



**Rare Plant Register for
Huntingdonshire (VC31)**

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2019**

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1. Introduction

Huntingdonshire is a small county of large arable fields, livestock are scarce and permanent grassland is uncommon. The county has a long history of environmental degradation and homogenisation that started with the drainage of Whittlesey Mere and the surrounding Fens in the 19th Century and that arguably continues to the modern day. Despite this, much interest still remains, including fragments of semi-natural habitats that are of county to international nature conservation importance. These habitats include notable ancient woodlands, grasslands and wetlands that retain much botanical interest, including nationally rare species such as Fen Violet (*Viola stagnina*) and Fen Wood-rush (*Luzula pallescens*).

The Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland (BSBI) encourages its network of Vice-County Recorders to produce Rare Plant Registers for their county and to disseminate these widely. A Rare Plant Register is a mini Flora, containing details of just the rarest species in the county, together with up-to-date information on how they are faring. An important feature is that they all follow a standardised approach and use similar categories of rarity, allowing cross-comparison between counties.

By providing good quality information on the distribution of plants, the BSBI enables government agencies and conservation organisations to direct their resources more efficiently. As many rarities grow on nature reserves, it is often essential to inform the owners, managers and users about the species that are there so that suitable management techniques can be employed.

Given the above, the production of a Rare Plant Register (the Register) is a potentially valuable endeavour and it is hoped that the information contained within proves of value to conservationists, planners, decision makers, and others with an interest in the flora of Huntingdonshire, its conservation and, ideally, its restoration.

The Register is as complete as is possible, but it is emphasised that it will always require regular review if it is to remain relevant. To a certain degree, it should be viewed as a work in progress and there is still plenty of work to be done documenting and monitoring the County's flora. The reader is directed towards Section 2, which clarifies the taxonomic scope, Appendix 1 which lists locally extinct species, and Appendices 2 and 3 which provide lists of the other plant species that are being considered for inclusion in future editions of the Register.

2. Taxonomic Scope and Nomenclature

The Register takes an inclusive approach and attempts to cover all qualifying native (including archaeophyte) vascular plant (flowering plants, ferns and horsetails) and stonewort (charophytes) species, subspecies and hybrids. However, species only recorded as rare casuals will generally be excluded. Such species have already been well treated by the County Flora (Wells, 2003).

It is the intention that the native apomictic species of Hawkweed (*Hieracium*), Dandelion (*Taraxacum*) and Bramble (*Rubus*) will eventually be fully covered, but at present only a limited number of such species have been identified for which there is a strong case for inclusion. Such taxa are often unhelpfully described as 'microspecies', but Sell & Murrell (2006) have pointed out that the 'International Code of Botanical Nomenclature' does not allow the naming of microspecies. Where such cryptic taxa have been given a binomial name and this has been validly published, then they must be treated as good species and are as worthy of conservation as any other native plant. Many are also indicators of high quality habitats (axiophytes). This in itself raises several challenges, as such species are often poorly understood and recorded, and they require expert confirmation by a limited number of specialist botanists. However, just because a species is difficult to identify is not sufficient justification, however understandable this might be, for it to be ignored and to have its perceived nature conservation value downgraded.

Hybrid taxa create another set of problems to address. Hybridisation followed by polyploidy is one of the main mechanisms in plant speciation, and hybrids have an essential role to play in plant evolutionary processes. A paper by Preston (2004) has set out a strong argument for the inclusion of hybrids in the conservation process. That said, hybrids form an extremely diverse group, some of which can be considered to be of greater significance than others.

The Register follows Cheffings & Farrell (2005) and only considers for inclusion those hybrids that meet the following five criteria (see the source report for further detail on these criteria).

- The hybrid must be between native parents (or parents that were once native to Britain)
- The hybrid is not a short-lived annual
- The hybrid is not a single occurrence of a long-lived individual
- The hybrid reproduces vegetatively, producing long-lived colonies
- The hybrid is not regularly present as part of a hybrid swarm between similar parents (e.g. *Euphrasia* and *Dactylorhiza*)

Scientific names are given priority throughout the Register but vernacular names are also provided. Nomenclature, both scientific and vernacular, largely follows Stace (2019) but with reference to other literature as necessary, including Sell & Murrell (2006), Foley & Clarke (2005) and Jermy *et al.* (2007).

3. Geographic Scope

The primary remit of the Register is the Watsonian Vice-County of Huntingdonshire (VC31). However, the Register acknowledges that the Vice-County approach is often ill-suited to the needs of decision makers and conservationists who need to operate within the modern framework of local administrative boundaries.

Despite the above, we are fortunate that Huntingdonshire, while not surviving as a modern county, does persist, largely intact, as a cohesive political unit at the District level. There have been some local alterations to the historic county boundary, primarily where Huntingdonshire meets the City of Peterborough, but also through the removal of the VC31 parts of the parishes of Thurning, Luddington and Luton to administrative Northamptonshire, and the movement of the VC31 part of the parish of Papworth St Agnes into the remit of South Cambridgeshire District. But the same process has also allowed the District of Huntingdonshire to gain the parishes of Tilbrook and Eaton Socon from Bedfordshire (VC30 for recording purposes) (Wells, 2003).

All of the records given in the Register fall, unless otherwise stated, within both the Watsonian Vice-County of Huntingdonshire (VC31) and the modern District of Huntingdonshire.

Where, in the species accounts (Section 8), (CP) follows the site name then this indicates that the site falls within the City of Peterborough but is otherwise in VC31. Similarly, (VC30) indicates that the site falls within the Vice-County of Bedfordshire for recording purposes but administratively falls within the District of Huntingdonshire.

4. Temporal Scope

By necessity the Register must restrict itself to a limited timeframe. If the species accounts are to be used to effectively protect and monitor extant populations, and to contribute constructively to decision making processes, then it essential that they are not muddied by inclusion of too many old records of unknown current status (although such old records would be valid targets for further survey work).

Given the above, the reader will undoubtedly find various mismatches between the number of sites listed in the Register and the distribution as given in the County Flora (Wells, 2003). As a result of this Flora, Huntingdonshire benefits from a detailed baseline dataset, but those who have had access to the data, or were involved with its collection, also understand that the Flora had a very long gestation period and as a consequence much of the data was compiled in the 1970's. As such, the Flora provides an invaluable dataset that documents the Huntingdonshire flora as it was at the onset of a period of immense landscape and agricultural change, but it is less successful at documenting the current state of the flora.

The Register by necessity restricts itself to the period 1990 to 2018 i.e. records pre-dating 1990 have been excluded. Ultimately, it will be desirable for the Register to reflect a briefer period of time (20 years maximum) to provide a truer reflection of likely current status, but this may prove difficult to achieve and maintain.

5. Criteria for Inclusion

The criteria used for identifying which species to include in the Register follow those recommended by the BSBI (2017). Any species in Huntingdonshire which falls into at least one of the following categories can be included in the Register. The categories are:

- Endemic species
- Internationally Rare
- Nationally Threatened (Great Britain (GB) and/or England Red Data List, current version JNCC, 2019)
- Nationally Rare (found in 1-15 hectads in Britain)
- Nationally Scarce (found in 16-100 hectads in Britain)
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Schedule 8 plant species
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 Section 41 species (NERC S41) (derived from the now withdrawn UK Biodiversity Action Plan)
- County Rare (present at 1-3 sites*)
- County Scarce (present at 4-10 sites*)

* A 'site' is a moveable 1km square, sometimes called a 'Wells' square, such that if discreet populations of a species are found within 1km of each other, they count as one site.

The concept of the Wells square has been applied critically in some cases, but this is consistent with BSBI (2017). Some plant species are axiophytes associated with very specific habitat conditions, for example ancient woodland. Such habitat 'islands' are in my opinion best treated as discrete sites regardless of their proximity, as long as there is some form of intervening habitat barrier of sufficient scale (e.g. intensively managed farmland) that fragments and constrains the distribution of the species concerned. For a limited suite of species (and it won't be many in practice) this may increase the number of sites recognised (e.g. potentially tipping species from rare to scarce), but that is a truer reflection of status and at least each discrete location is adequately emphasised. Similarly, the use of the Wells square for plants of watercourses and drains would seem fundamentally flawed and any lines drawn purely arbitrary. A distance of 1km is likely to be too short to account for the interconnectivity of flowing waters and the mobility of aquatic plants. Generally, common sense is all that is required to recognise the extent of each cohesive defensible metapopulation.

Where there is no room for doubt about whether or not a species qualifies for inclusion in the Register, then such species have been included. However, for a few species, more data is needed before they can be assessed in a robust manner and they have been excluded from the main account. These remaining species are listed in Appendices 2 and 3.

The reader, particularly those who have received this document second-hand, may also like to be aware that the intention is to produce annual updates that will be made available via the BSBI website at www.bsbi.org.uk.

6. Acknowledgements

The records cited in the Register result from the efforts of many individuals without which the Register would not have been possible. These individuals are listed below. The abbreviations given in parentheses after each name have been used in the subsequent species accounts.

Alan Leslie (AL), Anne Doody (AD), A. Fells (AF), A. Proud (AP), A. Robbins (AR), A. Strange (AS), Austin Wallis (AW), Barry Dickerson (BaD), Ben Atkinson (BA), Brian Davis (BD), Brian Eversham (BE), Brian Laney (BL), Brian Milne (BM), Brian Nelson (BN), Bridget Smith (BS), Christine Bissell (CB), Cambridge Bryology Group (CBG), Cambridgeshire Flora Group (CFG), Cambridge Natural History Society (CNHS), Cambridgeshire Wildlife Trust (CWT), Chris Preston (CP), Christa Perry (CPe), D. Akam (DA), David Broughton (DB), D. Felce (DF), David Wood (DW), Derek Wells (DeW), D.H. Wrench (DWr), Fred Rumsey (FR), George Cottam (GC), G. Easy (GE), Gordon Wyatt (GW), Huntingdonshire Fauna and Flora Society (HFFS), I. Howlett (IH), J. Chance (JC), Jane Croft (JaC), J. Dawson (JD), Jocelyn Gale (JG), Jonathan Graham (JGr), J. Jones (JJ), J. Leadly (JL), Jeremy Milne (JM), J. Owen Mountford (JOM), Jo Parmenter (JP), Jonathan Shanklin (JS), Jim Stevenson (JSt), J. Thomas (JT), Justin Tilly, (JT), Henry Arnold (HA), H. McGlashon (HM), Kevin Du Rose (KD), Kevin Royles (KR), Kevin Walker (KW), Louise Bacon (LB), Lockhart Garrett Ltd (LG),

Lynne Farrell (LF), L. Watson (LW), Martin Baker (MB), Mick Burton (MiB), M. Gibson (MG), Mike Grant (MGr), Mrs Haynes (MH), Matt Hamilton (MHa), Maurice Massey (MM), Margaret Paler (MP), Mark Woods (MW), Neil Crossman (NC), N. Harris (NH), Nick Millar (NM), Nick Stewart (NS), Paul Bellamy (PB), Paul Stanley (PaS), Peter Bissell (PeB), P. Kavanagh (PK), P. Kirby (PKi), P. Newbury (PN), Peggy Seamark (PeS), P. Shepherd (PSh), Peter Stroh (PS), P. Tinsley-Marshall (PTM), P. Tufts (PT), Peter Turon (PeT), Peter Walker (PW), Ron Elloway (RE), R. Harold (RH), R. Hawksley, (RHa), R. Matthews (RM), R. Orbell (RO), Rosemary Parslow (RoP), Ruth Poulton (RP), R.D. Randall (RR), R. Rodger (RRo), S. Brown (SB), S. Chambers (SC), S. Gorman (SG), S. Hartley (SH), Sarah Lambert (SL), Susan Smith (SS), S. Williams (SWi), Sheila Wells (SW), Steph Hoare (SHo), Tony Balbi (TB), Tom Charman (TC), T. Daunt (TD), Tim Pankhurst (TP), T. Sharrock (TS), Terry Wells (TW), Val Perrin (VP), Vicky Morgan (VM), William Meek (WM).

The accounts of charophyte (stonewort) species draws heavily upon the important baseline survey data collected by Nick Stewart (Stewart, 1999).

I am grateful to Nick Millar for his comments on an earlier draft of the RPR and for providing me with a copy of additional records held by the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire. I also gratefully acknowledge the records shared by the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Environmental Records Centre (CPERC).

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8. The Species Accounts

The species accounts are presented in alphabetical order and each follows a standard, intentionally succinct, format. The scientific and vernacular name of each species is given, followed by its status in Great Britain (GB) (endemic, IUCN threat category, Nationally Scarce or Nationally Rare), England (endemic, IUCN threat category, NERC S41), and at the county level (county scarce or rare). More information about these categories is given in Section 5.

An account is then given of all the sites where the species concerned has been recorded since 1990 (an index of sites is provided at the end of the Register). These are listed in alphabetical order with representative grid references (6 or 8-figure where available), sometimes more than one for large sites, and the date of the most recent record along with details of who made it. While records of plants located within parts of modern Huntingdonshire covered by VC30 are listed, these occurrences have been discounted when totaling the number of sites and tetrads so as to provide VC31 specific information. To aid interpretation, comments are provided for each species and supporting information is available in Sections 2 to 6.

Species formerly recorded from Huntingdonshire but that are now considered to be extinct are listed in Appendix 1.

Please note that by providing details of specific sites this does not imply a right of access. Not all rarities are confined to nature reserves; indeed many are poorly served by these or otherwise found in places where *ad hoc* access is not appropriate or sustainable. Readers should not trespass on private land to see plants and anyone visiting the countryside should always follow the Countryside Code and the BSBI [Code of Conduct](#).

Achillea ptarmica L.

Sneezewort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (7 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Bluntisham, Berry Fen | TL36957342 | 2009 (DB) |
| Earith, Old Bedford River | TL39407556 | 2014 (DB) |
| Hemingford Meadow | TL3071 | 2014 (BS) |
| RAF Molesworth County Wildlife Site | TL067773 | 1996 (TW) |
| Portholme SSSI & SAC | TL23977051 | 2009 (DB) |
| Upwood Meadows SSSI, Bentley Meadow | TL252826 | 2004 (TW) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL233850 | 2010 (DB) |
| | TL22978340 | 2010 (DB) |

Uncommon and much declined. It is questionable whether it still persists in all of the tetrads given in the County Flora (Wells, 2003).

Agrimonia procera Wallr.

Fragrant Agrimony

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL181697 | 2011 (DB) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL196795 | 2015 (DB) |
| | TL197803 | 2014 (JS) |
| | TL201798 | 2014 (JS) |
| | TL204805 | 2009 (DB) |
| Tilbrook Bushes (VC30) | TL069676 | 2008 (DB) |
| Tilbrook Bushes, near | TL07396702 | 2012 (MiB) |

Until 2008, this species was reported only infrequently within Huntingdonshire. It should be looked for in other ancient woodlands on heavy boulder clay derived soils. Indeed, in such woodlands any *Agrimonia* found should be carefully scrutinised, as this species seems to occupy (in Huntingdonshire) a generally wetter and shadier niche than Common Agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*).

Agrostis canina L.

Velvet Bent

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 7 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Brampton Racecourse SSSI | TL2072 (monad) | 2015 (LF) |
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL18306995 | 2010 (DB) |
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL19948949 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Monks Wood SSSI, East Field | TL19778055 | 2009 (DB) |
| Hemingford Abbots Meadow CWS | TL2771 | 2010 (SB) |
| | TL2871 | 2010 (SB) |
| Water Newton Meadows | TL1097 | 2010 (SB) |
| Winwick | TL18A | 2003 (TP) |

This species is very uncommon but is locally abundant on the East Field, Monks Wood. It is also known from Upwood Meadows SSSI where it was last recorded in 1982.

***Aira caryophyllea* L.**

Silvery Hair-grass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL201844 | 2018 (SL) |
| Holme Fen SSSI, Denton Fen | TL2089 | 2003 (MM) |

A rare species of disturbed and well-drained, acidic and calcareous substrates. Its present distribution shows an affinity with the railway.

***Aira praecox* L.**

Early Hair-grass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL20138445 | 2013 (SL) |
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL19808937 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| | TL20168946 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |

A rare but locally abundant species of dry and/or disturbed acidic fen peats and railway ballast.

***Allium ursinum* L.**

Ramsons

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Houghton, Ouse Valley Way | TL284175203 | 2017 (DB) |
| Lady's Wood Nature Reserve | TL24378249 | 2010 (LF) |
| Orton Longueville Wood (CP) | TL16079646 | 2011 (DB) |
| Pingle Wood Nature Reserve | TL313815 | 2011 (LF) |
| Warboys Wood SSSI | TL299800 | 2012 (BaD) |
| | TL302818 | 2012 (LF) |

This has always been a scarce species in Huntingdonshire, being recorded from only a few ancient woodlands. The largest known colonies are in Orton Longueville Wood and Warboys Wood.

Alopecurus aequalis Sobol.

Orange Foxtail

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Darlows Farm (Great Fen Project) | TL225858 | 2016 (NC) |
| Farcet Fen, Slacker Ground Farm | TL209941 | 2002 (PKi) |
| Kings Delph Main Drove | TL212945 | 2013 (NC) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 29 | TL230856 | 2005 (MM) |
| Compartment 33 | TL23298552 | 2010 (DB) |
| Compartment 34 | TL228854 | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 47 | TL226848 | 2006 (MM) |
| Compartment 63 | TL232841 | 2009 (MM) |

This annual species is undoubtedly rare within Huntingdonshire, although more thorough searching of fenland dykes and drains might potentially result in the discovery of a few more populations.

Althaea officinalis L.

Marsh-mallow

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------|----------------|-------------|
| Stonely | TL10936693 | 2011 (LF) |

This is a species of brackish ditches and grassland near the sea. It is not native in Huntingdonshire and the above population is most likely derived from a garden throw-out or escape.

Anacamptis morio (L.) R.M. Bateman, Pridgeon & M.W. Chase

Green-winged Orchid

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton Racecourse SSSI | TL2072 | 2016 (LF) |
| Brampton/Buckden Embankment | TL196689 | 2006 (PS) |
| Coppingford Wood, Oak Grove and Hermitage Grove CWS | TL1780 | 2009 (SB) |
| Grafham Rifle Range | TL1669 | 1995 (DeW) |

| | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------|
| Hemingford Abbots, Common Lane | TL27437107 | 2015 (LF) |
| Hemingford Grey | TL285701 | 2008 (LF) |
| Hemingford Grey Meadow SSSI (Arthur's Meadow Nature Reserve) | TL291691 | 2015 (LF) |
| Houghton Meadows SSSI | TL29307174 | 2017 (DB) |
| Little Catworth Meadow SSSI | TL103727 | 2016 (PS) |
| Midloe Grange Farm | TL163649 | 2013 (JaC) |
| Monks Wood, field to south of | TL1989079386 | 2015 (RO) |
| Upwood Meadows SSSI, Bentley Meadow | TL252827 | 2013 (BaD & PW) |
| Woolley | TL185742 | 2013 (MB) |

This species was formerly widespread and common throughout the lowlands of the south and east of England. It has declined since 1950 due to pastures being ploughed and the remainder being managed more intensively. The distribution of this species in many counties, including Huntingdonshire, is now largely limited to nature reserves and other sites specifically managed for nature conservation (Stewart *et al.* 1994).

***Anthemis cotula* L.**

Stinking Chamomile

British Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Green End to Aversley Wood footpath | TL1682 (monad) | 2008 (DB) |
| Winwick | TL1080 (tetrad) | 2003 (TP) |

An uncommon and declining constituent of our arable flora. It is possible that it remains a little more widespread than records indicate and further survey effort would be beneficial to determine this.

