

From Jim McIntosh, Senior Country Officer, jim.mcintosh@bsbi.org

Atlas 2020 Recording

Now the third last Atlas 2020 field season is fully underway, it is worth reminding you that the little-and-often approach to data entry, synching with the DDb and to validation is by far the best. It prevents the build-up of big and very daunting backlogs over the summer and means that when you do come to enter and validate data the field trip is still reasonably fresh in your mind. By the way the validation I am referring to is that of the data you have just entered and sent to the hub. So even if you have a big validation backlog – it won't get any bigger!

BSBI Photographic Competition 2017

Remember to take your camera when you are out and about this summer and use it to take photographs that you could enter in the 2017 BSBI Photographic Competition. It has two categories: 1) Plants in the Landscape and 2) Archaeophytes. [More...](#)

Ticks

Now the field season is well and truly underway, it is a good time to remind BSBI members of the dangers of ticks. It is important if you are in the field in any area prone to ticks that you check for and remove any ticks as soon as you can after your field visit. Guidance on how to do that is given in this [Lyme Disease Action leaflet](#). [More...](#)

Computer security

Although the virus that caused havoc recently didn't spread by email, viruses do generally enter computer systems by users clicking on a link to a website or opening an attachment. If you receive an email from an unexpected source, do not click on any link in it or open any attachment unless you are absolutely sure it is safe to do so.

In addition, you ought to ensure that:

- your computer is set to download and apply Windows Updates automatically,
- you have Anti-virus software switched on and up to date with updates,
- your firewall is turned on and, perhaps most important of all,
- all your important files (especially My MapMate) are backed up.

Finally, if you have a machine still running Windows XP, you really should consider buying a new PC.

BSBI Referee for *Trichophorum* and *Eleocharis*

Jeremy Roberts asks recorders and referees to note that his old email address, fjr@edencroft2.demon.co.uk, will cease shortly and that the new address is fjr@edencroft2.co.uk - as before but without the "demon"!

Can I take the opportunity to encourage you to visit Jeremy's excellent [website](#) on *Trichophorum*, *Eleocharis* and much else of interest to botanists? If you haven't yet got to grips with *Trichophorum germanicum* and *T. cespitosum* – make this the year you do! There are full details on the website and Jeremy is delighted to receive material for confirmation or determination.

[Jim McIntosh](#), BSBI Scottish Officer

New on the BSBI website

Three new resources have just been made available to BSBI members via the [members-only area](#) of the BSBI website:

1. A new BSBI membership list, up-to-date as of 1st May.
2. A pdf of the April issue of *BSBI News* - so you can choose to read it in print or on-line as you prefer.
3. An Index to articles featured in *BSBI News* nos. 111-120.

All three resources were provided for us by Gwynn Ellis - thanks Gwynn!

The members-only area also lists a few recent changes to BSBI referees, so if you are looking for a referee for *Populus nigra* subsp. *betulifolia* or subspecies of *Montia fontana*, check the members-only area to find out who to contact.

A reminder that if you have forgotten the password to enter the members-only area, [email me](#) giving your membership number and I'll send you a password by return.

Also new on the website: the 2008 [Rare Plant Register](#) for [Flintshire](#), in time for this year's [Annual Summer Meeting](#), available on the Flintshire page and the Summer Meeting page.

We also have a draft version of the updated BSBI Code of Conduct, prepared by Sarah Whild with contributions from members of the Training & Education committee and Natural England staff - huge thanks to Sarah for pulling this together! The final version is currently at the printers and we plan to include it in membership packs and circulate an electronic version as widely as possible, but for now you can download an image-free draft version from the [Meetings page](#).

[Louise Marsh](#), BSBI Communications Officer

Annual Exhibition Meeting 2017

A reminder to put Saturday 25th November into your diaries - that's when the 2017 BSBI Annual Exhibition Meeting will be held at the Natural History Museum, London. More details about what's on offer will be posted [here](#) nearer the time.

[Louise Marsh](#), BSBI Communications Officer

BSBI News & Views

On the News & Views blog in May: two posts about the forthcoming [Kerry Recording Event](#), one of the highlights of the year for Irish botanists; one note about the [forthcoming BSBI Annual Summer Meeting](#), to be held in [Flintshire](#); a post about the [latest issue of Irish Botanical News](#) which you can also download from [this page](#); a report about the [five million records collected by recorders in Scotland](#) and now live on NBN Atlas Scotland; a request for help from [botanists who are also gardeners](#); a note on [resources for BSBI members](#) available only via the members-only area of the website (see above); and three posts related to training courses: one is from the [recipient of a BSBI Training Grant](#) and the other two - [here](#) and [here](#) - are independent (and unsolicited) reviews of courses that BSBI members have attended.

[Louise Marsh](#), BSBI Communications Officer

BSBI and Wildlife Journals – long runs available

Michael Braithwaite writes “I joined BSBI in 1973 and have complete runs of *Watsonia*, *New Journal of Botany* and *BSBI News* available from that date (hopefully complete but not warranted so). Also, *British Wildlife* from the first issue in October 1989. They are free as whole runs (no picking of individual issues) if collected from Hawick, or for the price of packaging and carriage if to be delivered.”

[Michael Braithwaite](#), Clarilaw Farmhouse, Hawick, TD9 8PT

BSBI eNews

The current and recent back issues of BSBI eNews are available on the [Publications](#) page of the BSBI website. An email with a link to BSBI eNews is circulated to BSBI Recorders, Referees, staff and committee members. Please feel free to forward it to anyone (including non-members) who you think might be interested.

I'd welcome short contributions from anyone on topics of interest and relevance to fellow readers. BSBI eNews is generally published on (or just after) the 1st of each month so contributions should ideally reach me by the 21st of the preceding month. I'd also be pleased to have feedback on any of the articles appearing in BSBI eNews.

[Jim McIntosh](#), BSBI Scottish Officer