

ATLAS 2020 - HELP AND ADVICE FOR RECORDERS

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Atlas 2020: Recording Aim

The aim is to record a sample of tetrads (or better) in every hectad throughout Britain & Ireland.

A Huge Challenge in Scotland

- where we have one third of the total land area of the UK
- half of which is very remote and / or mountainous
- But just 10% of the BSBI membership!
- And just five seasons to go..



Every VC needs a plan

We would like you to undertake

- A minimum sample of 5 tetrads (*or better*) in each full hectad¹
- (ideally) surveying lowland squares twice

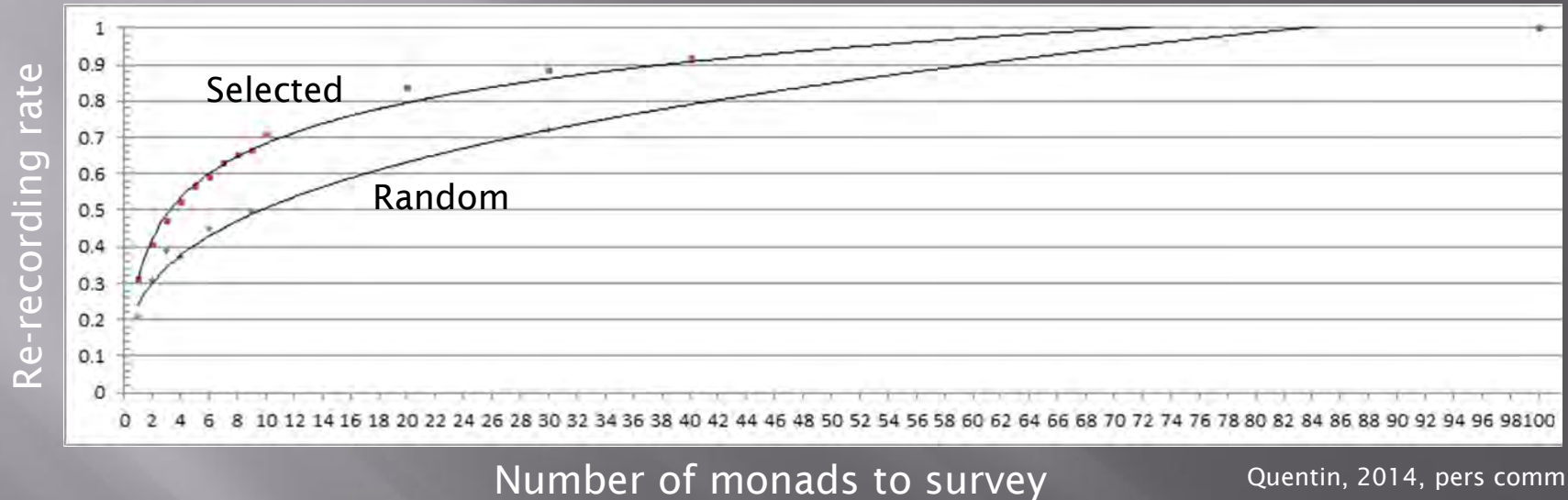
The plan needs to factor in

- Recorder time and effort available
- Size and topography of vice-county
- Post-1999 recording already done

Crucial that your plan is fun and fulfilling!!

¹ Or pro-rata.