***Anthriscus caucalis* M. Bieb.**

Bur Chervil

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (10 sites, 12 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Church End | TL20758247 | 2011 (DB) |
| Conington Airfield | TL178870 | 2005 (WM) |
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2018 (SL) |
| Conington Fen, Eternity Hall Farm | TL218861 | 2007 (PS) |
| Darlows Farm (Great Fen Project) | TL2285 | 2006 (DB) |
| | TL2286 | 2006 (DB) |
| Ferry Meadows Country Park (CP) | TL148976 | 2015 (SL) |
| Little Stukeley, bridleway east of Low Road | TL208746 | 2009 (DB) |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Middle Farm | TL2284 (monad) | 2011 (MiB) |
| Midloe Grange Farm | TL157645 | 2014 (LF) |
| Orton Pit SSSI (CP) | TL16189357 | 2011 (DB) |
| Pidley cum Fenton, Fenton Drove | TL32797979 | 2018 (JOM) |
| Somersham, Holwood Nursery | TL381793 | 2014 (JOM) |
| Staughton Moor | TL12546109 | 2016 (PS) |

This species is frequent over much of East Anglia but its distribution becomes more scattered in Huntingdonshire, where it seems to be increasing, and the rest of Britain. It had a recent brief boom in numbers during the early stages of the Great Fen Project but is probably now declining in this area as more permanent vegetation establishes. At Little Stukeley, thousands of plants formed a dense carpet beneath a crop of oil-seed rape, and a similar abundance was seen at Staughton Moor.

***Apium graveolens* L.**

Wild Celery

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Paxton Pits, A1 North Lake | TL19366400 | 2008 (DB) |
| Stibbington Pits Nature Reserve | TL088993 | 2003 (TW) |

Very rare and it seems to show an affinity for old gravel pits, where it may only be a casual.

***Arabis hirsuta* (L.) Scop.**

Hairy Rock-cress

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2084 | 2018 (SL) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 80 | TL232835 (centroid for compartment) | 2008 (MM) |

Rare but persisting in an area of grassland encroached by carr woodland. It has been known from Woodwalton Fen since 1883.

***Artemisia absinthium* L.**

Wormwood

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Alconbury, Great North Road | TL19397669 | 2011 (MiB) |

Godmanchester, A14

TL2471

2012 (DB)

This species was considered to be 'very common' in the Fens in the 18th Century when it had an economic value (Wells, 2003) but it has been in long term decline since then. Wells (2003) mapped only a handful of locations and the above records represent the only known post-1970's population.

***Asplenium ceterach* L.**

Rustyback

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Old Weston, Model Farm | TL098774 | 2015 (KR) |
| Stilton Church, churchyard wall | TL159893 | 2016 (JS) |

A rare denizen of old walls and buildings. Our climatic regime does not favour this species.

***Asplenium trichomanes* L. ssp. *quadrivalens* D.E. Mey.**

Maidenhair Spleenwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (7 sites, 7 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Alconbury church | TL184761 | 2014 (LF) |
| Elton: | | |
| garden wall by church | TL08939358 | 2014 (DB) |
| Middle Street | TL09169337 | 2014 (DB) |
| Farcet, street drain | TL2094 | 2013 (Anon) |
| Great Gidding, Mill Road | TL12018352 | 2015 (DB) |
| Hemingford Grey, Manor House | TL289706 (centroid) | 2010 (LF & BS) |
| Houghton church | TL280721 | 2016 (NC) |
| Woodston, Morley Way (CP) | TL182967 | 2013 (KD) |

Very rare in Huntingdonshire, no doubt as a consequence of the prevailing climatic regime. There are no natural habitats for this species in the County and instead it occurs solely as a denizen of old walls and brickwork.

***Astragalus glycyphyllos* L.**

Wild Liquorice

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------|----------------|-------------|
|------|----------------|-------------|

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL202832 | 2018 (SL) |
| Great Stukeley Railway Cutting SSSI: | | |
| Unit 3 | TL23647525 | 2010 (TC) |
| Unit 4 | TL23547538 | 2010 (TC) |
| Unit 5 | TL2374 | 2010 (TC) |

Always very rare in Huntingdonshire and typically confined to old grassland habitats on the calcareous boulder clay. It has been introduced at Crown Lakes Country Park, Farcet with a range of taxa of non-native origin.

***Athyrium felix-femina* (L.) Roth**

Lady-fern

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Aversley Wood SSSI | TL1682 | 2010 (CBG) |
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL19818916 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| | TL20328937 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL19547986 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL20188017 | 2014 (CNHS) |
| Waresley & Gransden Wood SSSI | TL26145470 | 2014 (CFG) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 42 | TL229850 | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 77 | TL229837 (centroid for compartment) | 2008 (MM) |

Our relatively dry climatic regime does not favour this species and it only occurs in low numbers in a few of our dampest woodlands. It is perhaps most abundant at Woodwalton Fen where it is widely scattered and present in many of the compartments (more than listed), including Compartment 42 where it is locally frequent.

***Atropa belladonna* L.**

Deadly Nightshade

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| Alconbury, at A1(M) flyover | TL18947556 | 2011 (MiB) |
| Great North Road, opposite Setchel (VC30) | TL172606 | 2012 (PeB & CB) |
| Nene Valley Railway, Wansford Tunnel | TL08079728 | 2010 (DB) |
| | TL08119724 | 2009 (DB) |
| Salome Wood | TL12677788 | 2009 (DB & LF) |

Staughton Moor, Rookery Farm

TL13186121

2011 (DB)

The Wansford Tunnel record is perhaps the only location where this species is likely to occur as a good native. Here it is only a short journey as the crow flies to the numerous colonies on the limestone of VC32. This species status elsewhere is uncertain and in some cases may be linked to previous disturbances and the importation of substrate.

Avenella flexuosa (L.) Drejer (formerly *Deschampsia flexuosa* (L.) Trin.)

Wavy Hair-grass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI, Compartment 19 | TL204893 | 2010 (MM) |

First reported in 1953 but the record was discounted as it was not supported by a specimen. Not re-found until 2007 when MM found one small tuft in flower.

Baldellia ranunculoides (L.) Parl.

Lesser Water-plantain

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Pidley Fen Drains CWS | TL3581 | 2011 (RHa & SWi) |
| Pidley Fen, Fenton Lode (Twenty Foot Drain) | TL33838126 | 2018 (JGr) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 30 | TL233856 (centroid for compartment) | 2010 (MM) |

It is not known to which of the two subspecies our plants belong. This species may occur, and should be looked for, in association with the Peterborough brick pits.

Berberis vulgaris L.

Barberry

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton, Park Road grasslands | TL200706 | 2010 (SB) |

Always scarce, but the above is the only record since the 1970's. It may have declined as a consequence of historic hedgerow removal.

Blitum bonus-henricus (L.) Rchb. (formerly *Chenopodium bonus-henricus* L.)

Good-King-Henry

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Bevill's Wood, road verge | TL207798 | 2002 (SG) |
| Cockbrook Lodge County Wildlife Site, reservoir to southeast | TL087778 | 2009 (TB) |
| Manor Farm | TL1388 | 2003 (KW) |
| Upwood, road verge | TL2583 | 2008 (SB) |
| West Meadow County Wildlife Site | TL2270 | 2009 (SB) |

Technically an archaeophyte, but how one would go about distinguishing long-standing colonies from more recent garden escapes would be open to debate. Seed of this pot-herb is still commercially available and this species might potentially occur as a more recent garden escape or throw-out.

Bolboschoenus maritimus (L.) Palla

Sea Club-rush

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Manor Farm, near | TL136884 | 2003 (KW) |
| Portholme SSSI & SAC | TL23197055 | 2011 (DB) |

This species is common in coastal areas but extends inland into the East Anglian fens. It occurs mainly on wet, silty substrates particularly where there is a saline influence. It is also occasionally planted around ponds (Jermy *et al.* 2007), and this probably best explains this species presence near Manor Farm. This latter record needs checking to see if it is the recently recognised *B. laticarpus*.

Briza media L.

Quaking-grass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Near Threatened

Still widespread in old meadows and pastures and there is no requirement as yet to list specific locations.

***Bromus secalinus* L.**

Rye Brome

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (1 site, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| Green End | TL226737 | 2018 (JP) |
| | TL229740 | 2018 (JP) |
| | TL230740 | 2018 (JP) |

A rare grass of arable fields, although nationally there is some evidence to support a recent upturn in its fortunes. It is a crop mimic meaning that its seeds are hard to separate from, and are therefore spread with, the seeds of the cereal crops with which it grows.

***Buglossoides arvensis* (L.) I.M. Johnst. (formerly *Lithospermum arvense* L.)**

Corn Gromwell

GB Status: Endangered

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Endangered

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------|----------------|-------------|
| King's Ripton | TL264755 | 1999 (TW) |

This species was formerly widely distributed throughout the Midlands and central-southern and eastern England. It has since undergone a marked decline across its range. Although it is capable of competing well with modern cereal cultivars, it is susceptible to many herbicides (Wilson & King, 2003).

***Calamagrostis canescens* (Wigg.) Roth**

Purple Small-reed

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (8 sites, 11 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL1870 (monad) | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL197897 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL197900 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL208889 | 2008 (DB) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL198803 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL2079 | 2012 (JS) |
| Paxton Pits, Heron Walk | TL201639 | 2009 (BD) |
| Somersham, Long Drove | TL376791 | 2014 (JOM) |
| St Ives, Meadow Lane Pits | TL3270 | 1997 (TW &SW) |
| Waresley Wood SSSI | TL261544 | 2014 (CFG) |

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL229833 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23068409 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL233841 | 2010 (DB) |
| | TL234851 | 2010 (DB) |

A species of ancient fens and damp woodlands on the boulder clay.

Calluna vulgaris (L.) Hull

Heather

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| Compartment 3 | TL199894 | 2018 (JS) |
| | TL20028945 | 2017(FR, PS, JGr) |
| | TL20718929 | 2017(FR, PS, JGr) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 77 | TL229837 (centroid) | 2008 (MM) |
| Compartment 83 | TL229833 | 2010 (DB) |

This species is restricted in Huntingdonshire to the more acidic fen peats that occur at the above sites. It was formerly abundant at both sites, but is now rare (Wells, 2003). It was not seen at Woodwalton Fen after 1990 until birch clearance works in 2004 resulted in the appearance of several seedlings (Massey, 2006). It is now locally frequent in Compartment 83.

Calystegia sepium (L.) R. Br. **ssp. roseata** Brummitt

Hedge Bindweed

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| Compartments 3 and 6 | TL19818916 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Jackson's Covert | TL220881 | 2008 (DB) |
| Stilton, Bell Drove | TL17748919 | 2018 (JOM) |
| Tick Fen: | | |
| Morley's Farm | TL3587 | 2017 (JS) |
| Dawson's Farm | TL3487 | 2017 (JS) |

This attractive subspecies was first recorded for the County in 2007. It is locally abundant at Holme Fen in areas of tall herbaceous vegetation. How it evaded recognition for so long,

when it occurs in such abundance along one of the main rides and within a few metres of the car parking area, is a mystery. It is now being found in fenland drains. Less typical (exceptionally pale pink flowered) plants at Woodwalton Fen may be introgressed with *ssp. sepium* and are not listed here.

Campanula rotundifolia* L. *ssp. rotundifolia

Harebell

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Data Deficient

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Boughton Mediaeval Village CWS | TL1964 | 2012 (HFFS) |
| Godmanchester Eastside Common SSSI | TL269741 | 2006 (GW) |
| Nene Valley Railway, nr Wansford Tunnel | TL081974 | 2007 (JM) |

Always a very rare species with two disjunct centres of distribution, one on the limestone in the northwest corner of the county and the other on dry alluvial grassland in the floodplain of the River Great Ouse.

***Cardamine amara* L.**

Large Bitter-cress

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Eynesbury, River Great Ouse | TL178595 | 2002 (RE) |
| Houghton Meadows SSSI, Far Close | TL293717 | 2004 (TW) |
| Hemingford Meadow | TL305713 | 2010 (BS) |
| Offord Cluny, near weir | TL214670 | 1997 (TW) |
| Portholme SSSI | TL237712 | 2005 (SS) |
| St Ives, Holt Island Nature Reserve | TL309715 | 2010 (DB) |
| St Ives, Wilhorn Meadow | TL313707 | 2010 (NM) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, The Holt | TL18286152 | 2010 (DB) |

Restricted to the floodplain of the River Great Ouse where it is widely but sparsely distributed. It is locally abundant in the willow holt at St Neots Common where it flowered well in April 2010.

***Carex binervis* Sm.**

Green-ribbed Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Fox Hole Close | TL09317572 | 2010 (NC & LF) |

This species is typical of habitats with at least some surface acidification. It is frequent through Britain but rare in the south Midlands and East Anglia (Jermy *et al.* 2007).

***Carex demissa* Hornem. (*C. viridula* Michaux ssp. *oedocarpa* (Andersson) B. Schmid)**

Long-stalked Yellow-Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Washingley, 'marshes' | TL1389 | 2003 (KW) |
| Monks Wood SSSI, Compartment 4e | TL19978040 | 2004 (KW) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL22838430 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL22558356 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL227851 | 2010 (PS & MiB) |
| | TL23148356 | 2007 (DB) |
| | TL23368513 | 2008 (DB) |

The commonest of the three *Carex demissa* agg. species in Huntingdonshire where it occurs in remnant fen and marshes as well as on damp rides in ancient woodland.

***Carex distans* L.**

Distant Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Hemingford Grey Meadow SSSI (Arthur's Meadow Nature Reserve) | TL2918969191 | 2016 (LF) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lammas Meadow | TL181608 | 2003 (TW) |
| Washingley | TL131893 | 2010 (NC) |

This is a plant of species-rich wet meadows, a habitat type much diminished by drainage and agricultural improvement.

Carex divulsa Stokes **ssp. divulsa**

Grey Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (8 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Bythorn | TL05267558 | 2018 (JS) |
| Caldecote Wood | TL136880 | 2003 (KW) |
| Catworth | TL08307323 | 2018 (JS) |
| Fletton, site of former Peterborough East Railway Station (CP) | TL197978 | 2015 (SL) |
| Great Gransden, Little Lane | TL26885589 | 2016 (DB) |
| Hilton churchyard | TL29076614 | 2012 (DB) |
| Midloe Wood | TL153648 | 2006 (TW) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL191799 | 2007 (MM) |

This is a lowland sedge that is largely restricted to southern England (Jermy *et al.* 2007). In Huntingdonshire it is a scarce species of hedge banks, old grassland and ancient woodland.

Carex echinata Murray

Star Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 81 | TL22608356 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

This species is abundant in the north and west of Britain and on wet sandy heaths in the south and east. It is rarer in the Midlands owing to losses through drainage (Jermy *et al.* 2007).

Carex x evoluta Hartm.

Carex lasiocarpa x *Carex riparia*

GB Status: Vulnerable, Nationally Rare

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 37 | TL23168530 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| Compartment 39 | TL234852 (centroid for compartment) | 2008 (MM) |

First discovered by MM at Woodwalton Fen in 1978, where it has been recorded periodically ever since. Nationwide, only two other populations have been recorded in the period 1970 to 2006.

Carex lasiocarpa Ehrh.

Slender Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 37 | TL23168530 | 2017 (FR, PS) |
| Compartment 39 | TL23458521 | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 41 | TL22738511 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

This species is still widespread in Scotland, Wales and north-west England but was never common and is now much reduced over the rest of its English range, including in the Fens of East Anglia.

Carex lepidocarpa Tausch (*C. viridula* Michaux ssp. *brachyrrhyncha* (Celak.) B. Schmid)

Long-stalked Yellow-Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| | TL23478523 | 2010 (DB) |
| Compartment 41 | TL227851 | 2010 (MiB) |

The distribution of this species closely follows that of base-rich strata and is an indicator of good-quality habitats, particularly fens and other wet areas that are regularly flushed with base-rich waters (Jermy *et al.* 2007).

Carex leporina L.

Oval Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (7 sites, 9 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL181698 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL1870 | 2002 (TW) |
| Hemingford Grey | TL2868 | 2008 (LF) |
| Holme Fen SSSI, north of Holme Lode | TL2089 | 2006 (MM) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL198805 | 2014 (CNHS) |

| | | |
|--|--|-----------|
| | TL2080 | 2004 (SL) |
| Warboys Wood | TL3081 | 2012 (LF) |
| 'Westside pollard willows' | TL2572 | 2010 (MB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 76 | TL227837 (centroid for compartment) | 2009 (MM) |

This is a species of moderately acidic soils with impeded drainage, such as those found in ancient woodlands and fens. It is particularly abundant on the East Field and in other clearings in Monks Wood. There are old records for The Belt, Orton Longueville (CP).

Carex muricata* L. ssp. *pairae (F.W. Schultz) Čelak.

Prickly Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2084 | 2018 (SL) |
| Diddington | TL19596541 | 2012 (DB) |
| Elton, Greenhill Road | TL110927 | 2011 (BS) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL2080 | 2004 (SL) |
| Stibbington Pits Nature Reserve | TL08709928 | 2014 (DB & NC) |

This species has only recently been recorded for VC31 where it is rare because of the scarcity of suitable habitat. It prefers drier, lighter and more acid soils than are typical of Huntingdonshire and does not favour our prevalent Midland clays. The populations of at least two of the three sites, Diddington and Elton, constitute single tussocks only. At Diddington the plant occurs in improved grassland and it is not clear if it has arisen from dormant seed associated with the underlying, historically worked, gravel-rich soils or whether it has somehow been introduced (either naturally or assisted by man).

Carex nigra (L.) Reichard

Common Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| Hemingford Abbots Meadow CWS | TL2771 | 2010 (SB) |
| Hemingford Grey Meadow SSSI (Arthur's Meadow Nature Reserve) | TL291691 | 2010 (LF) |
| West Meadow CWS | TL2270 | 2010 (SB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Dyke 7d | TL23418450 | 2009 (DB) |
| Compartment 39 | TL233851 | 2010 (MiB) |
| Compartment 55 | TL228845 (centroid) | 2009 (MM) |

A common sedge nationally but very rare in Huntingdonshire due to the loss of species-rich wet grassland and fen habitats. Recorded from several old meadows along the valley of the River Ouse.

***Carex pallescens* Michaux**

Pale Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 7 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL17866987 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL181698 | 1996 (TW) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL19888053 | 2014 (CNHS) |
| | TL1979 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL20198040 | 2012 (JS) |
| Waresley Wood SSSI | TL260547 | 2008 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | TL22558360 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL22558356 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

This is typically a species of ancient woodlands on the boulder clay, although it also occurs at Woodwalton Fen. It is locally abundant in Monks Wood.

***Carex panicea* L.**

Carnation Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Hemingford Grey Meadow SSSI (Arthur's Meadow Nature Reserve) | TL291691 | 2010 (LF) |
| RAF Molesworth County Wildlife Site | TL067773 | 2008 (JJ) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL22558360 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL22838430 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23068409 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL22738511 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23478522 | 2010 (DB) |

Now rare in Huntingdonshire due to the historic losses of wet grassland and fen habitats to arable production. It has probably suffered further more recent declines, relative to the baseline given in Wells (2003), as alluvial grasslands have been lost to agricultural improvement.

***Carex paniculata* L.**

Greater Tussock-Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------|----------------|-------------|
| Old Weston | TL1076 | 2011 (KR) |

This is a species of peaty, medium base-rich swamps and mires where water levels are at least seasonally high (Jermy *et al.* 2007). At Old Weston it grows under alder in a damp, stream-side hollow.

***Carex pilulifera* L.**

Pill Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL18126974 | 2012 (JS) |
| Hemingford Grey, river bank | TL292707 | 2009 (LF) |
| Holme Fen SSSI, Compartment 3 | TL198896 | 2011 (MM) |

This species is found throughout Britain but is most frequent in acid, sandy regions in northern England and is common in the hill country of Wales and Scotland (Jermy *et al.* 2007). In Huntingdonshire it is rare because of the general absence of freer-draining, acidic soils.

[***Carex pseudocyperus* L.**, Cyperus Sedge. The number of sites now exceeds the criteria for County Scarce status, removed from the Register in 2014.]

***Carex pulicaris* L.**

Flea Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 76 | TL22768378 | 2010 (MM) |

This is a frequent species in Scotland, northern England and Wales. In eastern and southern England it is most frequently associated with valley mires and it has been lost from many areas due to the drainage of suitable wet habitats (Jermy *et al.* 2007).

Carex viridula Michx. (formerly *Carex oederi* auct. non Retz., *C. viridula* Michaux ssp. *viridula*)

Small-fruited Yellow-Sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL226832 | 1996 (TW) |
| | TL228845 | 2002 (JOM) |

This species is scattered throughout the Britain and is a plant of sparsely vegetated base-rich to base-poor substrates, most commonly kept open by a fluctuating water regime. This is the rarest of the three *Carex demissa* agg. species reported from Woodwalton Fen and its habitat requirements are likely to be broadly similar to those of *Viola persicifolia*, another Woodwalton Fen rarity.

Carlina vulgaris L.

