
The Flora of Staffordshire dealt with records made up until the end of 2011. This short account is the seventh annual report listing some of the more interesting results of later fieldwork.

Dates are all 2018, unless stated otherwise.

New records for VC39
- **Elaeagnus pungens** SO8984, deserted industrial estate, Wharf Road & Canal Street. In a row of trees planted in a car park, years ago: it has since spread, A.P. Daly & J. Hough.
- **Fallopia japonica var. compacta** SJ8640, two patches by the concrete track at the E endn bank between the A34 and the main Trentham Estate Shopping Village car park, I.J. Hopkins.
- **Ludwigia hexapetala** SO8390, Highgate Common Daly, APD, JH & J. Ellis.
- **Philadelphus 'Lemoinei Group'** SJ9755, 'Lemoinei Group' introduced in roadside thicket, near Barnfields, Leek SW, IJH.
- **Salix x pontederiana (= S. cinerea x purpurea)** SJ7900, by Patshull Pool, S.R. Moore, det. C.B. Westall.
- **Verbena hastata** SJ8640, one plant of this garden ornamental on waste ground, Trentham, IJH.
- **V. rigida** SJ8545, single patch on site of demolished building, Newcastle, IJH.
- **Zelkova serrata** SJ8650, trees introduced by greenway footpath, near Burslem, IJH.

Species seen again after a gap of several years
- **Drosera anglica** SK0511, valley mire, Gentleshaw Common. The area had been badly burned six weeks previously, H. Dorrington, in herb. STO. Only known, otherwise, from the Oldacre Valley, SJ9718; and last seen there in 1969. (Remarkably, several plants of *D. rotundifolia* were found, for the first time, in the same general area of Gentleshaw Common, in 2017, HD.)
- **Eriophorum latifolium** SK0760, Spout Moss, Reap's Moor, R. Tratt & P. Eades. Last seen, at Penn Common, SO8994, in 1884.
- **Fallopia x bohemica (= F. japonica var. compacta x sachalinensis)** SJ8000, by Patshull Church, D. Hall. Last recorded c. 1990.

New tetrads for rarer taxa
The following have been seen in a total of less than about seven tetrads, since 1994.
- **Acanthus spinosus** SP1599, single large plant, hedgebank, Carroway Head. Probably a garden escape, PN.
- **Brunnera macrophylla** SJ9251, clump by track from Bagnall to Stanley Pool, IJH.
- **Carex x leutii (= C. hostiana x demissa)** SK0760, Spout Moss, Reap's Moor, RT & PE.
- **Cedrus atlantica f. glaucissima** SP0297, two planted street trees, SE Walsall, PN.
- **Corylus colurna** SO9791, two street trees, Tividale, PN.
- **Eleocharis quinqueflora** SK0760, Spout Moss, Reap's Moor, RT & PE.
- **Euphorbia x pseudovirgata (= E. esula x waldsteinii)** SO9791, waste ground by canal towpath, Tividale, PN.
- **Festuca filiformis** SO8386, trackside, heathy woodland, The Million, Enville, M.E. Smith, APD, JH & JE.
- **Gaultheria shallon** SJ9656, amongst scrub, margin of Cowhay Wood, adjacent to the canal feeder, Leek NW, IJH.
- **Helleborus orientalis** SO8885, steepish slope between canal and river, NNW of Wollaston; APD, JH & JE; also SP0397, relict of planting by pond in amenity grassland, SE Walsall, PN.
- **Leonurus cardiaca** SJ9223, path in Cotonfields Allotments, Stafford, seeded from an introduced plant in another part of the allotments, J. Gale.
- **Linum grandiflorum** SP0195, roadside verge, Stone Cross, PN.
- **Lonicera henryi** SJ9251, presumably planted, but both flowering and fruiting whilst growing over a stone wall by footpath near the drain at N end of Stanley Pool, IJH.
**L. x italic**a (=
*L. caprifolium x etrusca*) SJ9553, hedge, towpath of Leek Branch Canal, J.E. Hawksford.

**Lycopodium clavatum** SK0806, large patch, more open heathland, Muckley Corner Local Nature Reserve, V. Bunter & R. Middleton.

**Mahonia japonica** SP0397, relict of planting by pond in amenity grassland, SE Walsall, PN.

**Narcissus poeticus** SP0397, amenity grassland, probably relict of planting, SE Walsall, PN.

*N. x boutignyanus* (=*N. moschatus x poeticus*) SJ7520, hedgebank, and elsewhere, Forton; also SP0397, canal hedgebank, SE Walsall, both PN.

**Picea pungens** SO8489, Highgate Common, APD, JH & JE.

**Pilosella praecauta** SJ8249, on a small reclaimed spoil mound, near Crackley, IJH.

**Platanus orientalis** SJ8000, edge of golf course, Patshull, SRM.

**Sambucus nigra f. laciniata** SP0095, single large tree, Stone Cross, PN.

**Scilla forbesii** SJ7999, on walkway, near boathouse, Burnhill Green, SRM.

**S. luciliae** SO9690, by fencing, Tividale, PN.

**Sedum forsterianum** SK0734, for 6m, with many more plants to the N, E pavement/wall interface of A522 where it flies over A38, N Uttoxeter, JEH.

**Smyrnium olusatrum** SK1109, under trees, just N of Cross Keys Car Park, Stowe Fields, Lichfield, D. Hall.

**Sorbus thibetica** SO8387, Enville Common, APD, JH & JE.

*S. x thuringiaca* (=*S. aria x aucuparia*) SJ8250, planted along verge, Dean's Lane; also SJ9755, planted by canal towpath, near Barnfields, Leek SW, both IJH.

**Sutera cordata** SK1419, pavement, Yoxall NE. Large ornamental plant pots nearby, but species not in them. Probably sourced from there in a previous year, JEH.

**Tristagma uniflorum** SJ7521, roadside verge, apparently not planted, probable garden escape, Forton, PN.

**Verbascum blattaria** SJ8640, several plants of this form, with white-cream flowers, on waste ground, Trentham, IJH.

---

**Further Observations**

Ian Hopkins points out that the *Drosera anglica* (Gentleshaw Common) together with *Eriophorum latifolium* and *Eleocharis quinqueflora* (both from Spout Moss, Reap's Moor) were recorded during the unusual weather of 2018. In both locations, from his experience, he would suggest that there are certain spots that are generally so wet and treacherous underfoot that it is normally somewhat impossible for a close search to be made safely by a botanist (particularly if alone: standard walking boots are certainly totally inadequate!). He wonders if the dry conditions that we experienced between May and early August meant that places could be reached and searched that are normally inaccessible? It also seems difficult to believe that the appearance of the *Drosera anglica* at Gentleshaw was the *direct* result of the fire six weeks previously (*D. anglica* surely tales longer than that to develop to the stage it was when it was found.) Probably, he writes, the fire rather indicated the very dry conditions that were being experienced locally and, at best, by the burning back of some of the surrounding vegetation it made the *Drosera* rather easier to see. (It had more likely been growing there for years unseen or unrecognised!)

The finds at Spout Moss were made by Ros Tatt and Phil Eades. They also recorded *Carex hostiana*, *C. x leutzii* (=*C. hostiana x demissa*), *C. pulicaris*, *Galium uliginosum* and *Valeriana dioica*. There were also good populations of some nationally rare bryophytes.

It is sad to report the death of Elfreda Woolrich, long-term Staffordshire Botanist, aged 96.