The importance of Sampling

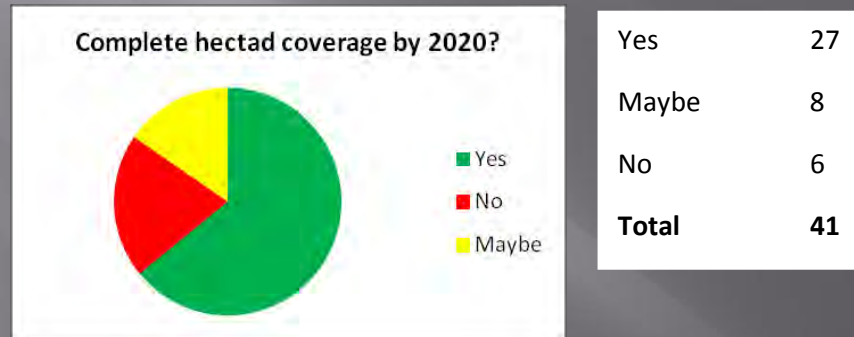


Squares to survey to achieve re-recording rates:	50%	70%	77%	No. squares in Hectad
Number of selected tetrads	2	3	5	25
Number of random tetrads	3	5	8	25
Number of selected monads	4	10	16	100
Number of random monads	10	28	38	100

Atlas 2020: Help VCRs asked for

Last year we asked all BSBI Recorders if they were on course for full Atlas 2020 coverage, and if not, what help was needed.

This is what they told us:-



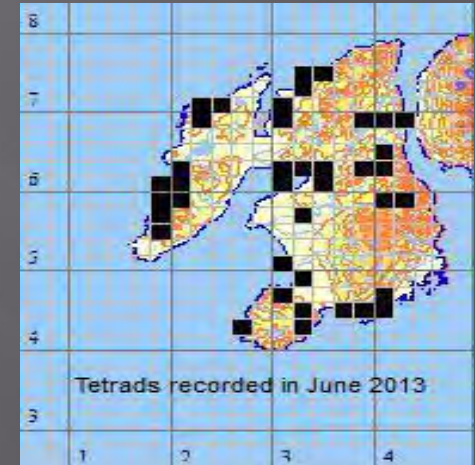
RECORDERS!

- Joint (or successor) recorders are needed in at least 4 Scottish VCs: Berwickshire, Caithness, West Sutherland & Dumbarton.
- We are currently advertising two vacancies and have just appointed an Atlas 2020 Recorder on Jura.

Atlas 2020: Help VCRs asked for

RECORDING WEEKS

- We plan to have two of these a year in the final five years.
- Shetland & Ayrshire this year
- In future: Shetland (again), Sutherland, Caithness, West Ross and West & Easterness. Where else?



RECORDING (LONG) WEEKENDS

- where there perhaps wouldn't be enough botanical interest to support a full Recording Week
- Useful to tap into membership effort and expertise.



Atlas 2020: Help VCRs asked for

HELP FROM VISITING BOTANISTS

- Recorders can advertise for help - perhaps from local botanists?
- Could suggest that their VC would make an ideal holiday destination!



Survey a square for Atlas 2020!

The BSBI is asking its Vice-county Recorders to get into every 10km square in their county and survey a sample of 1st km grid squares (monads) or 4th km grid squares (tetrads) in each. This is a big challenge in many areas and we are looking for volunteers to help. To find out where you can contribute to Atlas 2020, zoom in to find a square:

[Atlas 2020 - the third atlas of the British and Irish flora](#)

This map shows grid squares that are suggested as targets for surveying in preparation for the new atlas of the British and Irish flora in 2020. They have been selected in part randomly, in part by the scarcity of recent records in these areas and in part by the diversity of the landscape in the grid square.

They are not the only places that are worth surveying and we hope that many other places will be recorded. These suggestions are to guide you if you don't know where you should go recording, particularly if you want to fill some gaps.

Local Information

Before surveying it is best to get local information if available. For example, [Hampshire](#) has its own website for Atlas 2020 priority recording. Across the country different counties prefer to survey in 1st km grid squares (monads) or 4th km grid squares (tetrads). Before surveying find out what methodology the vice county recorder prefers, if possible (http://www.bsbi.org.uk/local_groups.html).

Safety

These areas are not necessarily safe to survey, nor are they necessarily accessible. Recorders should follow normal precautions (<http://www.bsbi.org.uk/SafetyInTheField.pdf>).

Recording cards


Recording cards for each county can be found on the BSBI website (<http://www.bsbi.org.uk/resources.html>). Records should be sent the Vice County recorder.