Carlina Thistle

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL201840 | 2018 (SL) |
| Orton Pit SSSI (CP) | TL1594 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL16169370 | 2016 (DB) |
| Orton Pit SSSI, near (CP) | TL174933 | 2006 (NC) |
| Orton Longueville (CP) | TL165948 | 2003 (NC) |

A rare species of open ground on base-rich substrates. There are a few records from further south in the County, e.g. Easton and Great Stukeley Lodge, where it has not been recorded for many years.

Catabrosa aquatica (L.) Beauv.

Whorl-grass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Boughton Mediaeval Village County Wildlife Site | TL19866472 | 2012 (DB) |
| | TL19926472 | 2012 (DB) |
| Godmanchester Eastside Common SSSI | TL266716 | 2009 (DB) |

An aquatic grass, irregularly distributed in Britain, and generally rather uncommon and of local occurrence. Typical habitats include muddy pond margins, ditches, slow running streams and other swampy places. Its succulent foliage is favoured by cattle and this, along with the

drainage of wet places and other changes in land management, might explain its patchy distribution (Hubbard, 1954).

***Centaurea cyanus* L.**

Cornflower

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Alwalton, near | TL126964 | 2012 (NC) |

Ten plants were found in an uncropped arable field near Alwalton. This is considered to be the first occurrence of the true native plant since the 1970's. Obvious introductions and garden escapes have been excluded from this account.

***Centaureum pulchellum* (Sw.) Druce**

Lesser Centaury

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Bevill's Wood | TL203795 | 1997 (BD) |
| Caldecote Wood | TL136880 | 2003 (KW) |
| Lady's Wood Nature Reserve | TL244826 | 2000 (TW) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL201803 | 2006 (KW) |
| Norman Cross Brick Pits | TL162908 | 2015 (NC) |
| Peterborough, west of A15 (CP) | TL18759634 | 2007 (NC) |

A scarce species of heavy clay soils, particularly in ancient woodland. The Peterborough population was on old brick works scheduled for development and is probably now lost, although it may still persist at other similar sites nearby.

***Cerastium arvense* L.**

Field Mouse-ear

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL202844 | 2015 (SL) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Islands Common | TL186615 | 2013 (NC) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL232833 | 1993 (TW) |

A declining species scarcely reported since the 1970's. Historically, it was primarily associated with short grassland at the edges of disused railway tracks and gravel pits, as

such it has probably suffered from scrub encroachment and other forms of succession to ranker vegetation.

***Ceratocarpus claviculata* (L.) Liden**

Climbing Corydalis

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| | TL19818916 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Denton Fen Covert, Compartment 7 | TL198893 | 2009 (DB) |
| Holme Lode Covert, Compartment 13 | TL2089 | 2008 (DB) |
| Middle Covert | TL214886 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL20468926 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Holme Fen, Railway Covert | TL2228188132 | 2015 (LF) |

Restricted in Huntingdonshire to Holme Fen, presumably because of a lack of suitable base-poor soils elsewhere in the county. It may be a recent colonist of the county (mechanism unknown), having been recorded for the first time by MM in 1989. It appears to be doing well and is increasing in abundance within the Fen.

***Ceratophyllum submersum* L.**

Soft Hornwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Brampton Golf Course | TL216699 | 2014 (LF) |
| Buckden Palace | TL194677 | 2012 (DB) |
| Ellington, Whitleather Lodge Farm | TL159724 | 2010 (DB) |
| Godmanchester Westside Common | TL243714 | 1996 (AF) |
| Park Farm, pond south of | TL192684 | 1996 (TB) |
| Thistle Hill | TL187692 | 1996 (TB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Rothchild's Mere | TL22988427 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

An uncommon species of ponds and meres with a distribution that is concentrated towards the centre of the county.

Chara aculeolata Kütz.

Hedgehog Stonewort

GB Status: Nationally Scarce

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Beeby's Pit (CP) | TL189935 | 1999 (NS) |
| Hampton Hargate, Serpentine Lake (CP) | TL175943 | 1999 (NS) |
| Norman Cross Pits: | | |
| East Pit | TL168912 | 1999 (NS) |
| Middle Pit | TL164910 | 2009 (DB) |
| West Pit | TL161906 | 1999 (NS) |
| Orton Pit SSSI (CP) | TL1593 | 2005 (DB) |
| | TL1594 | 2009 (SL) |
| | TL16309429 | 2016 (DB) |
| Teardrop Pit (CP) | TL187952 | 1999 (NS) |
| Trundle Mere (Great Fen Project) | TL203904 | 2011 (PS, MiB) |

This is a species of shallow, base-rich lakes, ponds, pits and ditches. It has a scattered distribution in Britain and has been recorded most frequently from East Anglia (Moore, 1986).

Chara aspera Dethard. ex Willd.

Rough Stonewort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 9 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Beeby's Pit (CP) | TL189935 | 1999 (NS) |
| Beeby's West Pit (CP) | TL1693 | 2010 (PSh) |
| Norman Cross Pits: | | |
| East Pit | TL168912 | 1999 (NS) |
| Middle Pit | TL163910 | 1999 (NS) |
| West Pit | TL161906 | 2009 (DB) |
| Orton Pit SSSI (CP) | TL1593 | 2009 (SL) |
| | TL1594 | 2009 (SL) |
| | TL1694 | 2009 (SL) |
| Paxton Pits, A1 North Lake | TL187643 | 2008 (DB) |
| Teardrop Pit (CP) | TL187952 | 1999 (NS) |
| Trundle Mere (Great Fen Project) | TL203904 | 2011 (PS, MiB) |

A species of lakes, ponds, ditches and fenland drains. It has a widespread but scattered distribution in Britain (Moore, 1986).

Chara canescens Desv. & Lois.

Bearded Stonewort

GB Status: Endangered, Nationally Rare, Schedule 8

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Norman Cross West Pit | TL161906 | 1999 (NS) |
| Beeby's Pit (CP) | TL189935 | 1999 (NS) |
| Orton Pit SSSI (CP) | TL1694 | 2009 (SL) |

This rare species is more typically found in brackish base-rich lagoons near the coast; as such, the sites in Huntingdonshire are very unusual in being so far inland. This species was first recorded from the Peterborough area in 1970 (Stewart, 2004).

Chara curta Nolte ex Kütz.

Lesser Bearded Stonewort

GB Status: Nationally Scarce

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Orton Pit SSSI (CP) | TL158941 | 2009 (SL) |

This scarce species is a plant of calcareous waters (Stewart & Church, 1992) and is one of the specialties of the old clay (brick) pits in the Peterborough area. These pits are increasingly facing a range of direct and indirect development pressures.

Chenopodium hybridum (L.) S. Fuentes (formerly *Chenopodium hybridum* L.)

Maple-leave Goosefoot

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Farcet Fen | TL24549306 | 2014 (JGr) |
| Ramsey Mere | TL30738847 | 2018 (JGr) |
| | TL30618831 | 2018 (JGr) |
| | TL31108836 | 2018 (JGr) |
| Warboys, Fenside Road | TL319817 | 2017 (JOM) |

An annual of disturbed, nutrient-rich arable land and waste ground. It is considered a characteristic weed of humus-rich cultivated soils in the Fens (Preston *et al.*, 2002), but there are records to indicate that it has ever been common in Huntingdonshire. The above account intentionally omits records of short-lived casual occurrences, e.g. on dumped spoil, and instead only lists records from habitats where there is potential for persistence.

***Cichorium intybus* L. ssp. *silvestre* (Bisch.) Janch.**

Chicory

GB Status: Not threatened

County Status: Data Deficient

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Paxton Pits | TL19046316 | 2010 (DB) |
| St Ives, Meadow Lane | TL32097103 | 2017 (DB) |

Our understanding of the distribution of this species is uncertain as little attention has been given to discriminating the component subspecies. Subspecies *silvestre* (lower leaves lobed like those of a dandelion (*Taraxacum* agg.) is an archaeophyte and the true wild plant (although it may also be sown with wildflower mixes), while subspecies *intybus* is of recent non-native origin and is increasingly being sown in the countryside e.g. as part of Environmental Stewardship schemes. Conservation objectives are not well served by lumping all records without consideration of the subspecies. Accordingly, for the present, this species is considered Data Deficient in the county.

***Cirsium dissectum* (L.) Hill**

Meadow Thistle

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 76 | TL227837 | 2009 (MM) |

This is a species of fens and boggy meadows. It is restricted in Huntingdonshire to a small part of Woodwalton Fen, where it is locally abundant. It was formerly present at Holme Fen but has not been seen since 1906 (Wells, 2003).

***Cladium mariscus* (L.) Pohl**

Great Fen-sedge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| Denton Fen Covert, Compartment 3 | TL19958951 | 2018 (JS) |
| Caldecote Fen | TL20028945 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Middle Covert | TL209889 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL20528919 | 2012 (JS) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL22918347 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23068409 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23178531 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| Compartment 41 | TL22808516 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

This species is scattered throughout Britain and is still locally common in East Anglia and on the western seaboard of Scotland, but there have been many losses elsewhere (Jermy *et al.* 2007). It was probably always of relatively limited distribution in Huntingdonshire, particularly after the drainage of Whittlesey Mere and the surrounding Fens.

***Clinopodium acinos* (L.) Kuntze**

Basil Thyme

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2084 | 2016 (SL) |

The only modern record for the county. It may have arisen from imported ballast as it grows with a range of other interesting species of unintentional imported origin.

***Clinopodium ascendens* (Jord.) Samp.**

Common Calamint

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Little Staughton | TL12446148 | 2016 (PS) |
| Ramsey Heights, Harper's Drove | TL250850 | 2014 (JOM) |

A rhizomatous perennial of hedge banks, road verges, rough scrubby grassland and rocky outcrops, usually on dry calcareous soils (Preston *et al.*, 2002). The above records are the first since 1974.

***Cruciata laevipes* Opiz.**

Crosswort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Fenstanton | TL318670 | 2009 (NM) |
| Hardwicke, Hardwicke Road | TL28125710 | 2016 (DB) |
| Houghton Meadows SSSI, Far Close | TL29257169 | 2017 (DB) |
| | TL29337163 | 2017 (DB) |
| Paxton Pits | TL195630 | 2005 (RE) |
| | TL202632 | 1998 (RE) |
| Overcote, Pike and Eel | TL360704 | 2004 (BM) |

A species of old grassland that has never been common in Huntingdonshire.

***Cuscuta epithimum* (L.) L.**

Dodder

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Great Stukeley Railway Cutting SSSI, Unit 3 | TL23477565 | 2010 (TC) |

Known at this site since 1973. The national range of this species is now much contracted and this is one of the few remaining populations outside southern England.

***Cuscuta europaea* L.**

Greater Dodder

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Holt Island Nature Reserve | TL310715 | 2011 (BM) |
| Holywell-cum-Needingworth, Meadow Lane Gravel Pits | TL325702 | 1999 (BM & JM) |
| Paxton Pits | TL20366328 | 2018 (JSt) |
| River Ouse, Hemingford Grey | TL319701 | 1997 (BM) |
| St Ives Meadow | TL321699 | 1998 (BM & JM) |

This species is widespread, but rare, along the course of the River Great Ouse. It is a rootless annual parasite which upon germination attaches itself to a primary host, typically Common Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), from which point it is then able to exploit a wide range of secondary hosts. It always grows in damp nitrophilous conditions where the primary host occurs in abundance (Stewart *et al.* 1994).

***Cynoglossum officinale* L.**

Houndstongue

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Ferry Meadows Country Park (CP): | | |
| By railway | TL143972 | 2009 (DB) |
| Roman Point | TL148976 | 2015 (SL) |
| Church End, Five Arches Bridge | TL20358305 | 2016 (DB) |
| Conington 'Dump' | TL202832 | 2018 (SL) |
| | TL201840 | 2018 (SL) |

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Paxton Pits | TL19586245 | 2013 (NC) |
| Somersham LNR, old railway | TL36807852 | 2012 (DB) |

This is typically a species of disturbed ground, including old quarries and gravel pits and railway embankments (Wells, 2003). It has probably suffered in Huntingdonshire, and elsewhere, as a result of efforts to 'tidy-up' such habitats.

***Cyperus longus* L.**

Galingale

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Near Threatened County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| Ferry Meadows Country Park, Lynch Lake (CP) | TL1497 | 2014 (SL) |
| Great Gransden | TL273562 | 2012 (JS) |
| Huntingdon bypass, near | TL2471 | 1995 (TB) |
| St Ives, ditch on NE side Marley Road | TL314734 | 2005 (NM) |
| Somersham, The Lake | TL366781 (centroid) | 1996 (TB) |

This species is not native in Huntingdonshire and the above populations are most likely derived from garden throw-outs.

Cytisus scoparius* (L.) Link *ssp. scoparius

Broom

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2018(SL) |
| | TL2084 (monad) | 2018 (SL) |
| Elton, A605 | TL113931 | 2011 (MiB) |
| Orton Pit SSSI (CP) | TL162940 | 2009 (NC) |

Wells (2003) did not consider this species native in Huntingdonshire despite records going back to 1846. While it is undoubtedly rare and associated with anthropogenic habitats this is not in itself sufficient to reach such a conclusion and I am aware of no evidence to demonstrate that it did not colonise the County under its own steam. On this basis, there is currently no evidence to indicate that it is no less worthy of conservation than any of our other native plant species. A 2012 record for Paxton Pits and a 2017 record for Stibbington Pits have been excluded as occurrences of certain recent introduced origin.

Dactylorhiza incarnata ssp. incarnata (L.) Soó

Early Marsh-orchid

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Monks Wood SSSI, Compartment 4d | TL2080 | 2003 (MM) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lammas Meadow | TL183613 | 2016 (BaD, PW) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| | TL23048488 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| Compartment 37 | TL232852 | 2009 (RH) |
| Compartment 39 | TL234852 | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 41 | TL227833 | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 46 | TL227849 | 2009 (MM) |
| Compartment 51 | TL228846 | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 58 | TL227843 | 2008 (MM) |
| Compartment 76 | TL227837 | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 82 | TL227835 | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 83 | TL229833 | 2009 (MM) |

A plant of calcareous to neutral damp habitats such as fens, flood meadows and other damp grasslands. At least 1000 plants bloomed at St Neots Common in 2013.

Dactylorhiza praetermissa (Druce) Soó **ssp. praetermissa**

Southern Marsh-orchid

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (8 sites, 10 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| Great Gidding | TL122836 | 2013 (BaD & AF) |
| Hemingford Grey Meadow SSSI (Arthur's Meadow) | TL291691 | 2016 (LF) |
| Molesworth Airfield, north of | TL074784 | 2018 (KR) |
| Monks Wood SSSI: | | |
| East Field | TL199804 | 2002 (MM) |
| near Saul Gate | TL19647938 | 2014 (BaD) |
| Norman Cross Pits | TL16259090 | 2015 (BaD) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Islands Common | TL182609 | 1996 (TW) |
| St Neots, by railway | TL1959 | 2016 (BaD) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 37 | TL232852 | 2010 (MM) |

| | | |
|----------------|----------|-----------|
| Compartment 39 | TL234852 | 2008 (MM) |
| Compartment 41 | TL228850 | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 47 | TL229848 | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 58 | TL228843 | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 76 | TL227837 | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 82 | TL227835 | 2009 (MM) |

Like *D. incarnata*, a plant of calcareous to neutral damp habitats such as fens, flood meadows and other damp grasslands.

Dactylorhiza praetermissa (Druce) Soó **ssp. *schoenophila*** R.M. Bateman & Denholme

Southern Marsh-orchid

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Not assessed

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL227838 | 2006 (MM) |

Previously placed under *D. traunsteinerioides* which is no longer considered to occur in Southern England (Bateman & Denholme, 2012). First recorded for Huntingdonshire in 1978 and only a few plants occur in any one year (none in some years). Only one plant was seen in 2006 (see photo). Our plants do not occupy typical habitat and this may explain this species persistent but very limited (a few plants at best) presence in the county.

Danthonia decumbens (L.) DC.

Heath-grass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Godmanchester Eastside Common | TL27067153 | 2010 (NM) |
| RAF Molesworth County Wildlife Site | TL067773 (centroid) | 2008 (JJ) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| | TL231832 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| Compartment 41 | TL227851 | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 76 | TL227838 | 2010 (MM) |

In Huntingdonshire this is a rare grass of clay pastures, fens and alluvial pastures with surface acidification. Our grasslands have probably not been examined in as great a detail over recent years as they have been historically. Old sites include Hemingford Grey and Upwood Meadows.

***Dianthus armeria* L.**

Deptford Pink

GB Status: Endangered

County Status: Extinct in the wild

England Status: Endangered

This species, last seen in 1984, is currently extinct as a truly wild plant, however seed from Woodwalton Fen was maintained in cultivation locally and attempts were being made (current status uncertain) to establish this species in two recently established, favourably managed, wildflower meadows at Ramsey Heights. Early signs indicated a modicum of success but with no certainty of self-sustaining population.

***Digitalis purpurea* L.**

Foxglove

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| Compartment 1 | TL1989 | 2006 (MM) |
| | TL20468926 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL193800 | 2006 (KW) |

This species is dubiously native in the County and the above list excludes the many records of obvious garden escapes. Even at Holme Fen, where the habitat conditions might indicate a plausible native population, plants seem too robust for good native stock and are probably a long-naturalised garden selection.

***Diplotaxis tenuifolia* (L.) DC.**

Perennial Wall-rocket

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington, near the railway | TL208831 | 2018 (SL) |
| | TL2084 (monad) | 2016 (SL) |

This is the only established population of this archaeophyte in the County, with other historic occurrences being relatively short-lived. It has been known from this general area since at least 1948 and occurs with a range of other interesting calcicole species.

***Dipsacus pilosus* L.**

Small Teasel

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (10 sites, 13 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Archer's Wood Nature Reserve | TL17828149 | 2010 (DB) |
| Aversley Wood SSSI | TL16608237 | 2008 (DB) |
| Caldecote Wood | TL13798826 | 2003 (KW) |
| | TL13528794 | 2003 (KW) |
| Hamerton Grove | TL117795 | 2008 (DB & LF) |
| | TL121797 | 2008 (DB & LF) |
| Holme, The Holt | TL18388815 | 2009 (DB) |
| Holme, Glatton Lane | TL181873 | 2015 (NC) |
| Holme, Holme Brook | TL19818709 | 2018 (JOM, JGr) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL19318004 | 2008 (DB) |
| North Wood, east of | TL18J (tetrad) | 2008 (NC) |
| Pingle Wood Nature Reserve | TL31258151 | 2014 (JS) |
| Salome Wood | TL126779 | 2009 (DB) |
| Staughton Moor, The Bogs | TL12186050 | 2011 (DB) |
| Warboys Wood SSSI | TL300818 | 2012 (LF) |

One of the specialities of our ancient boulder clay woodlands. It can be reasonably tolerant of deep shade provided there is sufficient disturbance to encourage seeds to germinate. Some of the strongest colonies are in unprotected sites, e.g. Hamerton Grove and Salome Wood, while perversely those populations present within protected sites are often markedly smaller and more restricted in occurrence.

Dryopteris affinis* (Lowe) Fraser-Jeck. subsp. *affinis

West Scaly Male-fern

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL19818916 | 2017 (FR, PS, LGr) |
| | TL20328937 | 2017 (FR, PS, LGr) |
| | TL21008886 | 2017 (FR, PS, LGr) |

Recently confirmed in the county after a visit by fern expert Fred Rumsey. Likely to be much rarer than the next species. This is the subspecies in the narrow sense, not the broader sense of Stace (2019). See the next taxon for comment on this also.

Dryopteris borrieri (Newman) Newman ex Oberh. & Travel

Borrer's Scaly Male-fern

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Gamlingay Wood, Hazelcroft | TL241536 | 2008 (SH) |
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL20028937 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| | TL20328937 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| | TL20838901 | 2012 (JS) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 35 | TL228853 (centroid) | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 66 | TL227840 | 2008 (MM) |
| Compartment 78 | TL229835 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| Waresley Wood SSSI | TL263545 | 2014 (CFG) |

A rare species in Huntingdonshire, occurring as singletons or only in very low numbers in damp fenland and ancient woodlands. I have not followed Stace (2019) in lumping this apomictic species back with *Dryopteris affinis* sens. str., as, while it shouldn't, subspecies status generally deters recording and conservation interest.

