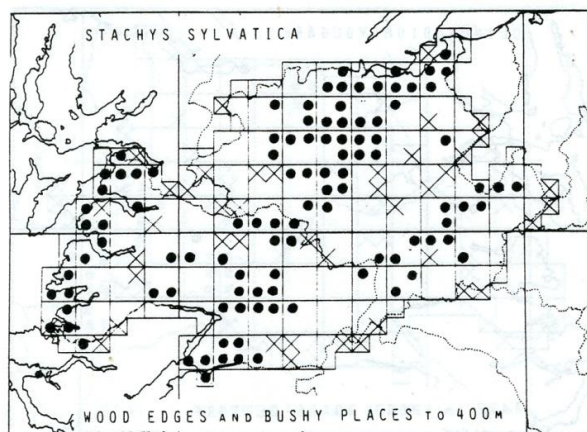
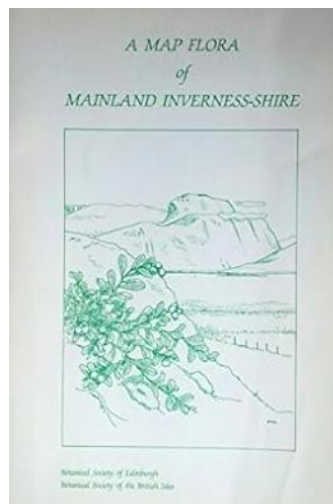


vc96 update February 2025

During January I have been concentrating on entering old, mainly 1970s plant records into the BSBI distribution database (DDb). Over the month 19,860 records have been added, and the database now has all currently available vc96 records back as far as 1960.

- Many of the recently added records derive from fieldwork for 'A Map Flora of Mainland Inverness-shire', undertaken between 1970 and 1975. Recording for this project was at quadrant precision (5km x 5km grid squares).
- The survey covered vice-counties 96 and 97, but excluded the Nairnshire part of vc96, and that part of vc97 that was within the old (pre-1975) county of Argyll.
- The resultant Map Flora was published in 1985, and shows the distribution of 798 taxa, out of c.980 taxa recorded during the survey.
- An example map is shown below for *Stachys sylvatica* (Hedge Woundwort). Quadrants marked with an X were not surveyed.



There remains the ongoing task of adding accurate dates (at year or better precision), and locality details, to c.11,500 records that currently only have a date range and lack a locality name. These records are summarised in the table below.

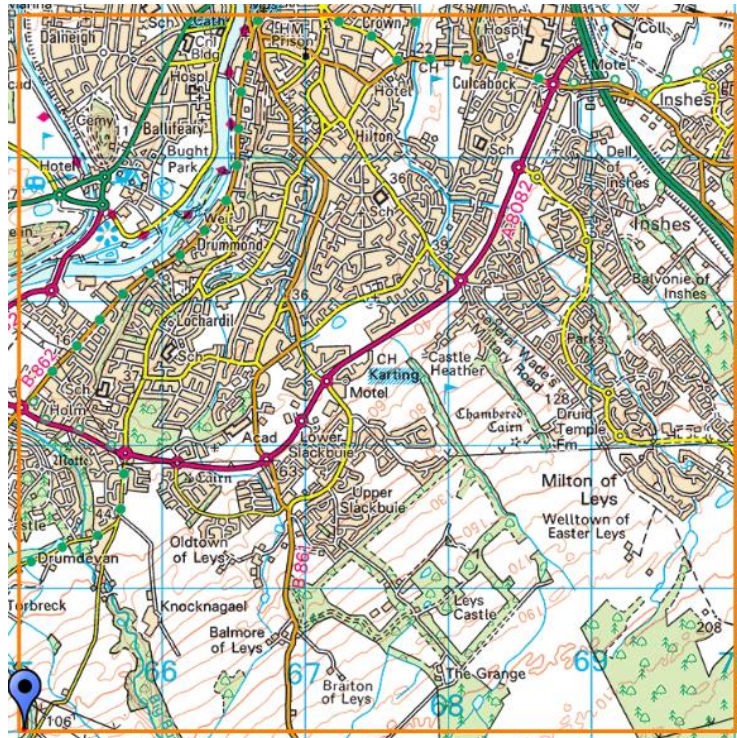
Date range	Records
1947 - 1957	58
1947 - 1974	51
1947 - 1975	8684
1947 - 1976	380
1947 - 1977	149
1948 - 1975	36
1950 - 1975	1295
1950 - 1976	126
1950 - 1978	22

1952 - 1975	249
1952 - 1976	25
1953 - 1975	31
1954 - 1975	263
1955 - 1975	74
1955 - 1981	23
1956 - 1975	45
1964 - 1975	65
Total	11576

Beyond that, there are two other significant areas of work that might be tackled.

- The original recording cards for the first Atlas of the British Flora are held at the Biological Records Centre (BRC) at Wallingford, in Oxfordshire. The BSBI database holds summary versions of these records, but there may be additional useful details on the original cards.
- Mary McCallum Webster's 1978 Flora of vc96 (and vc95) and her card index, contain many historic, pre-1950 records from literature and herbaria sources. Much of this information has yet to be added to the DDb.

For users of the BSBI database, a recent additional function is to be able to search for records within quadrants. For example, to create a list of taxa recorded in the south-eastern quarter of hectad NH64 (NH64SE), with first and most recent year recorded run [this query](#).



Quadrant NH64SE

Access to BSBI plant records

Please remember, that all BSBI members can have access to the DDb, and I would encourage any BSBI members to apply, by completing and submitting this form - <https://database.bsbi.org/membersaccess.php>. Further details regarding access to the DDb are given here - <https://docs.bsbi.org/using-our-data/members-access>. We are fortunate that across the whole of Scotland, BSBI members have access to full details of almost all records. If you are not yet a BSBI member please consider joining - <https://bsbi.org/join-us>

Andy Amphlett

VCR vc96

01/02/2025

<https://bsbi.org/easterness>