Feedback

We would welcome feedback from everyone on this initiative - please send it to Quentin Groom (quentin@bsbi.org).

VC - Recorders - if you believe that the suggested square has already been well surveyed post 1990, then it might be that we have not received your data. If vice county recorders would prefer other grid squares to be surveyed then please contact Quentin Groom so that they can be changed or removed.

Thanks to Oliver Pescott for the selection of monads by landscape diversity.



Atlas 2020: Help VCRs asked for

HELP IN ROUGH AND REMOTE AREAS

- We are setting up a targeted recording group in Scotland – the “Rough Crewe”.
- A volunteer is keen to record in such areas.



HELP WITH DIGITISATION

- Only two VCRs said they needed help with digitisation
- I've trained up a volunteer as a MapMate digitiser for one VCR and am offering help to two others.

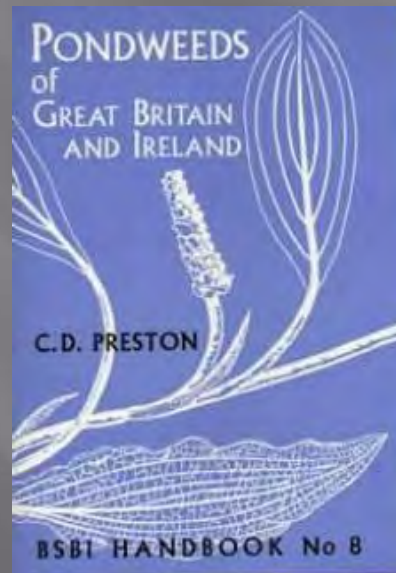
FINANCIAL HELP

- Is available but only two VCRs asked for financial help for travel costs to the outer extremities of their (large) VCs – one involving islands and ferries.

Atlas 2020: Help VCRs asked for

TRAINING

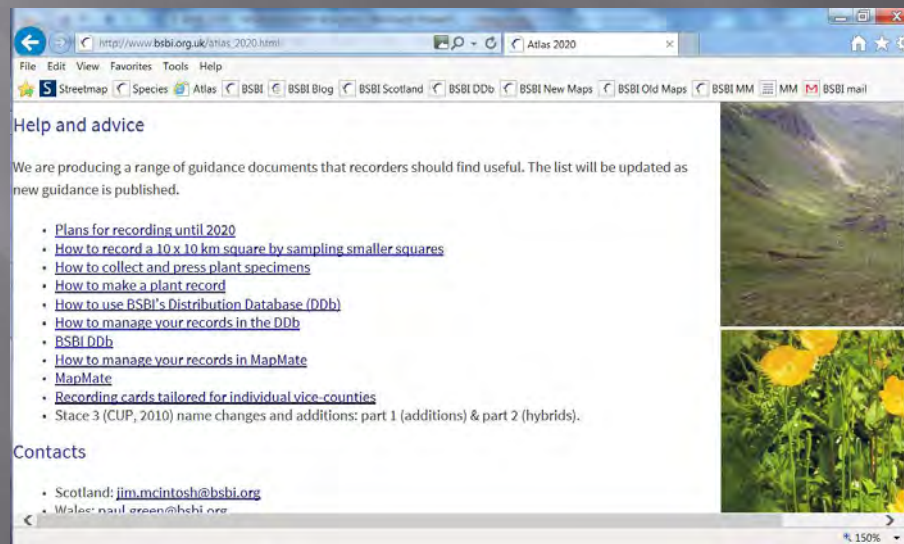
- Very few people asked for more species training.
- But one did ask for training on specialist groups and suggested aquatics.
- Stoneworts? Others?



Atlas 2020: Help VCRs asked for

ADVICE

- A few asked for more Recorder Conference/Workshops
- We have also set up an Atlas 2020 page on the BSBI website,
- with guidance on recording, sampling, collecting & pressing, digitising, managing records & custom record cards.
- We are publishing regular news & updates, and
- talking at every major BSBI meeting on Atlas 2020.



Thank you!



BSBI Atlas 2020