Dryopteris robusta (Oberh. & Travel ex Fraser-Jenk.) P.D. Sell

Robust Scaly Male-fern

GB Status: Not assessed

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI, Holme Lode Covert | TL20328937 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |

Local in birch woodland at the above site. Recently confirmed in the county after a visit by fern expert Fred Rumsey. This is an apomictic segregate of the above species that is more widely known by pteridologists as *Dryopteris borrieri* 'morphotype robusta'. I recognise it at species level given lumping under *Dryopteris borrieri* would likely deter recording and conservation interest.

Dryopteris carthusiana (Vill.) H.P. Fuchs

Narrow Buckler-fern

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL19958951 | 2018 (JS) |
| | TL20328937 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| | TL2090 | 2008 (DB) |
| Gransden Wood | TL2654 | 2011 (SH) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| | TL22988382 | 2008 (DB) |
| Compartment 33 | TL232854 (centroid) | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 35 | TL228853 (centroid) | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 46 | TL237849 (centroid) | 2010 (MM) |

A rare but locally abundant species of damp fen and boulder clay woodlands. It may be under-recorded but probably not to the extent that it would no longer qualify for inclusion in the Rare Plant Register. It is widespread at Woodwalton Fen, for which only a sample of the known locations is listed.

Eleocharis uniglumis (Link) Schult.

Slender Spike-rush

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL232841 | 2005 (MM) |

This species is scattered throughout Britain but is being lost from many inland sites. At inland lowland sites it typically occurs in association with *Juncus subnodulosus* fen-meadows (Jermy *et al.* 2007).

Eleogiton fluitans (L.) Link

Floating Club-rush

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Farcet Fen, Whitehall Farm | TL225934 | 2002 (PKi) |
| Pidley Fen | TL33998015 | 2018 (JGr) |
| Pidley Fen Drains CWS | TL347805 | 2011 (RH <i>a</i> & SW <i>i</i>) |
| | TL351797 | 2011 (RH <i>a</i> & SW <i>i</i>) |
| | TL352808 | 2011 (RH <i>a</i> & SW <i>i</i>) |
| | TL355811 | 2011 (RH <i>a</i> & SW <i>i</i>) |
| | TL364814 | 2011 (RH <i>a</i> & SW <i>i</i>) |
| | TL370811 | 2011 (DA & RH <i>a</i>) |
| Somersham, High North Fen: | | |
| | TL37378129 | 2015 (JOM) |
| | TL37188122 | 2015 (JOM) |
| Twelve Foot Drain | TL346811 | 2002 (PKi) |

off Warner's Drove

TL353810

2002 (PKi)

This species is local throughout Britain, being predominately western in distribution. It is only of scattered distribution in central and eastern England, where it has been lost to drainage (Jermy *et al.* 2007) and eutrophication.

***Epilobium palustre* L.**

Marsh Willowherb

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 7 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| Boughton Mediaeval Village County Wildlife Site | TL1964 | 2011 (LF) |
| Darlows Farm (Great Fen Project) | TL224854 | 2010 (PS & MiB) |
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| | TL19948949 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Compartment 8 | TL2089 | 2006 (MM) |
| Compartment 21 | TL2088 (monad) | 2006 (MM) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL19907999 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL20098005 | 2014 (CNHS) |
| Paxton Pits Nature Reserve | TL195630 | 2005 (RE) |
| Summer Standing (Great Fen Project) | TL205884 | 2010 (PS & MiB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 35 | TL228853 (centroid) | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 39 | TL234852 (centroid) | 2008 (MM) |
| Compartment 55 | TL228845 (centroid) | 2009 (MM) |
| Compartment 58 | TL227843 (centroid) | 2009 (MM) |

An uncommon species of damp woodland glades and the margins of ditches and ponds.

***Epipactis helleborine* (L.) Crantz**

Broad-leaved Helleborine

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Aversley Wood SSSI | TL164823 | 2013 (AR) |
| Cow Lane, plantation near Brickyard Farm | TL25867082 | 2016 (SHo) |
| Stibbington Pits Nature Reserve | TL08729927 | 2014 (HFFS) |
| | TL08849918 | 2014 (DB) |
| | TL0899 | 2017 (JS) |

Weaveley Wood

TL228539

1995 (TW)

A species of old deciduous woods that, while always scarce, used to be more widespread in the past. It has probably declined as a result of changes to woodland management and probably also due to increased numbers of deer, particularly the smaller non-native species.

***Epipactis purpurata* Sm.**

Violet Helleborine

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Aversley Wood SSSI | TL1681 | 2018 (AR) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL19_79_ | 2015 (BaD) |

This is a late-summer flowering species of lowland deciduous woodland on chalk and clay soils. It is very shade tolerant (Lang, 2004) and at Monks Wood occurs beneath a dense canopy of hazel, ash and oak. A large proportion of the Monks Wood colony is kept caged during the growing season to protect against grazing by rabbits and deer. One well established clump was found in Aversley Wood in 2018, the first record for this site.

***Erica tetralix* L.**

Cross-leaved Heath

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL199894 | 2018 (JS) |
| | TL20028945 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 83 | TL229833 | 2010 (MM) |

Many seedlings of this species have appeared at Holme Fen in response to the clearance of birch from Compartment 3. This species still regenerates from seed at Woodwalton Fen when areas of bare peat are created and the water table is kept high (Wells, 2003). It was not seen at this site between 1986 and 2004, but a few seedlings were found in 2005 following the clearance of birch (Massey, 2006). At the latter site, cattle trampling has been found to be detrimental (Wells, 2003).

***Ervum gracile* DC. (formerly *Vicia parviflora* Cav.)**

Slender Tare

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Vulnerable

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Alconbury | TL188752 | 2011 (MiB) |
| Coppingford Lane | TL170790 | 1996 (NM) |

| | | |
|--|------------|-----------------|
| Ellington, Whitleather Lodge Farm | TL159731 | 2006 (DB) |
| Elsworth / Hilton Protected Road Verge | TL26X | 2007 (CPe & SH) |
| Grafham Water Settlement Lagoons | TL1566 | 2012 (PW) |
| Kimbolton Airfield | TL106696 | 2016 (BD) |
| Needingworth Quarry | TL351729 | 2008 (JM) |
| Old Weston | TL0977 | 2011 (KR) |
| Sawtry, Woodfield Farm road verges | TL145830 | 2008 (SB) |
| Somersham LNR, just north of | TL36897874 | 2012 (DB) |
| Stocking Lane Protected Verge | TL122695 | 2010 (BD) |
| Tetworth | TL1954 | 2018 (JS) |
| | TL2053 | 2018 (JS) |

Vicia parviflora can be found in the south Midlands, Somerset, Dorset, Oxfordshire and Essex, where it shows a preference for calcareous clay loams and can be found along arable field margins, sunny hedge banks, old tracks and road verges. It has become much rarer within its range in recent years (Wilson & King, 2003).

***Euphorbia exigua* L.**

Dwarf Spurge

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Alconbury Weston to Upton | TL177776 | 2008 (BD) |
| Aversley Wood, arable margin | TL1681 | 2008 (DB) |
| Bullock Road | TL1779 | 2008 (DB) |
| Coppingford Lane | TL16847946 | 2011 (MiB) |
| Easton, Lodge Farm | TL136696 | 2005 (BD) |
| Ellington, Whitleather Lodge Farm | TL1472 | 2006 (DB) |
| | TL1672 | 2006 (DB) |
| Field Farm | TL1288 | 2004 (KW) |
| Gamsey Wood, near | TL2281 | 2008 (DB) |
| Great Gransden | TL25675551 | 2010 (DB) |
| Hemingford Grey | TL2870 | 2008 (LF) |
| Kimbolton Airfield | TL1069 | 2004 (BD & JaC) |
| Little Paxton Wood, near | TL1662 | 2008 (DB) |
| Molesworth | TL0778 | 2018 (JS) |
| Monk's Wood Farm | TL19777916 | 2011 (MiB) |
| Old Weston | TL0977 | 2015 (KR) |
| Stow Longa | TL110700 | 1999 (RE) |
| Ramsey Heights, Common Bridge | TL251847 | 2005 (TW & SW) |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Top Farm | TL193772 | 2011 (MiB) |
| Turf Fen | TL24388461 | 2015 (JGr) |
| Waresley Wood, arable adjacent to | TL2554 | 2009 (DB) |

This species is still widespread in Huntingdonshire but is rarely abundant. It is believed to be declining nationally through a combination of more competitive modern crop cultivars, the increased application of nitrogen-based fertilisers and the use of broad-spectrum herbicides (Wilson & King, 2003).

[*Euphorbia hyberna* L., Irish Spurge. Despite being confirmed by a BSBI referee the records should be re-visited and it is therefore removed from the RPR for now. Balkan Spurge (*E. oblongata*) is probably the correct identification. Regardless, it is non-native in the county.]

***Euphorbia platyphyllos* L.**

Broad-leaved Spurge

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 7 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Easton | TL135707 | 2001 (BD) |
| Easton, Lodge Farm | TL136696 | 2005 (BD) |
| Ellington, Whitleather Lodge Farm | TL15147288 | 2006 (DB) |
| Kimbolton | TL091671 | 2001 (RE) |
| Little Paxton Wood, arable near | TL16556362 | 2008 (DB) |
| Sawtry, Gidding Road | TL148833 | 2002 (BN) |
| Southoe | TL167655 | 2003 (RE) |

This is a rare species of arable farmland on the boulder clay. While the records are widely dispersed, this species is infrequent in occurrence and normally found only in very low numbers.

***Euphorbia stricta* L.**

Upright Spurge

GB Status: Nationally Scarce?, not threatened County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Data Deficient

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Old Weston, garden | TL0977 | 2011 (KR) |
| Stonely | TL10646694 | 2010 (LF) |

This species is not native in Huntingdonshire and instead is a naturalised population of unknown origin. In Huntingdonshire it seems to always occur in close association with habitation.

Filago germanica L. (formerly *Filago vulgaris* Lam.)

Common Cudweed

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| A14, St Ives slip road | TL303690 | 2008 (NM) |
| Brampton Golf Course | TL2169 | 2014 (LF) |
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2018 (SL) |
| | TL201844 | 2016 (SL) |
| Cow Lane Pits | TL261717 | 2011 (LF) |
| Diddington | TL19526550 | 2012 (DB) |
| | TL2166 | 2013 (JS) |
| Earith Pits | TL3976 | 2014 (DB) |
| Eynesbury | TL176586 | 2014 (CBG) |
| Fen Drayton Pits (VC31 part) | TL331699 | 2008 (JS) |
| Ferry Meadows Country Park (CP) | TL148977 | 2014 (SL) |
| Hampton Hargate, Cygnet Park (CP) | TL183955 | 2009 (PaS) |
| Kimbolton | TL09746785 | 2015 (DB) |
| Needingworth Pits | TL356722 | 2014 (LF) |
| | TL366737 | 2007 (JM) |
| Norman Cross | TL155905 | 2016 (NC) |
| Paxton Pits | TL19176353 | 2012 (DB) |
| | TL193640 | 2015 (JS) |
| Somersham, near | TL378788 | 2017 (JOM) |
| Somersham LNR, north of | TL36927898 | 2012 (DB) |
| St Ives | TL30246898 | 2013 (NM) |
| Upwood Hill House tetrad | TL2682 | 2008 (AS) |
| Waresley Wood, Brown's Piece | TL257549 | 2012 (JS) |
| Woodwalton, railway at Green Lane Bridge | TL21048134 | 2011 (DB) |

In Huntingdonshire this is a species of free-draining gravelly or disturbed soils and most of the current records are associated with old or active gravel pits. The Paxton Pits population is large and extensive and must comprise many thousands of plants. New populations continue to be found with some regularity.

***Frangula alnus* Mill.**

Alder Buckthorn

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI | | |
| Compartment 1 | TL1989 | 2006 (MM) |
| Middle Covert | TL208889 | 2016 (NC) |
| Middle Covert | TL21008886 | 2017 (JOM, PS) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI, Compartment 68 | TL23028380 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

This shrub is only known as a native from Holme and Woodwalton Fens, with only a few bushes known from each site. This species has been planted in a hedgerow at Chapel Lane, Ramsey Heights.

***Fritillaria meleagris* L.**

Fritillary

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Waiting List

County Status: Rare (1 site, 2 tetrads)

England status: Waiting List

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Portholme Meadow SSSI & SAC | TL239704 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL241704 | 2004 (BS) |

This is a grassland plant which thrives best, as at Portholme, where the usual form of management is a hay cut followed by aftermath grassland. This enables this species, which has all its leaves on the flowering stem, to complete its life-cycle (Stewart *et al.* 1994). Wells (2003) was uncertain whether this species was native to the county, but indicated potential for an introduced origin. This seems likely, and the BSBI Introductions Database indicates it was planted by Mr E.W. Hunnybun in 1918; although it is curious that if this is the case that it took so long to establish. It has done well over recent years with the annual count increasing from twelve flowering plants in 1972 to over 900 flowering plants in 2008 and thereafter. It has recently colonised, pathway unknown, Arthur's Meadow Nature Reserve. If it persists it will be added to the above table.

***Fumaria muralis* Sonder ex W.D.J. Koch *ssp. boraiei* (Jord.) Pugsley**

Common Ramping-fumitory

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Yaxley, Great Drove | TL19299224 | 2014 (JOM) |

Discovered new to the county in 2014 growing on disturbed gravelly soil near the car parking area for the allotments on Great Drove. This could be a casual occurrence, or the species

may have been overlooked historically. It is an uncommon species in much of eastern England.

Galeopsis bifida Boenn.

Bifid Hemp-nettle

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (7 sites, 7 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Conington Fen | TL19868644 | 2018 (JOM, JGr) |
| Farcet Fen | TL24549306 | 2014 (JGr) |
| Higney Grange, north of | TL205838 | 2014 (JOM) |
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL1989 | 2018 (JS) |
| | TL197888 | 2013 (NH) |
| Sawtry Fen | TL18W | 2008 (DB) |
| Turf Fen | TL31768216 | 2018 (JGr) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL23158552 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

No attempt was made historically (up to and including Wells, 2003) to segregate this species from Common Hemp-nettle (*Galeopsis tetrahit*), and given these species can only be split when in flower it may still be under-recorded. It seems restricted to Fenland, but this might be an artifice of recent recording effort for the Flora of Fenland project.

Galeopsis speciosa (L.) Mill.

Large-flowered Hemp-nettle

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI, Compartment 10 | TL2089 | 2006/07 (MM) |
| New Decoy Farm (Great Fen Project) | TL22748813 | 2011 (PTM) |
| Sawtry, Woodfield Farm road verge | TL147832 | 2008 (SB) |

Historically, this species was locally common, particularly in fenland fields put down to root crops such as sugar beet, carrots and potatoes. There are few recent records, mirroring the declines seen nationally, and it is of increasingly casual occurrence.

***Galium palustre* L. ssp. *elongatum* (C. Presl) Arcang.**

Great Marsh-bedstraw

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (7 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bluntisham, Berry Fen | TL376741 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL371736 | 2009 (DB) |
| Godmanchester Westside Common | TL253714 | 2009 (DB) |
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL198893 | 2008 (DB) |
| Needingworth, north of Overcote Lane | TL353722 | 2013 (JGr) |
| Sawtry Fen, Great Common | TL19608358 | 2011 (DB) |
| Stibbington Pits Nature Reserve | TL08709928 | 2014 (DB & NC) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lammas Meadow | TL181611 | 2010 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL232845 | 2008 (DB) |

This species qualifies for inclusion in the Register, although the number of records is gradually increasing and it might be under recorded. I cannot agree with Stace (2019) that it is the commonest subspecies. Until recorders make more effort to distinguish the two well established *Galium palustre* subspecies it is impossible to make confident claims about its status and the precautionary principle should apply. Sell & Murrell (2006) distinguish a third subspecies (ssp. *tetraploideum*), that may be worth recognising but it would fall within the range of variation of ssp. *palustre* as described in Stace and therefore should not hinder the recording of ssp. *elongatum*.

***Galium parisiense* L.**

Wall Bedstraw

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (1 site, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2018 (SL) |
| | TL201842 | 2018 (SL) |

Discovered new to the County in 2009 growing in low numbers on open stony ground near the railway. It occurs with an interesting assemblage of other calcicole species. NM suggests that this species may have been introduced with substrate originating from March Whitemoor Sidings, Cambridgeshire (VC29).

***Galium x pomeranicum* Retz.**

(*Galium verum* x *Galium album*)

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Easton, Stocking Lane | TL13547084 | 2010 (DB) |

There are few historic records for this distinctive hybrid. It has been recorded by a succession of botanists from Woodwalton Fen but was last reported in 1955.

***Galium uliginosum* L.**

Fen Bedstraw

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Water Newton Meadows | TL1097 | 2010 (SB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| | TL23118531 | 2010 (DB) |
| Compartment 76 | TL22737 | 2009 (MM) |

While this species has always been scarce in the County, it was known historically from several widely dispersed fens and wet grasslands. It has not been seen at most of these historic sites since the 1970's and may have been lost to drainage and agricultural improvement. The population at Woodwalton Fen is very large, with more sites than listed, and currently under no threat.

Genista tinctoria* L. ssp. *tinctoria

Dyer's Greenweed

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Alconbury Airfield | TL22477628 | 2012 (LG) |
| Great Stukeley Railway Cutting: | | |
| Unit 3 | TL23507558 | 2010 (TC) |
| Unit 4 | TL23527544 | 2010 (TC) |
| RAF Molesworth County Wildlife Site | TL067773 | 1996 (TW) |
| RAF Molesworth, boundary footpath | TL069767 | 2010 (KR) |
| Upwood Meadows SSSI, Bentley Meadow | TL250827 | 2011 (LF) |
| Woolley Leys road verge | TL16937442 | 2011 (MiB) |
| | TL17087441 | 2011 (MiB) |

Always restricted to a few sites on the calcareous boulder clay of central Huntingdonshire. It has declined over recent years and this decline is probably ongoing. Alconbury Airfield has been allocated for re-development over coming years.

Gentianella amarella (L.) Börner **ssp. amarella**

Autumn Gentian

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 sites, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Stangate Hill Protected Road Verge | TL192799 | 2002 (VM) |

Known from Stangate Hill since 1968. If it persists, this is perhaps the last site for this species in the county.

Geranium columbinum L.

Long-stalked Crane's-bill

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL20118421 | 2016 (SL) |
| Paxton Pits Nature Reserve | TL195630 | 2005 (RE) |
| Wansford Railway (disused) | TL07749657 | 2007 (DB) |
| | TL07759677 | 2007 (DB) |

A species of drier grasslands. The population along the embankment of the defunct Wansford Railway is locally abundant but potentially vulnerable to scrub encroachment.

Geranium rotundifolium L.

Round-leaved Crane's-bill

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (9 sites, 13 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2018 (SL) |
| | TL2084 | 2018 (SL) |
| Hemingford Grey | TL291707 | 2013 (LF) |
| | TL3069 | 2014 (LF) |
| | TL3070 | 2011 (LF) |
| Huntingdon Station | TL233716 | 1997 (BD) |
| Norman Cross | TL16039059 | 2008 (NC) |
| Ramsey, New Fen Farm | TL271871 | 2011 (JOM) |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Ramsey St Mary's | TL25628828 | 2017 (JOM, JGr) |
| Stilton, near The Bell public house | TL163895 | 2007 (SC) |
| Water Newton, A1 | TL103972 | 2012 (NC) |
| Woodston, Nene Valley Railway (CP) | TL1797 | 2007 (DB) |
| | TL1798 | 2007 (DB) |
| | TL187981 | 2007 (DB) |

This species was omitted or excluded from the County Flora (Wells, 2003) despite there being old records for Hail Weston and Stibbington. It is a species of short, often drought-stressed, turf, flower beds and other situations of low competition. It may be overlooked in the Peterborough area.

Glebionis segetum (L.) Fourr.

Corn Marigold

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Ferry Meadows Country Park (CP) | TL142972 | 2007 (DB) |
| Orton Goldhay (CP) | TL167948 | 2007 (NC) |

Historically, given the local geology, this was never a common arable weed in Huntingdonshire. The population recorded from Ferry Meadows is undoubtedly of introduced origin, being part of a small display plot of arable flora. Seed may persist or spread. The Orton Goldhay population was associated with the roundabout for a new road, it was probably introduced in a sowing of wildflower seed.

