We also saw two other species of orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata* (**Heath Spotted-orchid**) and *Neottia cordata* (**Lesser Twayblade**). Also, two other species of clubmosses were seen *Lycopodium clavatum* (**Stag's-horn Clubmoss**) and *Huperzia selago* (**Fir Clubmoss**).

Below are two photos of the **Bog Orchid**. The second photo showing how small they were. Plus, a photo showing some of the group looking at them. Certainly not an easy species to photograph.

Photos taken by Martin Cook and Ian Green.





