

BSBI CHESHIRE RECORDING NEWSLETTER – 2004

The Local Change Project tetrads have all been visited and in most cases the totals have been increased, although, of course, some old records have not been re-found. This project is a reworking of squares from the Monitoring Scheme in 1987-8 and only tidying up remains to be done. Interesting species that turned up included *Genista tinctoria*, *Rosa obtusifolia*, *Silaum silaus*, *Prunus x fruticans*, *Sagina maritima* (inland) and *Limosella aquatica*.

The highlight of 2003 was the rediscovery by Keith Watson of *Limonium vulgare*. A small patch on the Mersey estuary fits the record in de Tabley, so presumably has been there all the time! It has been a good year for bromes with Mike Wilcox identifying *Bromus lepidus*, *B. racemosus* and *B. commutatus* at Meols Meadow. Taxonomically the latter two may not be distinct. It depends if you follow Cope (lump) or Spalton (split). *B. commutatus* also turned up in great quantity in a cornfield at Peover Hall along with *Alopecurus myosuroides*. The farmer will no doubt regret buying that seed! *Bromus secalinus* occurred in a cornfield at Arley. It seems to be an increasing plant nationally.



Bromus racemosus

Len Johnson re-found the old site for *Thalictrum flavum* by the R. Weaver at Aston, which is very pleasing. Ralph Goodchild had a rather precarious *Orchis mascula* on a Wirral road verge and a 100 *Lathyrus aphaca* must have been a fine sight. He also found *Gnaphalium luteoalbum* as a weed in a nursey. Technically it is against the law to even touch it but see BSBI News 95 for Eric Clement's opinion on this! *Lathyrus nissolia* was abundant in a meadow at Appleton. If it was introduced, someone must have had buckets of seeds! *Rosa x alba* is confirmed from three sites and *R. mollis x caesia ssp caesia* was new at Rodeheath. A final treat was *Physalis angulata* found by Julie Clarke in a maize field at Adlington.



Physalis angulata

The meetings mainly begin at 2pm and last until 5pm-ish, though a couple are all day excursions. Everyone is welcome even if it is just for the walk! We stroll along, recording what everyone finds. I have not managed to find any convenient pubs this year (the best one is shut for refurbishing) so all meetings will be sober affairs.

If you receive this by post, please let me know if you have an email address and if you are not interested in recording, please also let me know.

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CHESHIRE PLANT RECORDING MEETINGS FOR 2004

Saturday April 17th 2pm BURLEYDAM

Park in church car park at SJ607426 and go clockwise via Grindley Green and Walkmill Covert.

Saturday May 22nd 10.30am HASSALL GREEN

Park in Saltline carpark SJ775582 to record the Hassall tetrad to the south.

BRING PACKED LUNCH

Wednesday May 26th 2pm BEESTON CASTLE

Park in carpark SJ540591 to record round the castle (ca £3 entry fee)

Saturday June 12th 2pm WESTON

Park by chapel SJ726511 to walk west.

Saturday July 17th 10.30am ACTON, NANTWICH

Park in layby at SJ634541 by Henhull Bridge for a circuit to the south.

BRING PACKED LUNCH.

Sunday August 22nd 2pm BROWN'S BANK, AUDLEM

Park in lay-by at SJ642429 and walk south to see how the Small Teasel fairs.

Saturday September 4th 2pm SPURSTOW

Park on verge at SJ567560 to walk south.

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