Groenlandia densa (L.) Fourr.

Opposite-leaved Pondweed

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Godmanchester Eastside Common SSSI | | |
| Unnamed pond | TL268715 | 2009 (DB) |
| Unnamed dyke | TL268716 | 2009 (DB) |
| Middle Fen | TL3570 | 1992 (CWT) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lammas Dyke | TL18306138 | 2010 (DB) |

This is a species of shallow, typically base-rich, waters and is widespread but local in England. It is sensitive to eutrophication (Preston, 1995) and this is probably the primary factor behind its current Red Data List status. There was a good stand at Eastside Common in 2009 following dyke clearance works the previous winter.

Gymnocarpium dryopteris (L.) Newman

Oak Fern

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 71 | TL23_83_ | 2011 (MM) |

An astonishing discovery (first found in 2008), given the extreme rarity of this species across much of England. Fifty-eight fronds were counted in 2010. While the precise location of this species can be provided on a need-to-know basis, it has been decided that given the potentially precarious status of this one colony/clone, the provision of a precise grid reference might be ill advised.

Helictochloa pratensis (L.) Romero Zarco (formerly *Avenula pratensis* (L.) Dumort.)

Meadow Oat-grass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 7 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Brampton Racecourse SSSI | TL2072 | 2015 (LF) |
| Godmanchester Eastside Common SSSI | TL2670 | 2010 (NM) |
| | TL271716 | 2003 (SL) |
| Midloe Grange Farm, Horse Close | TL163647 | 1996 (DeW) |
| Monks Wood, field south of | TL19557936 | 2015 (DB) |
| Water Newton Meadows | TL1097 | 2010 (SB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 85 | TL231833 (centroid for compartment) | 2008 (MM) |

In Huntingdonshire this is a rare grass of dry calcareous clay pastures. Always scarce, currently it is not clear whether it has declined further or is under-recorded. Our grasslands have probably not been examined in as great a detail over recent years as they were during the heyday of Monks Wood Experimental Station. Old sites include Vinegar Hill and Papworth St Agnes.

Hieracium spilophaeum Jord. ex Boreau

Spotted Hawkweed

GB Status: Not assessed

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Norman Cross Pits | TL162907 | 2015 (BD) |

Sell & Murrell (2006) describe this species as probably introduced. Given the inherent doubt in this assessment of status I prefer to take a precautionary approach and treat it as native

until there is strong evidence to the contrary. Its native distribution in Europe is not known. Even if non-native in Huntingdonshire, it is likely to be difficult to determine whether it is an archaeophyte or a neophyte. A small colony grows in an open sward of *Brachypodium pinnatum* agg. at the old Norman Cross brick pits.

Hieracium umbellatum* L. ssp. *umbellatum

Umbellate Hawkweed

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Conington, by the railway | TL203831 | 2018 (SL) |
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL199894 | 2018 (JS) |
| | TL200897 | 2009 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 85 | TL2383 | 1996 (TW & SW) |

Our plant appears to conform to var. *commune*. It is abundant along the ride to, and around the periphery of, Compartment 3, Holme Fen and this population has an important role to play in the maintenance of this species in the county. The one plant recorded at Conington may be a recent colonist, perhaps facilitated by the movement of trains along the railway, from Holme Fen, although there are also historic records for this general area. It has also been recorded from East Field, Monks Wood but I have not seen it there and there are no recent records.

***Holcus mollis* L.**

Creeping Soft-grass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 9 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | 18336991 | 2011 (DB) |
| | 185701 | 2010 (BD) |
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2016 (SL) |
| | TL2084 | 2018 (SL) |
| Holme Fen SSSI: | TL19818933 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| | TL20028945 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Orton Pit SSSI, Jones's Covert (CP) | TL15989338 | 2011 (DB) |
| Sugley Wood | TL2453 | 2013 (LF & PW) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 78 | TL229835 (centroid) | 2008 (MM) |

A rare grass of ancient and fen woodlands where there has been some surface acidification to our otherwise unfavourable calcareous clay soils.

Hordelymus europaeus (L.) Jessen

Wood Barley

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Savage's Spinney Nature Reserve | TL134695 | 1994 (RoP) |

A species of ancient woodland on calcareous soils. It is typically short lived, so would be vulnerable to any factor reducing seed set or otherwise preventing regeneration. An unsuccessful search was made for this species at the one known site in 2009.

Hottonia palustris L.

Water-violet

GB Status: Not threatened

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Conington Fen drains | TL205857 | 1996 (TB) |
| | TL211828 | 1996 (TB) |
| | TL214863 | 1996 (TB) |
| Darlows Farm (Great Fen Project) | TL22798583 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL23508507 | 2008 (DB) |
| Farcet Fen | TL215926 | 2002 (PKi) |
| Farcet Fen, near Frog Hall | TL230918 | 2002 (PKi) |
| Farcet Fen, near Tebbitt's Bridge | TL24739166 | 2017 (PS, JGr) |
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL198897 | 2009 (SL) |
| Home Fen SSSI, Caldecote Dyke | TL20208984 | 2008 (DB) |
| Overcote Lane | TL355716 | 1997 (NM) |
| Pidley Fen Drains CWS | TL355811 | 2011 (RHa & SWi) |
| | TL365825 | 2011 (PTM) |
| Ramsey Mereside | TL28088858 | 2016 (JOM, JGr) |
| Redshank's Drain CWS | TL212928 | 2011 (RHa & RRo) |
| | TL228918 | 2011 (RHa & RRo) |
| | TL232917 | 2011 (RHa) |
| Somersham, Chatteris Road | TL38087989 | 2016 (JS) |
| Somersham High North Fen | TL372812 | 2015 (JOM) |
| Somersham High Fen | TL377806 | 2015 (JOM) |
| Somersham, Long Drove | TL375799 | 2014 (JOM) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lammas Meadow | TL18196119 | 2010 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL23158556 | 2010 (MiB) |

This species has always shown a strong association with the Fens, being rare elsewhere in the county. It is probably in decline although it may be overlooked when not in flower as it grows submerged in drains and ponds.

***Hydrocharis morsus-ranae* L.**

Frogbit

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| Bevill's Leam | TL248914 | 2016 (NC) |
| Black Ham Drain (New Cut): | | |
| | TL216917 | 2013 (NC) |
| Herbert's Bridge to Johnson's Point | TL242909 | 2013 (NC) |
| east of Herbert's Bridge | TL242911 | 2013 (NC) |
| Corney's Farm | TL231872 | 2013 (NC) |
| Darlows Farm (Great Fen Project) | TL22458584 | 2016 (NC) |
| Denton Fen | TL218861 | 2016 (NC) |
| Farcet Fen | TL24569125 | 2017 (PS, JGr) |
| Frog Hall Bridge | TL22809169 | 2014 (JGr) |
| Great Raveley Drain | TL237863 | 2013 (NC) |
| near Ugg Mere Farm | TL2385 | 2013 (NC) |
| Meadow Lane Gravel Pits | TL324704 | 1999 (BM & JM) |
| Middle Level Catch Water Drain | TL2282 | 2013 (NC) |
| Monk's Lode, Highney Grange | TL2083 | 2013 (NC) |
| Monk's Lode, Conington Fen Bridge | TL211857 | 2013 (NC) |
| North Western Cut, east of Bradford's Bridge | TL232915 | 2013 (NC) |
| Papworth's Bridge | TL224871 | 2013 (NC) |
| Ramsey Forty Foot Drain | TL30958802 | 2014 (JGr) |
| Ramsey Heights Nature Reserve | TL243849 | 2014 (JOM) |
| Ramsey St Mary's, Stoke's Bridge | TL24358819 | 2017 (JOM, JGr) |
| Ramsey St Mary's Bridge, Old River Nene | TL254873 | 2013 (NC) |
| Redshank's Drain CWS | TL224919 | 2013 (NC) |
| River Nene (Old Course): | | |
| Bodsey Bridge | TL2987 | 2013 (NC) |
| near golf course | TL288874 | 2013 (NC) |
| Wells Bridge | TL299881 | 2013 (NC) |
| Old Decoy Farm | TL237891 | 2016 (NC) |
| Old Decoy Farm | TL2489 | 2013 (NC) |
| Johnson's Point, south of | TL238901 | 2016 (NC) |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Nightingale's Corner | TL242876 | 2013 (NC) |
| near Stoke's Bridge | TL244884 | 2013 (NC) |
| Stibbington Pits Nature Reserve | TL088993 | 2017 (JS) |
| Woodwalton Fen, farmland dyke east of | TL235850 | 2009 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL23358451 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23158552 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| Woodwalton Fen, Great Raveley Drain | TL2282 | 2007 (DB) |
| | TL23348396 | 2013 (NC) |
| Yaxley Fen | TL21869189 | 2014 (JGr) |
| Yaxley Lode: | | |
| west of railway | TL195915 | 2013 (NC) |
| Trundle Mere | TL205908 | 2013 (NC) |

This is a free-floating species that typically occurs in still or slow-flowing neutral to base-rich waters. It is undoubtedly a native of the Fens of Huntingdonshire but it is also a popular horticultural plant and some colonies have probably arisen as garden escapes and throw-outs (where known for certain these have been excluded from the table). Formerly more widespread in the Fens, its relative scarcity today is probably the result of a long-standing decline that started in the 19th Century when the Fens started to be drained and converted to arable farmland.

***Hydrocotyle vulgaris* L.**

Marsh Pennywort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL19958951 | 2018 (JS) |
| | TL20028945 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| | TL20168946 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL217886 | 2009 (DB) |
| Norman Cross Pits, Middle Pit | TL162907 | 2010 (NC) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL22838430 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL234851 | 2010 (DB) |
| | TL22878354 | 2010 (DB) |

Historically, this species was considered to be common in our fen dykes (Wells, 2003). This is no longer the case and today it is only known from calcareous fen vegetation at Woodwalton Fen and Norman Cross, and in damp places on the more acidic fen peats of Holme Fen.

***Hyoscyamus niger* L.**

Henbane

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Church End, St Andrew's Church | TL209822 | 2004 (JC) |
| Grafham, south side of West Wood | TL151697 | 2008 (DB) |

The decline in this species has been as a result of the loss of suitable habitats to development, the intensification of farming practices and the general desire to 'tidy-up' the countryside and waste places (Stewart *et al.* 1994). Fortunately, this species can form a persistent seed bank and can reappear when conditions become more suitable.

***Hypericum humifusum* L.**

Trailing St John's-wort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL18306994 | 2011 (DB) |
| | TL17527014 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL18417047 | 2008 (DB) |
| Orton Pit SSSI, Jones's Covert (CP) | TL1693 | 1997 (TW) |
| Little Paxton Wood SSSI | TL1763 | 1996 (TW) |

This is a species of ancient woodland rides that often only becomes apparent after felling or ride clearance works. It was recorded from Monks Wood SSSI in 1989, just outside the date period for this Register.

***Hypericum pulchrum* L.**

Slender St John's-wort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI, Compartment 24 | TL2089 | 2006 (MM) |

Known at Holme Fen since at least 1953, it's only known site in the County.

Hypericum x desetangsii nothosubsp. desetangsii

Des Etangs' St John's-wort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Diddington, River Great Ouse | TL2064 | 2016 (JS) |
| Great Staughton churchyard | TL123647 | 2015 (DB) |
| Grafham Water, settlement lagoons | TL155668 | 2017 (DB) |

Easily overlooked as Perforate St John's-wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) unless the sepals are checked with a hand lens, but it often has a more glaucous appearance. The Diddington record was not to subspecies, but likely falls here. Probably over-looked but unlikely to be common.

***Iberis amara* L.**

Wild Candytuft

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Vulnerable, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL201845 | 2015 (SL) |

A strong colony of several hundred plants grows by the railway at Conington Dump. How it came to be there is a mystery, but historically this species was found along the railways and it may have arisen from imported ballast. It grows with a range of other interesting species.

[*Inula conyzae* (Griess.) Meikle, Ploughman's-spikenard. The number of sites now exceeds the criteria for County Scarce status, removed from the Register in 2019.]

***Isolepis setacea* (L.) R.Br.**

Bristle Club-rush

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 42/43 | TL229850 (centroid) | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 44 | TL231850 (centroid) | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 45 | TL233850 (centroid) | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 54 | TL22638437 | 2010 (MM) |
| Compartment 61 | TL228842 | 2009 (MM) |
| Compartment 77 | TL22968375 | 2008 (MM) |

This is a species of open, damp, generally acidic sites [local surface acidification in Huntingdonshire], especially those subject to winter flooding (Jermy *et al.* 2007). It is characteristic of cattle grazed and poached, along with other periodically disturbed, habitats.

Jacobaea paludosa (L.) P. Gaertn., B. Mey & Scherb. (formerly *Senecio paludosus* L.)

Fen Ragwort

GB Status: Nationally Rare, Critically Endangered, Schedule 8

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Critically Endangered, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL23208491 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

Although once widespread in the fens of East Anglia, *Senecio paludosus* is currently known as a native from one summer-dry ditch in arable land near Ely, Cambridgeshire (VC29). The plant was discovered there in 1972 and is thought to have arisen from long-dormant seed. It is a very long-lived perennial. Mature plants do not need a high summer water table, but prefer areas that have a high winter water table or are periodically flooded. Young plants require open areas in which to develop, but mature plants can compete successfully with tall vegetation. In mainland Europe, *S. paludosus* is not a ditch plant and instead grows on the margins of rivers and lakes in mixed fen communities, usually in the floodplains of large rivers. In such situations the principle agent of dispersal appears to be flooding, which breaks off root fragments and carries them downstream to develop in open areas on alluvial deposits. Its rarity in the UK may be due to the fact that the large complexes of water bodies that once occurred in the Fens are gone and rivers no longer flood in a natural manner. In 1992, fifty 1 year old plants were introduced into Woodwalton Fen as part of English Nature's Species Recovery Programme. The vegetation around the stand is cut annually and the plants themselves are cut every three years or so. The plants that remain have established well and flower regularly, but no seedlings have yet been produced (Palmer, 2006b).

Jacobaea aquatica (Hill) P. Gaertn., B. Mey & Scherb. **subsp. *aquatica*** (formerly *Senecio aquaticus* Hill)

Marsh Ragwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Berry Fen | TL376745 | 2018 (JOM) |
| Brampton Golf Course | TL2169 | 2014 (LF, PW) |
| Earith | TL3874 | 2009 (DB) |
| Eynesbury, Barford Road Pocket Park | TL15U | 2014 (LF) |
| Fletton Lake (CP) | TL1996 | 2003 (NS) |
| Godmanchester, Westside Common | TL25297142 | 2009 (DB) |
| Hemingford Grey | TL2870 | 2009 (LF) |
| Needingworth Pits | TL3672 | 2014 (DB, LF) |
| Portholme SSSI | TL269704 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL24037050 | 2009 (DB) |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| St Neots Common, Lamma Meadow | TL18356141 | 2010 (DB) |
| Water Newton Meadows LWS | TL1097 | 2010 (SB) |
| West Meadow LWS | TL2270 | 2009 (SB) |

A biennial, sometimes perennial, herb occurring in marshes, wet meadows, rush-pastures, and by streams, ponds and ditches. There has been widespread decline in south and east England, primarily due to drainage of wet meadows and agricultural intensification (Preston *et al.*, 2002).

***Juncus bulbosus* L.**

Bulbous Rush

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| Darlows Farm (Great Fen Project) | TL23078606 | 2010 (MiB) |
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| Compartment 3 | TL1989 | 2006 (MM) |
| Compartment 31 | TL2088 | 2006 (MM) |
| Pidley Drain to Somersham High North Fen | TL3681 | 2006 (SB) |
| Pidley Fen | TL345804 | 1996 (TB) |
| Somersham Fen, Twelve Foot Drain | TL346811 | 2002 (PKi) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 30 | TL233856 (centroid) | 2010 (MM) |

A rare species of fenland ditches and drains. The relevant subspecies are yet to be determined and conceivably both could occur.

***Juncus compressus* Jacq.**

Round-fruited Rush

GB Status: Near Threatened County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Berry Fen | TL372737 | 2018 (JOM) |
| | TL372742 | 2018 (JOM) |
| | TL374740 | 2018 (JOM) |
| Hinchingbrooke Country Park | TL22017116 | 2010 (MiB) |
| Kimbolton, minor road to Pertenhall | TL098669 | 2006 (KW) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lamma Meadow | TL180608 | 2002 (KW) |
| | TL183613 | 2004 (SL) |

This species typically occurs in wet meadows and on the edges of reservoirs and clay and gravel pits (Wells, 2003).

[*Juncus subnodulosus* Schrank, Blunt-flowered Rush. The number of sites now exceeds the criteria for County Scarce status, removed from the Register in 2014.]

Koeleria macrantha (Ledeb.) Schultes

Crested Hair-grass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Godmanchester Eastside Common SSSI | TL271716 | 2003 (SL) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Islands Common | TL183613 | 2004 (SL) |

This species probably persists at a few of its other historic sites, but it is easily overlooked and our grasslands have not been examined in as great a detail over recent years as they have been historically. Old sites include Woodwalton Fen and Upwood Meadows.

Lathyrus palustris L.

Marsh Pea

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Near Threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 30 | TL23488544 | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 33 | TL232855 | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 34 | TL234854 (centroid) | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 40 | TL23478526 | 2017 (FR, PS) |

Our plant is var. *palustris*. This species persists in Huntingdonshire as no more than five small colonies at Woodwalton Fen. It formerly occurred at Holme Fen and Whittlesey Mere, but these populations were lost with the drainages of the 19th Century (Wells, 2003).

Lathyrus sylvestris L.

Narrow-leaved Everlasting-pea

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL17957051 | 2011 (LF) |
| Grafham, West Wood | TL153698 | 1997 (TW) |
| Woolley Hill, road verge | TL147730 | 2012 (BD) |

Predominantly a rare plant of ancient woodland. The status (native or introduced) of the clump on the road verge at Woolly Hill is unknown.

Lepidium campestre (L.) R. Br.

Field Pepperwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (9 sites, 12 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Chamber's Dole bridleway | TL157929 | 2009 (DB) |
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2018 (SL) |
| | TL2084 | 2018 (SL) |
| Farcet, Straight Drove | TL217938 | 1998 (TW) |
| Godmanchester, Cow Lane Pits | TL261716 | 2011 (LF) |
| Godmanchester Eastside Common SSSI | TL26947169 | 2009 (DB) |
| Homestead Farm, near Somersham: | TL246932 | 2011 (JOM & JGr) |
| Long Drove | TL374801 | 2015 (JOM) |
| Near Holwoods Farm | TL377806 | 2015 (JOM) |
| Summer Standing (Great Fen Project) | TL20578830 | 2011 (NC) |
| Turf Fen | TL24378416 | 2015 (JGr) |
| Portholme SSSI | TL23327040 | 2011 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen, east of Jackson's Bridge | TL239848 | 2012 (NC) |

A species of dry turf, disturbed ground and field corners. Like *Cynoglossum officinale*, it has probably suffered as habitats have become increasingly tidy and homogenous.

Lepidium heterophyllum Benth.

Smith's Pepperwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Fletton Lake (CP) | TL1996 | 2004 (NS) |
| Orton Pits SSSI (CP) | TL16209368 | 2016 (DB) |
| | TL16179376 | 2016 (DB) |

A rare species of dry turf, disturbed ground and field corners. Like the above species and *Cynoglossum officinale*, it has probably suffered as habitats have become increasingly tidy and homogenous.

***Limosella aquatica* L.**

Mudwort

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Ferry Meadows Country Park (CP) | TL152976 | 1993 (MP) |

This species had not been recorded since 1908, until MP found it in association with flooded former mineral workings within what is now Ferry Meadows Country Park. Its current status is uncertain and the relevant waterbody does not have public access. Mudwort is an ephemeral which germinates very rapidly when mud becomes exposed in the summer and completes its life-cycle before the autumn.

***Linaria repens* (L.) Mill.**

Pale Toadflax

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2018 (SL) |
| | TL2084 | 2018 (SL) |
| Holme, by the railway | TL198877 | 2013 (NH) |
| | TL198880 | 2012 (NH) |

A species of rough stony ground. Wells (2003) considered it introduced in Huntingdonshire.

***Logfia minima* (Sm.) Dumort. (formerly *Filago minima* (Sm.) Pers)**

Small Cudweed

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL202844 | 2015 (SL) |

Known from the above site since 2005, its only location in the county, where it grows on sparsely vegetated, free-draining railway ballast in association with a range of other interesting flora typical of such conditions.

