Flora of Guernsey

George Garnett

49° 27’ N, 2° 34’ W
v.c. 113

Anacamptis laxiflora - Bridget
Ozanne Orchid Fields
The Island

- Area of 63km²
- 30 classes of vegetation
- 1,800 vascular plants across the Channel Islands
- 1/3 of vascular plants are non-native to Guernsey
- One of the largest tidal ranges in the world
- 45km from France, 100km from England
Coastal Habitats

• Guernsey has a LOT of coast
• The interesting plants that live there aren’t particularly obvious
• There is a plant in this photograph that is exceptionally rare in the British Isles...
Eryngium campestre
Romulea columnae

Isoetes histrix
Mibora minima
The Asplenium Hybrids

Photo Credit: Fred Rumsey
Earthbanks or Hedgebanks

- Line the sides of many rural Guernsey lanes – 826 km!
- A result of inheritance laws splitting fields, often with a new access road
- Earth piled into a vertical bank, often with large rocks at the base
- Habitat for hundreds of plant species
- Cut twice a year
Any questions? Please feel free to ask me at lunch or follow me on Twitter

@george_garnett