Luzula multiflora (Ehrh.) Lejeune **ssp. *congesta*** (Thuill.) Arcang.

Heath Wood-rush

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 12 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL1769 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL1770 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL181698 | 2008 (DB) |
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| Denton Fen Covert | TL19818916 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Denton Fen Covert | TL20028945 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Middle Covert | TL210891 | 2008 (DB) |
| Jackson's Covert | TL2189 | 2006 (MM) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL1979 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL1980 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL20198042 | 2012 (JS) |
| Waresley Wood SSSI | TL261544 | 2009 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 84 | TL231833 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23168447 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL228851 | 2010 (PS, MiB) |

Uncommon and apparently restricted to protected ancient boulder clay woodlands and fens. Possibly slightly under-recorded (the species aggregate is comparably scarce) as the subspecies were not distinguished by Wells (2003). It is widespread at low density throughout Woodwalton Fen.

Luzula multiflora (Ehrh.) Lejeune **ssp. *multiflora***

Heath Wood-rush

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL179699 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL18327042 | 2008 (DB) |
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| Compartment 3 | TL1989 | 2006 (MM) |
| Middle Covert | TL2188 | 2008 (DB) |
| Holme Lode Covert | TL2089 | 2007 (DB) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL19918006 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL2080 | 2012 (JS) |

Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC:

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Compartment 61 | TL227842 (centroid) | 2009 (MM) |
| Compartment 83 | TL229833 | 2010 (DB) |

Uncommon and apparently restricted to protected ancient boulder clay woodlands and fens. Scarcer than ssp. *congesta*, but it may be slightly under-recorded (the species aggregate is comparably scarce) as the subspecies were not distinguished by Wells (2003). It is widespread at low density throughout Woodwalton Fen.

***Luzula pallescens* Sw.**

Fen Wood-rush

GB Status: Nationally Rare, Critically Endangered County Status: Rare (2 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Critically Endangered, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------|----------------|-------------|
|------|----------------|-------------|

Holme Fen SSSI:

| | | |
|-----------------|------------|--------------------|
| | TL19938951 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| Compartment 15a | TL198885 | 2006 (MM) |
| Compartment 41 | TL21398891 | 2012 (MM & PS) |

Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC:

| | | |
|----------------|------------|-----------|
| Compartment 54 | TL22648454 | 2009 (MM) |
| Compartment 82 | TL226835 | 2005 (MM) |
| Compartment 79 | TL23118366 | 2011 (MM) |

The first record of this species for Britain was made from Woodwalton Fen in 1907. It is a diminutive, short-lived species that requires regular disturbance. It forms a persistent seed bank and can appear in great quantity when the fen peat is disturbed, for example when carr is cleared (Wells, 2003).

***Lysimachia tenella* L. (formerly *Anagallis tenella* (L.) L.)**

Bog Pimpernel

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------|----------------|-------------|
|------|----------------|-------------|

| | | |
|---|----------|-----------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 58 | TL227843 | 2011 (MM) |
|---|----------|-----------|

At Woodwalton Fen the niche for this species appears to be maintained by cattle grazing (Wells, 2003). The only other site it was known from was Holme Fen, where it was last recorded in 1898.

Lythrum portula (L.) D.A. Webb

Water-purslane

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL18306994 | 2011 (DB) |
| | TL1870 | 2002 (TW & HFFS) |
| Grafham, West Wood | TL153701 | 1997 (TW) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL199803 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL19898052 | 2014 (CNHS) |
| | TL196803 | 2009 (DB) |

The populations present in Brampton Wood and Monks Wood have been determined as ssp. *portula*. The remaining population has not yet been determined but is likely to be this subspecies also. It was much diminished at Brampton Wood following the culverting, in 2010, of the ditch that supported the bulk of the population.

Melampyrum cristatum L.

Crested Cow-wheat

GB Status: Nationally Rare, Endangered

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Endangered, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| Bevill's Wood Protected Roadside Verge | TL200794 | 1992 (CP) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL19437933 | 2015 (DB) |
| Stonely, Stocking Lane | TL12236942 | 2012 (PeB & CB) |
| Woodwalton Marsh SSSI | TL211813 | 2016 (BA) |

This summer annual species is an obligate hemiparasite of various woody and herbaceous species, predominantly found on the margins of ancient oak woods and in their clearings and rides. It occasionally grows on roadside verges and hedgebanks where these at one time bordered woodland. It is thermophilous and largely restricted to the areas of Britain with the most continental climatic regime, where it grows on calcium-rich soils derived from boulder clay (Stewart *et al.* 1994). In 2011, one plant appeared at Woodwalton Marsh following scrub clearance.



***Anacamptis morio* at Upwood Meadows SSSI**



***Bolboschoenus maritimus* at Portholme SSSI**



***Lythrum portula* at Monks Wood SSSI**



***Hydrocharis morsus-ranae* at Woodwalton Fen SSSI**



***Myosurus minimus* at Upwood Meadows SSSI**



***Hyoscyamus niger* by West Wood, Ellington**



***Primula x digenea* and *Primula elatior* at Waresley Wood**



***Sonchus palustris* at Woodwalton Fen SSSI**



***Dactylorhiza praetermissa* ssp. *schoenophila* at Woodwalton Fen SSSI and *Oenanthe crocata* at Norman Cross Pits**



***Lathyrus palustris* at Woodwalton Fen SSSI**



***Dipsacus pilosus* and *Agrimonia procera* at Monks Wood**



***Cruciata laevipes* at Hardwicke**



***Stellaria neglecta* at Lady's Wood**



***Hottonia palustris* at St Neots Common**

Molinia caerulea (L.) Moench **ssp. *arundinacea*** (Schränk) K. Richt.

Purple Moor-grass

GB Status: Waiting List

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Waiting List

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL209889 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL19948949 | 2018 (JS) |
| | TL200901 | 2008 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL229836 | 2010 (DB) |
| | TL228851 | 2010 (PS & MiB) |

This is a rare but locally abundant species of our more acid fen peats. At Holme Fen, it has declined in abundance as a result of the closing over of the birch canopy (Wells, 2003).

Mycelis muralis (L.) Dumort.

Wall Lettuce

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI, Holme Lode Covert | TL20658916 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL20418945 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| | TL2188 | 2012 (JS) |
| Houghton Mill | TL28167198 | 2017 (DB) |
| Huntingdon: | | |
| All Saint's Church | TL239718 | 2011 (SS) |
| George Street | TL236717 | 2011 (SS) |
| High Street | TL236719 | 2011 (SS) |
| Walden Road | TL236717 | 2011 (SS) |
| Paxton Pits | TL1862 | 2006 (AD) |

This rare species occurs in a range of conditions. At Holme Fen it is locally abundant on peat under birch trees, in Huntingdon and Houghton it is a denizen of old walls while at Paxton Pits it can be found on bare gravelly substrates associated with old gravel workings.

[***Myosotis discolor*** Pers., Changing Forget-me-not. The number of sites now exceeds the criteria for County Scarce status, removed from the Register in 2019.]

Myosotis ramosissima Rochel

Changing Forget-me-not

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (10 sites, 11 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL1870 (monad) | 2002 (TW) |
| Conington 'Dump' | TK2083 | 2018 (SL) |
| | TL201842 | 2018 (SL) |
| Hemingford Grey, Marsh Lane Pits | TL3069 | 2014 (LF) |
| Holland Wood | TL239786 | 2003 (TW & SW) |
| Huntingdon, Millfield Court | TL233714 | 2011 (KW & LF) |
| Norman Cross Brick Pits CWS | TL1690 | 2010 (NC) |
| Offord D'Arcy, Bullens Farm road verge | TL216625 | 2000 (IH) |
| Orton Pit SSSI, Jones's Covert (CP) | TL160939 | 2005 (NC) |
| Midloe Wood | TL158647 | 2006 (TW) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lammas Meadow | TL1860 | 1996 (TW) |

A species of dry grassland, old mineral workings and the margins of railways.

Myosurus minimus L.

Mousetail

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Buckden, Taylors Lane | TL193679 | 1996 (JG) |
| Godmanchester Eastside Common SSSI | TL272716 | 1994 (LF) |
| Upwood Meadows SSSI | TL251826 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL25088247 | 2013 (NC) |

This species has probably declined as a result of field drainage, the surfacing of farm tracks, the development of more competitive crop cultivars and the increased use of nitrogen-based fertilisers. Declines in grazing levels may also have rendered some sites unsuitable (Wilson & King, 2003); although it would be reasonable to assume that a soil seed bank would persist. In 2008, a strong population reappeared at Upwood Meadows growing on one square metre of bare ground associated with a cattle water trough, in 2009 it had established around all of the site's water troughs.

***Myrica gale* L.**

Bog Myrtle

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL19968953 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |
| | TL209889 | 2016 (NC) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL228836 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL22918347 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

In Huntingdonshire this species is a relic of former bogs, occupying the remaining areas of acid peat in fens which have been much cut-over (historically) for peat. It is restricted to small areas of Holme and Woodwalton Fens, where it can form dense thickets (Wells, 2003).

***Myriophyllum verticillatum* L.**

Whorled Water-milfoil

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Broadpool / Turf Fen CWS | TL333833 | 2011 (AP & RHa) |
| | TL347823 | 2011 (AP & RHa) |
| | TL352820 | 2011 (AP & RHa) |
| Bury, Long Drove | TL299842 | 2014 (JOM) |
| Bury Fen | TL29998420 | 2015 (JGr) |
| | TL30058407 | 2015 (JGr) |
| Caldecote Fen | TL193895 | 2016 (NC) |
| Conington Fen | TL205857 | 1996 (CWT) |
| | TL212864 | 1996 (CWT) |
| Darlow's Farm (Great Fen) | TL228858 | 2016 (NC) |
| Farcet, King's Delph Drove | TL2184 | 2013 (NC) |
| Farcet Fen | TL209941 | 2002 (PKi) |
| | TL215921 | 2002 (PKi) |
| Farcet Fen, near The Plough Public House | TL23979386 | 2013 (JOM & JGr) |
| Frog Hall Bridge | TL22239036 | 2014 (JGr) |
| Gaunt Fen | TL368845 | 2002 (PKi) |
| Hemingford Grey, gravel pits | TL3068 | 2008 (LF) |
| Mere Side Farm | TL29778963 | 2014 (JGr) |
| Middle Farm | TL21828511 | 2010 (MiB) |
| | TL218861 | 2016 (NC) |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| Paxton Pits | TL195628 | 2015 (JS) |
| Pidley Fen Drain CWS | TL360825 | 2011 (PTM & RHa) |
| | TL370811 | 2011 (PTM & RHa) |
| | TL373831 | 2011 (DA & RHa) |
| Ramsey Hollow, Ash Drain | TL31578454 | 2015 (JGr) |
| | TL318850 | 2002 (PKi) |
| | TL326864 | 2013 (NC) |
| Redshank's Drain CWS | TL212928 | 2011 (RHa & RRo) |
| | TL224919 | 2011 (RHa & RRo) |
| Sawtry Fen | TL19608358 | 2011 (DB) |
| Somersham, High North Fen | TL363821 | 2002 (PKi) |
| | TL370817 | 2002 (PKi) |
| Stibbington Pits Nature Reserve | TL08639934 | 2014 (DB & NC) |
| Tick Fen | TL332835 | 2002 (PKi) |
| Warboys Turf Fen | TL325825 | 2013 (NC) |
| Woodwalton Fen, Great Raveley Drain | TL234848 | 2008 (DB) |

This submerged aquatic perennial occurs in ponds, lakes, ditches, and fenland drains and dykes with base-rich water. It occurs in water moderately-rich in nutrients and can tolerate turbidity. Given this, it has been buffered to some degree against the ongoing decline in the quality of our freshwaters. That said, it is only so tolerant and has declined as a result of poorer water quality and poor habitat management, whether that be over-deepening and canalisation of watercourses or the loss of open water to emergent species and swamp (Stewart *et al.* 1994). It seems to be holding its own in Huntingdonshire.

Neottia nidus-avis (L.) Rich.

Bird's-nest Orchid

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Waresley Wood SSSI | TL262547 | 2007 (PW) |

This saprophytic species is a rare component of the flora of some of our ancient woods. It is also known from Monks Wood, where it was last recorded in the 1980's.

Nepeta cataria L.

Cat-mint

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington, by the railway | TL201836 | 2016 (SL) |

Rediscovered in 2009 not far from where it was last recorded in 1948. It was locally frequent on sparsely vegetated, free-draining railway ballast in association with a range of other interesting flora typical of more calcareous substrates.

***Nymphoides peltata* Kuntze**

Fringed Water-lily

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| Bevill's Leam | TL2490 | 2013 (MGr) |
| | TL25399172 | 2017 (PS, JGr) |
| Corney's Farm | TL231872 | 2013 (NC) |
| Earith, Old Bedford River | TL3975 | 2014 (DB) |
| Great Raveley Drain | TL237863 | 2013 (NC) |
| Hemingford Grey, Marsh Lane Pits | TL299700 | 2008 (LF) |
| Hemingford Lock, River Great Ouse backwater | TL295713 | 2013 (BS) |
| Hinchingbrooke Country Park | TL218714 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL221711 | 2010 (MiB) |
| Monk's Lode: | | |
| Conington Fen Bridge | TL211857 | 2013 (NC) |
| north of Conington Fen Bridge | TL215863 | 2013 (NC) |
| New Cut (Black Ham) Drain | TL22309190 | 2011 (MiB) |
| | TL2191 | 2013 (NC) |
| | TL242911 | 2013 (NC) |
| North Western Cut, east of Bradford's Bridge | TL232915 | 2013 (NC) |
| Papworth's Bridge | TL224871 | 2013 (NC) |
| Paxton Pits Nature Reserve, Rudd Pit | TL194627 | 2010 (DB) |
| Portholme SSSI & SAC, Alconbury Brook | TL237712 | 2009 (DB) |
| Ramsey Forty Foot Drain | TL30958802 | 2014 (JGr) |
| Ramsey St Mary's Bridge, Old River Nene | TL254873 | 2017 (JOM, JGr) |
| Redshank's Drain CWS | TL224919 | 2013 (NC) |
| Houghton Meadow, River Great Ouse | TL28977094 | 2010 (DB) |
| River Nene (Old Course), Old Decoy Farm | TL2389 | 2013 (NC) |
| River Nene (Old Course), Nightingale's Corner | TL242876 | 2013 (NC) |
| River Nene (Old Course), Stoke's Bridge | TL244884 | 2013 (NC) |
| River Nene (Old Course), New Fen Farm | TL271871 | 2011 (JOM) |
| River Nene (Old Course), Bodsey Bridge | TL294878 | 2013 (NC) |

| | | |
|---|----------|-----------|
| River Nene (Old Course), Wells Bridge | TL299881 | 1996 (TB) |
| River Nene (Old Course), Dairy Farm | TL311906 | 1996 (TB) |
| River Nene (Old Course), Broadall's Drove | TL322910 | 1996 (TB) |
| River Ouse, The Rhymers | TL272719 | 1995 (TW) |
| Woodwalton Fen, Great Raveley Drain | TL233837 | 2013 (NC) |
| | TL234844 | 2013 (NC) |
| Yaxley Lode | TL190919 | 2013 (NC) |
| | TL2090 | 2013 (NC) |

Nationally, this scarce native species has had its range significantly expanded and confused due to the establishment of numerous populations resulting from garden escapes and throw-outs. In Huntingdonshire, it is similarly difficult to segregate native colonies from those that are of non-native origin. It has been suggested that flower morphology might be indicative, with only 'pin' flowered plants being native in the East Anglian fens (Stewart *et al.* 1994). However, while this might raise doubts about the status of any 'thrum' flowered colonies, thrum plants are presumably not the only ones found in cultivation. Given this, in Huntingdonshire it would seem sensible to treat all populations as native unless they are obviously associated with a garden setting or unless their origin can otherwise be elucidated. All of the sites listed above fall within the floodplain of the River Great Ouse or are associated with fenland drains.

***Oenanthe crocata* L.**

Hemlock Water-dropwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 9 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Godmanchester, River Great Ouse | TL242709 | 2016 (VP) |
| Godmanchester Eastside Common SSSI | TL26847226 | 2010 (DB) |
| Hemingford Abbots Meadow | TL27677196 | 2016 (JS) |
| Houghton Meadow, River Great Ouse | TL287715 | 2016 (JS) |
| Norman Cross Pits | TL16239085 | 2016 (NC) |
| Portholme SSSI & SAC, River Great Ouse | TL23337039 | 2011 (DB) |
| St Ives, just north of Wilhorn Meadow | TL312713 | 2013 (NC) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, The Holt | TL18296143 | 2010 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 47 | TL22998492 | 2010 (MM) |

This species is rare in Huntingdonshire and neighbouring counties. The recent finds in Huntingdonshire mirror similar recent finds elsewhere, for example in Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire. Is this species recovering lost ground or extending its range?

***Oenanthe fistulosa* L.**

Tubular Water-dropwort

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Scarce (9 sites, 11 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bluntisham, Berry Fen | TL377744 | 2008 (JM) |
| Bluntisham Fen, Brownhill Stauch | TL36917268 | 2014 (DB & LF) |
| Hemingford Abbots Meadow CWS | TL277716 | 2016 (JB) |
| St Ives, Willhorn Meadow | TL312708 | 2001 (RE) |
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lammas Ditch | TL185615 | 2010 (DB) |
| Upwood Meadows SSSI, Bentley Meadow | TL251826 | 2012 (JS) |
| West Meadow CWS | TL2270 | 2009 (SB) |
| Westside 'pollard willows) | TL2572 | 2010 (MB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 47 | TL22998486 | 2011 (MM) |

This is a species of fen dykes, river banks, ponds and occasionally wet meadows. It is only locally distributed within Huntingdonshire and is becoming scarce (Wells, 2003). There is an additional record from a meadow at Ramsey Heights where it has been sown and may not persist.

***Oenanthe lachenalii* C.C. Gmel.**

Parsley Water-dropwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL22998486 | 2011 (MM) |

Last recorded in 1846 from Somersham and assumed long since extinct until re-found by MM in 2008 at Woodwalton Fen. A re-survey in 2011 found 20 plants. Also in 2008, two populations of purported *Oenanthe silaifolia* just over the county boundary in Northamptonshire were also re-identified as this species. As such, there is evidence that the two species are not well understood locally (see also below) and it would not be entirely surprising if additional populations of *O. lachenalii* were to be found over coming years.

Oenanthe silaifolia M. Bieb.

Narrow-leaved Water-dropwort

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Not threatened

County Status: Scarce (7 sites, 10 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Bluntisham, Berry Fen | TL379745 | 2008 (BM & JM) |
| | TL381746 | 2016 (VP) |
| Hemingford Abbots Meadow CWS | TL277716 | 2016 (JS) |
| Hemingford Meadow | TL3071 | 2010 (LF & BS) |
| Holywell-cum-Needingworth, Meadow Lane Gravel Pits | TL330704 | 2004 (BM) |
| Houghton Meadow | TL292711 | 2004 (NM) |
| Huntingdon, Views Common | TL228722 | 2004 (KW) |
| Portholme SSSI & SAC | TL236712 | 2012 (CNHS) |
| | TL240705 | 2016 (VP) |
| St Ives Lagoon | TL307724 | 2006 (JM) |

This is a species of unimproved damp meadows, primarily hay meadows on riverside alluvium, which receive calcareous floodwater in winter. Most plants are mown before shedding seed but this is apparently not harmful although there is no second flowering or the production of any further growth until the next winter rosette. It is eliminated by quite modest agricultural intensification and 'improvement' is its downfall (Stewart *et al.* 1994). In light of the recent rediscovery of *O. lachenalii* for Huntingdonshire, and the apparent poor local understanding of how to distinguish the two species (Preston *et al.* (2002) acknowledge a previous similar problem in Dorset), the possibility of *O. lachenalii* being present should be considered when recording this species.

[***Onobrychis viciifolia*** Scop., Sainfoin. Deleted from the Register. I am satisfied that none of our populations are of the threatened native subspecies.]

Origanum vulgare L.

Wild Marjoram

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Great Staughton cemetery | TL123647 | 1997 (TB) |
| Old Weston | TL0877 | 2011 (KR) |
| Stangate Hill Protected Road Verge | TL1879 | 2002 (VM) |

This species always appears to have been uncommon as a native plant. Its current distribution is now masked and exceeded by escapes and sowings of wildflower seed. The table only lists those locations likely to be native i.e. long established species-rich grassland.

***Ornithogalum pyrenaicum* L.**

Spiked Star-of-Bethlehem

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| Gaynes Lodge Farm, south of Midloe Wood | TL155645 | 2011 (TS) |
| Great Staughton, Three Shires Way | TL147645 | 2012 (PeB & CB) |
| Hail Weston, south of Huntingdon Wood | TL152617 | 1998 (PK) |
| Midloe Grange Farm | TL155645 | 2014 (LF) |
| Staughton Moor | TL12596110 | 2011 (DB) |
| Staughton Moor Road | TL128620 | 2012 (PeB & CB) |
| | TL129622 | 2010 (PeB) |

Locally frequent just over the county border in Bedfordshire (VC30), it was first discovered a few metres inside Huntingdonshire in 1952 near Hail Weston, where it still occurs. There was another thriving colony further into the county at Little Paxton Wood but this has not been reported since the 1980's (Wells, 2003). A search of the periphery of the wood by DB in 2009 failed to find this species.

***Ornithopus perpusillus* L.**

Bird's-foot

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL20208447 | 2018 (SL) |

Known from the above site since 2013, its only location in the county, where it grows on sparsely vegetated, free-draining railway ballast in association with a range of other interesting flora typical of such conditions.

Orobanche minor* Sm. ssp. *minor

Common Broomrape

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (8 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Brington, B660 | TL084751 | 1997 (TW) |
| Bullock Road | TL17087879 | 2007 (KW) |
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2084 | 2018 (SL) |
| Fenstanton gravel pit | TL301684 | 2006 (JM) |

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|
| Holme, by railway | TL198880 | 2012 (BN) |
| Kimbolton Airfield | TL108698 | 2006 (BD) |
| Old Weston | TL089769 | 2012 (KR) |
| Paxton Pits, near | TL19126305 | 2014 (PW) |

This species is scarce and uncertain in occurrence, although Paxton Pits seems to be a reasonably reliable site, it having been known there since the 1970s.

***Osmunda regalis* L.**

Royal Fern

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL199895 | 2017 (FR, PS, JGr) |

This species was first discovered at Holme Fen and new to the county, as a single plant, in 2007 by DB. It persisted for a number of years until falling victim to careless habitat management works. Having assumed its loss, good news came in 2017 with the discovery of a new mature (reproductive) plant and 15 young plants at a new location at Holme Fen where it is hopefully more secure. These plants were growing in a hollow with Sphagnum mosses. The BSBI database records this occurrence as alien, e.g. a garden escape, via a helping hand or similar. A nearby garden source seems unlikely given the sparsely populated nature of the Fens and with knowledge of the gardening conditions (relatively low precipitation, long hot summers and frequent summer drought) in Huntingdonshire (and wider Cambridgeshire). Given likely colonisation via long-distance dispersal, it is unclear why an alien origin is more likely than a native source; unfortunately the rationale for this decision is not recorded in the database and we will probably never know for certain.

***Paris quadrifolia* L.**

Herb-Paris

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Confidential location | TL2353 | 2016 (PW) |
| Confidential location | TL2254 | 2016 (PW) |
| Little Paxton Wood | TL16916364 | 2014 (HFFS) |
| Waresley & Gransden Wood SSSI | TL26215444 | 2014 (CFG) |

A very local species of ancient woodlands on boulder clay in the centre of the county. Scarcely reported in recent years. It may be in decline or, due to typically small population sizes, be overlooked in dense stands of Dog's Mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*).

***Pedicularis palustris* L.**

Marsh Lousewort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 47 | TL22988488 | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 39 | TL23168517 | 2010 (MM) |

This species was thought extinct until re-discovered by NM in 2005.

***Persicaria minor* (Huds.) Opiz**

Small Water-pepper

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bluntisham Fen, Brownhill Stauch | TL36817249 | 2014 (DB & LF) |

This species was thought extinct until rediscovered in 2014. It occurs as the uncommon var. *latifolia* (A. Braun) Akeroyd, a robust form that may be confused with, and over-looked for, other *Persicaria* species.

***Persicaria mitis* (Schrank) Opiz ex Assenov**

Tasteless Water-pepper

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bluntisham Fen, Brownhill Stauch | TL36917268 | 2014 (DB & LF) |
| Earith, Old Bedford River | TL39407556 | 2014 (DB) |

This late summer flowering annual favours open wet habitats that result from the summer drawdown of ponds and ditches or from the trampling and dunging of cattle. It's apparent decline has been linked to the closer regulation of water levels, the infilling of ponds and the fencing off of ditches and other water bodies, all of which contribute to the decrease of wet mud habitats (Stewart *et al.* 1994). It has been known from the vicinity of Brownhill Stauch since at least 1974 where it depends on cattle poaching for the maintenance of its niche. At this location it occurs with a diverse range of other *Persicaria* species, including *P. minor* (see above).

Petasites hybridus (L.) Gaertn., Mey. & Scherb.

Butterbur

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Diddington | TL19466559 | 2012 (DB) |
| Great Gransden | TL267556 | 2010 (DB) |
| Hemingford Grey | TL3070 | 2011 (LF) |
| St Neots Common SSSI | TL18606175 | 2010 (DB) |

Native in wet places by rivers and streams. The record from Diddington is from a garden where it may be an old introduction, there being no grounds to believe it is being actively cultivated. It has always been rare in Huntingdonshire.

Platanthera chlorantha (Custer) Rchb.

Greater Butterfly-orchid

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Scarce (7 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Aversley Wood SSSI | TL163819 | 2016 (AR) |
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL18087027 | 2016 (RO) |
| | TL18267038 | 2013 (RO) |
| Confidential location | TL2254 | 2016 (PW) |
| Confidential location | TL2353 | 2016 (PW) |
| Little Paxton Wood SSSI | TL16796368 | 2014 (HFFS) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL197805 | 2012 (BM) |
| | TL201797 | 2000 (CP) |
| | TL20098046 | 2013 (RO) |
| Waresley Wood SSSI | TL264545 | 2016 (BaD) |

Formerly widespread in ancient woodlands it is now, mirroring national trends, scarcely seen and then usually in very low numbers. A population comprised of 15 to 20 flowering spikes occurred in Waresley Wood in 2010, in contrast after coppicing in 1985 the count was over 250 flowering spikes.

Poa infirma Kunth

Early Meadow-grass

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington | TL189863 | 2005 (WM) |
| Eynesbury, caravan site | TL178593 | 2018 (AL) |
| Holme, The Holt | TL186881 | 2016 (NH) |
| Kimbolton Airfield | TL111691 | 2016 (NH) |

This species is a recent colonist of Huntingdonshire. It appears to be spreading its range nationally, perhaps aided by man.

Polygala serpyllifolia Hosé

Heath Milkwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 83 | TL229833 (centroid) | 2008 (MM) |

Restricted in the county to the acid fen peats of Woodwalton Fen where it is locally frequent in an area of summer/autumn cut and grazed *Molinia caerulea* 'heath'.

Polygala vulgaris L. *ssp. vulgaris*

Common Milkwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI, Compartment J1 | TL175695 | 1996 (SW) |
| Monks Wood, field south of | TL19457932 | 2012 (JS) |

A rare constituent of remnant old grassland on the boulder clay.

Polygonum rurivagum Jord. ex Boreau

Cornfield Knotgrass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Colne, The Holme footpath | TL38267677 | 2014 (DB) |

While this species can be difficult to identify (although it has a distinct jizz once known) it has always been considered rare in Huntingdonshire. It prefers lighter soils and tends to appear much later in the season than many other species of scarce arable flora, flowering from August onwards. Changes from spring to winter sown crops may have disadvantaged this species, as now much tilling takes place in early autumn when this species has its peak season.

Polypodium interjectum Shivas

Intermediate Polypody

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL17677036 | 2011 (LF & LB) |
| | TL17787024 | 2008 (JD & LB) |
| | TL17807022 | 2011 (LF & LB) |
| Hemingford Grey, Manor House | TL289706 | 2013 (LF) |
| Monks Wood SSSI, boundary Compartments 27 and 30 | TL193794 | 1995 (CP & JaC) |

An uncommon fern of mossy tree trunks in ancient woodland and old walls. Some of the old records for *Polypodium vulgare* may be referable to this species.

Polypogon monspeliensis (L.) Desf.

Annual Beard-grass

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Cambridge Guided Busway | TL3369 | 2012 (CNHS) |
| Hampton Hargate, Cygnet Park (CP) | TL183955 | 2009 (PaS) |
| Hampton Hargate (CP) | TL177947 | 2009 (PaS) |
| | TL182949 | 2009 (PaS) |
| Orton Pit SSSI (CP), entrance | TL16669472 | 2011 (DB) |
| Meadow Lane Gravel Pits | TL329712 | 2002 (NM) |

This species is believed to be restricted as a native to the coasts of south and eastern England from Dorset to North Norfolk (Cope & Gray, 2009). Our populations are not a vast distance from the East Anglian coast and have found an alternate niche on sparsely vegetated substrates associated with old clay and gravel workings.

Polystichum setiferum (Forsk.) Woyнар

Soft Shield-fern

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL175704 | 2004 (TW & SW) |
| Confidential location | TL2353 | 2016 (PW) |
| Houghton, Ouse Valley Way | TL285720 | 2016 (NC) |
| Meagre Wood | TL155640 | 2014 (JS) |
| Waresley Wood SSSI | TL263546 | 2010 (DB) |

This fern has always been rare in Huntingdonshire and only a few plants are known at each site, typically growing on the banks of small woodland streams. A casual occurrence at Eynesbury church has been disregarded, and the only other site where it has been recorded is Holme Fen and it was last seen there in 1846.

Populus nigra L. **ssp. *betulifolia*** (Pursh.) Wettst.

Black Poplar

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (7 sites, 7 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| A141, between Wyton and Oldhurst | TL2875 | 2001 (BL) |
| Brampton | TL205725 | 1994 (GE) |
| Catworth | TL085742 | 1994 (GE) |
| Ellington, Whitleather Lodge Farm (on parish boundary) | TL16157372 | 2009 (DB) |
| Hartford Hill Farm | TL271738 | 1990 (TW) |
| Houghton to Wyton | TL266749 | 1992 (TW) |
| Kings Ripton/Broughton parish boundary | TL265778 | 1990 (TW) |

An uncommon tree that typically only occurs as singletons or in very low numbers at any one location.

Potamogeton x angustifolius J. Presl.

Long-leaved Pondweed

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, omitted from Red Data List County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington Fen | TL209859 | 2016 (NC) |
| Warboys Turf Fen | TL3282 | 2001 (DWr) |

In Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire this is typically a species of fenland drains, including drains flowing through intensive arable farmland. It may be under-recorded but it is very unlikely to prove common.

Potamogeton berchtoldii Fieber

Small Pondweed

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Bodsey Bridge | TL29548772 | 2018 (JOM & JGr) |
| Farcet Fen, near The Plough public house | TL23979386 | 2013 (JOM & JGr) |
| Ferry Meadows Country Park (CP) | TL140980 | 1992 (SL) |
| Stibbington Pits Nature Reserve | TL0899 | 1993 (CWT) |
| Turf Fen | TL32068280 | 2018 (JGr) |

This species is easily over-looked and relatively challenging to identify so may occur more widely. Based on current records it is restricted to the far north of the county.

Potamogeton coloratus Hornem.

Fen Pondweed

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Beeby's Pit (CP) | TL189935 | 1999 (NS) |
| Farcet, Crown Lakes Country Park | TL193942 | 2015 (NM) |
| Fletton Lake, northeast corner (CP) | TL200965 | 2004 (NS) |
| Norman Cross Middle Pit | TL162907 | 2016 (NC) |
| Old Fletton, Pumphouse Pit (CP) | TL192956 | 2004 (NS) |
| Orton Pit SSSI (CP) | TL1593 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL158945 | 2012 (JS) |

TL160936 2004 (NS)
 TL16079416 2011 (DB)

This is a species of shallow calcareous water, usually less than 1m deep. In Britain, it is predominantly a species of eastern England and has a broadly similar distribution to that of some other species of calcareous wetlands, including species covered by the Register e.g. *Stellaria palustris* and *Lathyrus palustris* (Preston, 1995).

***Potamogeton compressus* L.**

Grass-wrack Pondweed

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Endangered County Status: Rare (2 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Endangered, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bevill's Leam | | |
| Tebbitt's Bridge Pumphouse | TL246913 | 2013 (NC) |
| Outfall of Western Cut | TL24169101 | 2017 (PS, JGr) |
| New Cut (Black Ham) Drain | TL218919 | 2013 (NC) |
| | TL226918 | 2013 (NC) |
| | TL229916 | 2013 (NC) |
| North Western Cut | TL23939106 | 2013 (NC) |
| | TL23759116 | 2013 (NC) |
| River Nene (Old Course): | | |
| near Old Decoy Farm | TL237891 | 2016 (NC) |
| northeast of Johnson's Point | TL240907 | 2013 (NC) |
| Yaxley Lode | TL198913 | 2013 (NC) |
| | TL19399164 | 2013 (NC) |
| | TL206907 | 2013 (NC) |

A very extensive population occurs along the Old Course of the River Nene, and in the Bevill's Leam (including sections with alternate names and their tributary drains).

***Potamogeton x cooperi* (Fryer) Fryer**

Cooper's Pondweed

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not mentioned in Red Data List County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Fletton, Lakefield Lake (CP) | TL1996 | 1990 (SL & MG) |

One of the more frequent pondweed hybrids and perhaps overlooked for *P. perfoliatus*, one of the parent species (Preston, 1995).

Potamogeton x fluitans Roth.

Potamogeton lucens x *Potamogeton natans*

GB Status: Nationally Rare, Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL234852 | 2005 (MM) |

This rare hybrid is otherwise only known from localities in Cambridgeshire, Dorset, Hampshire and Norfolk. It is normally sterile and does not produce turions; as such, it is dependent on its vigorous rhizomes for its long-term persistence at a site (Preston, 1995).

Potamogeton friesii Rupr.

Flat-stalked Pondweed

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Near Threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Broadpool / Turf Fen CWS | TL323822 | 2011 (RHa) |
| | TL34128283 | 2018 (JGr) |
| Godmanchester, Cow Lane Pits | TL25667182 | 2010 (DB) |
| Great Raveley Drain | TL2286 | 2011 (JOM & JGr) |
| | TL2385 | 2011 (JOM & JGr) |
| Monk's Lode, | TL214862 | 2015 (NC) |
| Monk's Lode, Conington Fen Bridge | TL210856 | 2013 (NC) |
| Pidley Fen Drains CWS | TL352814 | 2011 (RHa) |
| Turf Fen | TL32138277 | 2018 (JGr) |
| | TL32928317 | 2018 (JGr) |
| | TL33088346 | 2018 (JGr) |
| Warboys High Fen | TL35898289 | 2018 (JGr) |

A species of (usually) calcareous ditches, drains, canals and rivers. Mainly in the Fens, but in 2010 it was found frequently in the wash-up zone along the northern edge of a flooded gravel pit at Godmanchester. At this latter location its presence is potentially threatened by the rampant spread of the non-native Floating Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*). It can tolerate some eutrophication (Preston, 1995) but is still vulnerable to declining water quality.

Potamogeton gramineus

Various-leaved Pondweed

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Pidley Fen, Rookery Farm | TL33998015 | 2018 (JGr) |

A species of shallow water, typically at depths of less than 1.5m. Poor water quality and unsympathetic management of fenland drains has impacted this species (Preston, 1995).

Potamogeton praelongus Wulfen

Long-stalked Pondweed

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Endangered

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Stibbington Pits Nature Reserve | TL08819926 | 2014 (DB & NC) |

A species of large lakes and drains (Preston, 1995). Poor water quality has impacted this species, with turbidity limiting light penetration into the deeper water habitat typically occupied.

Potamogeton trichoides Cham. & Schtdl.

Hairlike Pondweed

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Diddington, flooded gravel pit | TL19716533 | 2012 (DB & LF) |

This species is easily over-looked and relatively challenging to identify so may occur more widely. It was only observed at the above site, where it grew in relatively deep water, because it was in fruit.

Potentilla anglica Laichard

Trailing Tormentil

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL17266974 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL18327042 | 2008 (DB) |

Holme Fen SSSI:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|
| Holme Lode Covert | TL20278896 | 2008 (DB) |
| Middle Covert | TL203892 | 2007 (DB) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL19667985 | 2014 (CNHS) |

This species is a scarce constituent of ancient woodland rides, although it is much better recorded now than previously. It is best searched for in late summer, once there has been an opportunity for the fruit to form.

Primula elatior (L.) Hill

Oxlip

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Gamlingay Wood, Hazelcroft | TL2453 | 2015 (PW) |
| Waresley Wood SSSI | TL2554 | 2010 (DB) |
| | TL2654 | 2011 (JS) |
| Wennington Wood | TL2478 | 2004 (PB) |

Primula elatior is a native perennial herb that is restricted to a compact area of Great Britain, where it is found, sometimes in local abundance, in ancient woods and copses on the chalky boulder clay of East Anglia. It is a shade tolerant species, but only flowers in profusion in the increased light levels that follow tree felling or coppicing. It is confined to an area where the soils are seasonally waterlogged and ill-aerated and it has a poorly developed drought tolerance. There has been a steady reduction in the density of this species in woodland sites during the past centuries, but there has been little change in its hectad distribution. Changes in climate, woodland management practices and intensities of deer grazing are likely to adversely affecting populations of this species. Since it colonises new or secondary woodlands very slowly, management needs to focus on the conservation of ancient semi-natural woodlands. Where this species occurs with Primrose (*Primula vulgaris*) the two species are highly inter-fertile, producing a hybrid swarm of the next taxon (Taylor & Woodell, 2008). The population present in Wennington Wood is of introduced origin.

Primula x digenea A. Kerner

Primula elatior x *Primula vulgaris*

GB Status: Nationally Scarce

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Gamlingay Wood, Hazelcroft | TL24075366 | 2009 (DB) |
| Waresley Wood SSSI | TL2554 | 2011 (JS) |
| | TL26335457 | 2014 (CNHS) |
| Wennington Wood | TL2478 | 2004 (PB) |

This hybrid is fertile and gives rise to hybrid swarms wherever both parents occur together (Taylor & Woodell, 2008). On this basis this hybrid fails the criteria set out in Section 2. It has been included in the Register because it can only be found at those few sites where both of

the parent species, one of which is nationally scarce, occur together. The population in Wennington Wood has arisen *in situ* but one of its parents, *Primula elatior*, is an introduction at this site.

Pyrus pyraeaster* (L.) Burgsd. ssp. *pyraeaster

Wild Pear

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Archer's Wood Nature Reserve | TL1781 | 2003 (AR) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL201808 | 2013 (LF & BaD) |
| Old Weston | TL097784 | 2010 (KR) |

A very rare tree, usually present as singletons, of ancient boulder clay woodlands and old hedgerows. It is easily over-looked and when not in fruit is difficult to distinguish from *Pyrus communis*. Regardless of these difficulties there is no reason to doubt that it is genuinely rare. There is a fine mature specimen at the northeast entrance into Monks Wood. Recently I have seen this species planted in a young Stewardship plantation at Covington.

Ranunculus flammula* L. ssp. *flammula

Lesser Spearwort

GB Status: Not threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 11 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Crown Lakes Country Park | TL195943 | 2007 (NM) |
| Darlows Farm (Great Fen Project) | TL25768592 | 2010 (MiB) |
| Hinchingbrooke Country Park | TL2171 | 2010 (MiB) |
| Little Catworth Meadow SSSI | TL103728 (centroid) | 2012 (BD) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL1979 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL1980 | 2014 (CNHS) |
| | TL2079 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL2080 | 2014 (CNHS) |
| RAF Molesworth County Wildlife Site | TL067773 | 2008 (JJ) |
| Stillwells Pit Nature Reserve (CP) | TL185959 | 1999 (NS) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL227837 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL22838430 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23498539 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

This species has never been common in Huntingdonshire. It occurs locally in association with the Fens, marshes and old gravel pits.

Ranunculus fluitans Lam.

River Water-crowfoot

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 7 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Elton, River Nene | TL0893 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL0894 | 2008 (DB) |
| Eynesbury, River Great Ouse | TL1758 | 2014 (CBG) |
| Ferry Meadows, River Nene (CP) | TL1498 | 2008 (DB) |
| Houghton Meadow, River Great Ouse | TL28787153 | 2010 (DB) |
| Portholme SSSI, River Great Ouse | TL23467118 | 2009 (DB) |
| Yarwell Mill, River Nene side channel near | TL0796 | 2010 (DB) |

This species is locally abundant in the River Nene between Nassington and Wansford, but gradually declines downstream until it only maintains a toehold at Ferry Meadows. At Elton I have only seen it from the VC32 side of the river, but this probably reflects the lack of access to the VC31 bank and I see no reason why it should not occur across the width of the channel here. It seems to be much less widespread in the River Great Ouse but this may just be a result of surveyor bias.

Ranunculus lingua L.

Greater Spearwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Boughton Mediaeval Village County Wildlife Site | TL19806459 | 2012 (DB) |
| | TL19926471 | 2013 (LF) |
| Brampton flood meadows | TL215693 | 1997 (TB) |
| Farcet Fen, Goslings Drove | TL218936 | 2002 (SL) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 83 | TL229833 | 2008 (MM) |
| Dyke 2 | TL228856 | 2008 (MM) |
| Compartment 32 | TL23118543 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

Historically, this species was only ever known from the peat fens between Five Arches Bridge and Ramsey Heights Nature Reserve (Wells, 2003). There are two records listed above that suggest a possible second centre of distribution in the Ouse Valley. While it is possible that these latter populations are derived from garden escapes or throw-outs it is interesting that the Boughton Mediaeval Village population occurs with other scarce aquatics e.g. *Catabrosa aquatica*. Populations obviously derived from garden throw-outs and introductions are excluded e.g. Woodston Ponds and Stibbington Pits.

***Ranunculus parviflorus* L.**

Small-flowered Buttercup

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Lady's Wood Nature Reserve, edge of | TL247825 | 1994 (PB) |
| Monks Wood, arable by entrance track | TL206805 | 2009 (DB) |
| Portholme, British Gas yard at entrance to | TL238713 | 2008 (SS) |
| Woodston, by Nene Valley Railway (CP) | TL172976 | 2008 (DB) |
| Wood Walton (Church End), Church Meadow | TL207823 | 2016 (JM) |

This species is one of the few annual buttercups found in Britain. It is a plant of dry, open and typically disturbed ground. While it seems to require situations with low competition from other flora, it is also an opportunist and able to adapt to available water and nutrients (Stewart *et al.* 1994). The exceptionally strong colony present at Woodston is likely to be maintained by three main factors, disturbance from rabbits, the physical conditions created and maintained by the Nene Valley Railway and periodic cutting back of scrub to maintain the cyclepath.

***Ranunculus sardous* Crantz**

Hairy Buttercup

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Ellington Thorpe | TL144699 | 2011 (BD) |

This is a species of damp arable field margins, tracks and disturbed grassland on heavy soils (Wilson & King, 2003). It has probably always been rare in Huntingdonshire, where it may be vulnerable to agricultural herbicides. BD found it to be abundant at the arable farmland site listed above.

***Roemeria argemone* (L.) C. Morales, R. Mend. & Romero Garcia (formerly *Papaver argemone* L.)**

Prickly Poppy

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Endangered

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Hemingford Grey, Marsh Lane Pits | TL2968 | 2008 (LF) |
| Lady's Wood, near | TL240825 | 1998 (PB) |

Formerly a frequent species throughout England, particularly in the south and east, it has since become increasingly restricted to chalky and sandy soils in southeast England (Wilson & King, 2003). In Huntingdonshire it is as much a plant of gravel pits and other waste places as it is a plant of arable fields.

Rorippa x anceps (Wahlenb.) Rchb.

R. amphibia x sylvestris

GB Status: Not threatened, not scarce

County Status: Rare (1 site, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Earith, River Ouse | TL3774 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL3874 (monad) | 2009 (DB) |

The morphology of this fertile hybrid is intermediate between that of the parents and resembles a very large *R. sylvestris*. It is a plant often found in the lower reaches of large rivers and can occur in the absence of both parents. It has been known at Earith since at least 1844.

Rosa rubiginosa L.

Sweet Briar

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2084 | 2018 (SL) |
| Norman Cross Pits | TL16449105 | 2010 (NC) |
| Orton Pit SSSI (CP) | TL1693 | 2016 (DB) |
| | TL1694 | 2012 (NC) |
| Paxton Pits | TL196629 | 2010 (DB) |
| | TL19326341 | 2010 (DB) |
| Woodston Pits Nature Reserve (CP) | TL17399782 | 2009 (DB) |

Very rare and at present no populations are known that can be definitively identified as native, but the above locations are plausible and should be treated as native for the time being. This species is now widely planted, e.g. by the A1, A14 and at Crown Lakes Country Park, but these bushes seem very robust and may not be of good native stock.

Rosa stylosa Desv.

Short-styled Field-rose

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Aversley Wood SSSI | TL163819 | 2008 (DB) |
| Littless Wood | TL128681 | 2008 (DB) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL196795 | 2015 (DB) |
| | TL197802 | 2008 (DB) |
| Upton Wood | TL181795 | 2009 (DB) |

While this species is undoubtedly overlooked and poorly recorded there is sufficient evidence to suggest that it is an extremely scarce species in Huntingdonshire. It is a species of ancient woodland rides on heavy boulder clay. Scrub clearance works damaged the only bush I have seen in Aversley Wood and greater consideration needs to be given to the identification and adequate protection of the County's rose flora. Just because certain species are more challenging to identify should not mean that they are overlooked when developing site management plans and planning routine site management works.

Rubus adpersus Weihe ex H. Weber

a bramble

GB Status: Nationally Scarce?

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL23038380 | 2008 (DB) |

A species of heathland margins. Like *R. nemoralis* it is restricted to our ancient fens and has only ever been known from Woodwalton Fen.

Rubus bucknallii J.W. White

a bramble

GB Status: Endemic, Nationally Rare

County Status: Rare (1 site, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Dillington, road side | TL126660 | 2000 (RR) |
| Great Staughton, road side | TL120655 | 2000 (RR) |

A rare bramble that shows an affinity for road side hedges, although this may simply be a reflection of survey bias. More surveys are needed to elucidate this species true status and distribution in Huntingdonshire.

Rubus nemoralis D.J. Mueller

a bramble

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| Holme Lode Covert | TL2088 | 2006 (DB) |
| Jackson's Covert | TL217887 | 2009 (DB) |

This is a species of acid heathland and moorland habitats. It is rare in Huntingdonshire because of a lack of suitable habitat and is only known from Holme and Woodwalton Fens, and has not been recorded at the latter for many years. It is exceptionally abundant in Jackson's Covert where it must represent an important nectar source for invertebrates.

Rubus percrispus D. Allen & R.D. Randall

a bramble

GB Status: Endemic, Data Deficient

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Waresley Wood SSSI | TL261544 | 2009 (DB) |

This species shows a strong association with Greensand geology, a trace of which penetrates the southern tip of the county. It may await discovery in a few other nearby ancient woods but given the known habitat preferences of this species it is unlikely to prove to be particularly common.

Rumex pulcher L.

Fiddle Dock

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (9 sites, 9 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Diddington, southeast of Manor Farm | TL195655 | 1996 (TB) |
| Elton, Middle Street | TL089937 | 2010 (DB) |
| Eynesbury church | TL183597 | 2014 (CBG) |
| Fenstanton church | TL319687 | 2014 (SH) |
| Godmanchester, Park Lane playing fields | TL247709 | 1996 (TB) |
| Hemingford Meadow | TL3070 | 2008 (LF) |
| Hinchingbrooke Country Park | TL22537120 | 2009 (DB) |
| Huntingdon, Spring Common | TL239725 | 1996 (TB) |
| St Neots Common SSSI | TL183610 | 1999 (RE) |

A species of old managed grassland, a rare habitat in Huntingdonshire. It may have declined further since the data was collected for the County Flora (Wells, 2003).

Salix repens L.

Creeping Willow

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL228851 | 2010 (MM) |

A locally uncommon and probably declining species of more the acid fen peats. It has also been recorded from Holme Fen but there are no recent records.

***Salvia verbenaca* L. ssp. *horminoides* (Pourr.) Nyman**

Wild Clary

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Hartford | TL25217244 | 2009 (NM) |
| Holywell: | | |
| Holywell Front | TL34047060 | 2011 (DB) |
| By church gate | TL33677078 | 2011 (DB) |
| Huntingdon, Newtown Cemetery | TL242721 (centroid) | 2007 (LW, SWi & SH) |
| Stibbington, road to Wansford Station | TL09039818 | 2014 (DB) |

An uncommon and often short-lived species of mown village verges and roadsides, gravel pits and railway embankments.

***Saxifraga granulata* L.**

Meadow Saxifrage

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Paxton Pits | ? | 2005 (JG) |
| Portholme SSSI | TL235709 | 2001 (SS) |
| St Neots Common SSSI | TL184611 | 2004 (RM) |
| Woodston, Nene Valley Railway (CP) | TL174977 | 2009 (DB) |

In addition to the above, there are additional populations at Ramsey Heights (TL248848) and Monks Wood Experimental Station (TL201796) that have established as a result of the sowing of wildflower seed. In the case of the former this involved seed purchased from a commercial grower while the latter involved 'local' seed.

***Scandix pecten-veneris* L.**

Shepherd's-needle

GB Status: Critically Endangered

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Endangered, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Abbotsley | TL232561 | 2001 (PN) |
| Great Gransden | TL282564 | 1999 (BS) |
| Monks Hardewick Farm, near | TL218616 | 1997 (TW & SW) |
| Staughton Moor | TL12546109 | 2016 (PS) |
| St Neots Rural | TL20075909 | 2018 (DB) |

Once abundant in eastern Britain, by the mid-1980's it was very rare. It is susceptible to many broad-spectrum agricultural herbicides. There are signs that it may have started to increase again over recent years (Wilson & King, 2003), although it is possibly too soon to know this for certain and it is still a rarity in Huntingdonshire.

***Senecio sylvaticus* L.**

Heath Groundsel

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Bevill's Wood | TL203792 | 1997 (BD & JaC) |
| Conington Fen Bridge | TL213858 | 2016 (NC) |
| Holme Fen SSSI: | | |
| Caldecote Fen | TL200895 | 2008 (NC) |
| Jackson's Covert | TL217886 | 2009 (DB) |
| Middle Covert | TL28E | 2017 (PS & JOM) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 67 | TL229839 (centroid) | 2008 (MM) |
| Compartment 73 | TL224838 (centroid) | 2008 (MM) |

A rare, but locally abundant after disturbance, species of a few fen and woodland sites where it grows on peat and other soils subject to surface acidification.

***Serratula tinctoria* L.**

Saw-wort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (6 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Brampton Racecourse SSSI | TL2072 | 2015 (LF, BaD) |
| Calpher Wood, northern edge | TL138699 | 2002 (BD) |
| Great Stukeley Railway Cutting SSSI | TL23297596 | 2010 (TC) |
| Little Catworth Meadow SSSI | TL103728 (centroid) | 2012 (BD) |
| RAF Molesworth County Wildlife Site | TL067773 | 2008 (JJ, LW) |
| Upwood Meadows SSSI, Bentley Meadow | TL2582 | 2011 (DB) |

This species is restricted in Huntingdonshire to a few ancient base-rich meadows, and similar grasslands, on the boulder clay.

***Sison segetum* L.** (formerly *Petroselinum segetum* (L.) W.D.J. Koch)

Corn Parsley

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Alconbury, farmland east of A1 | TL19377548 | 2011 (MiB) |
| Easton | TL136708 | 1997 (BD) |
| Old Weston | TL099772 | 1997 (TW) |
| Woodston, Nene Valley Railway cyclepath (CP) | TL172976 | 2008 (DB) |

The exceptionally strong colony present at Woodston, where it grows with *Ranunculus parviflorus*, is likely to be maintained by disturbance from rabbits and periodic cutting back of scrub to maintain the cyclepath. At Easton it has been recorded from arable habitats while at Old Weston it appeared on a dry bank associated with a hedgerow.

***Sium latifolium* L.**

Greater Water-parsnip

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Endangered

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Endangered, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL2311854 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23158552 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| Dyke 2b | TL230855 | 2011 (MM) |
| Dyke 2c | TL232855 | 2011 (MM) |
| Dyke 2d | TL234855 | 2011 (MM) |
| Dyke 3c | TL234852 | 2011 (MM) |
| Dyke 4b | TL233850 | 2009 (DB) |
| Dyke 4c | TL23468509 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| Northern boundary dyke | TL23248572 | 2010 (DB) |

This species has undergone a catastrophic decline in Britain over the last 200 years. Even in many protected sites, decline has been observed and new individuals are rare. Part of the reason for this undoubtedly relates to its specialist requirements. It is intolerant of intensive grazing and dyke management regimes but requires open water to be maintained and light vegetation management to provide opportunities for the establishment of seedlings (Stewart *et al.* 1994).

***Sonchus palustris* L.**

Marsh Sow-thistle

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Bury Lane (track) | TL26198478 | 2016 (DB) |
| Corney's Farm | TL231872 | 2013 (NC) |
| Farcet Fen, Bevill's Leam | TL25399172 | 2017 (PS, JGr) |
| Five Arches Pit Nature Reserve | TL203830 | 2013 (NC) |
| Forty Foot Drain | TL33738796 | 2014 (AL) |
| | TL314880 | 2014 (OM) |
| | TL320880 | 2014 (JOM) |
| Godmanchester, West Meadow riverbank | TL220703 | 2011 (DB) |
| Great Raveley Drain | TL237863 | 2013 (NC) |
| Great Raveley Drain, near Ugg Mere Farm | TL2385 | 2013 (NC) |
| Monk's Lode, Conington Fen Bridge | TL211857 | 2013 (NC) |
| Monk's Lode, north of Conington Fen Bridge | TL215863 | 2013 (NC) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL197795 | 2008 (DB) |
| Morborne Hill | TL120907 | 1998 (PT) |
| New Cut (Black Ham) Drain | TL22089195 | 2011 (MB) |
| | TL242909 | 2013 (NC) |
| | TL242911 | 2013 (NC) |
| North Western Cut, east of Bradford's Bridge | TL232915 | 2013 (NC) |
| Offord D'Arcy, Rectory Farm | TL217665 | 2000 (TW) |
| Papworth's Bridge | TL224871 | 2013 (NM) |
| Portholme SSSI & SAC | TL236702 | 2003 (SS) |
| Ramsey Forty Foot Drain | TL305881 | 2013 (NC) |
| Ramsey Heights Nature Reserve | TL245849 | 2014 (JOM) |
| Ramsey St Mary's, River Nene (Old Course) | TL26788735 | 2017 (JGr) |
| Redshank's Drain CWS | TL224919 | 2013 (NC) |
| River Nene (Old Course) | TL255873 | 2011 (JOM) |
| | TL261872 | 2011 (JOM) |
| River Nene (Old Course), Wells Bridge | TL299881 | 2013 (NM) |
| River Nene (Old Course), northeast of Johnson's Point | TL239907 | 2013 (NM) |
| River Nene (Old Course), Old Decoy Farm | TL2389 | 2013 (NM) |

| | | |
|---|------------|----------------|
| River Nene (Old Course), near Stoke's Bridge | TL244884 | 2013 (NM) |
| River Nene (Old Course), Nightingale's Corner | TL242876 | 2013 (NM) |
| St Ives, Old River | TL316706 | 2016 (NC) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL23278325 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL235847 | 2010 (DB) |
| | TL227850 | 2010 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen, farmland dyke east of | TL235850 | 2010 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Marsh SSSI | TL212812 | 2002 (TW) |

This species is often treated as an alien in Huntingdonshire (e.g. Preston *et al.* 2002), but this view is probably a little too 'black and white' and certainly does not pay due credit to what is a great success story. This Nationally Scarce species was native to Huntingdonshire but was driven to extinction as a result of the drainage of the Fens in the 19th Century. It was re-introduced at Woodwalton Fen in 1912, using native stock, where it established well and has since thrived. This population has served as a source for the natural re-colonisation of other parts of the county, with the exception of the Offord D'Arcy population which was planted in the 1950's. Many of these other populations have also been long established, for example a colony has been known at Morborne Hill since at least 1964. Given that this species has been re-established in the county for over 100 years, it is surely time now to stop maligning it with alien status and instead appreciate it for what it is, a nature conservation success story. While the re-introduction of this species was carried out long before the procedures and standards for conservation re-introductions were established, it might be constructive to treat it as one nonetheless. With the development of the Great Fen Project this species future in Huntingdonshire is looking very bright.

***Sorbus torminalis* (L.) Crantx.**

Wild Service-tree

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 11 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Archer's Wood Nature Reserve | TL174812 | 2009 (DB) |
| Aversley Wood SSSI | TL164822 | 2008 (DB) |
| Gamsey Wood Nature Reserve | TL2281 | 1996 (TW & SW) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL190795 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL19438007 | 2012 (JS) |
| | TL201808 | 2012 (JS) |
| Upton Wood | TL17997986 | 2010 (MiB) |
| | TL18007989 | 2010 (MiB) |

This easily overlooked tree is widely but sparsely distributed in, and indicative of, ancient woodlands on the boulder clay. I have attempted to list only native populations. In the future, distinctions between native and introduced populations may become clouded as a result of plantings e.g. at Lady's Wood, Littless Wood and Ramsey Heights Clay Pits. This point has been reinforced by NM, who advised me that the Brampton Wood trees listed in previous editions of the RPR are of planted origin.

***Stachys arvensis* (L.) L.**

Field Woundwort

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Colne, allotments | TL384753 | 1998 (SW) |

Although this species remains frequent over much of its British range it has declined in some areas, probably as a result of increases in winter cropping, the use of broad-spectrum herbicides, increased use of nitrogen-based fertilisers and the planting of more competitive crop cultivars (Wilson & King, 2003). It has always been rare in Huntingdonshire (Wells, 2003).

***Stellaria alsine* Grimm**

Bog Stitchwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Agdengreen Wood | TL1265 | 1998 (BD & JaC) |
| Aversley Wood SSSI | TL15718157 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL16118220 | 2010 (DB) |
| Holme Fen SSSI | TL19748916 | 2017 (FR, PS, LGr) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL22888383 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL23078408 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL22828401 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL229833 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

The classic location for this species in Huntingdonshire is Woodwalton Fen where it is widespread and locally abundant. In recent years new populations have been found on damp ancient woodland rides, a typical habitat in neighbouring counties, and there may be a few more new populations waiting to be discovered at such sites.

***Stellaria neglecta* Weihe**

Greater Chickweed

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Lady's Wood Nature Reserve | TL24278249 | 2011 (DB) |
| Raveley Wood Nature Reserve | TL245818 | 2010 (SW) |
| Woodwalton Marsh SSSI, entrance gate | TL21238118 | 2011 (DB) |

Very abundant in Lady's Wood. There is a historic record for Holme Fen, but *Myosoton aquaticum* is abundant there so future determinations need to be made with care (the two have been confused historically). It is not unknown for *Myosoton* to be erroneously recorded as *Stellaria neglecta*.

Stellaria pallida (Dumort.) Crép.

Lesser Chickweed

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (8 sites, 10 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|-----------------|----------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2013 (SL) |
| Earith Pits | TL38937600 | 2018 (DB) |
| Fenstanton church | TL319687 | 2014 (JS) |
| Ferry Meadows Country Park (CP) | TL148976 | 2015 (SL) |
| Godmanchester | TL244706 | 2012 (KW & LF) |
| | TL251694 | 2017 (JS) |
| Hemingford Grey | TL292705 | 2013 (LF) |
| | TL3068 (tetrad) | 2008 (LF) |
| Huntingdon: | | |
| Millfield Court | TL233714 | 2011 (KW & LF) |
| Walks North | TL238716 | 2012 (LF) |
| Paxton Pits | TL19916255 | 2010 (DB) |
| Portholme, sluice over the Alconbury Brook | TL23717129 | 2009 (DB) |

This diminutive, annual species can be found in short turf or on sparsely vegetated ground, particularly in association with mineral rich soils. There is a suggestion of an affinity with populations of *Cerastium semidecandrum*, so it should be searched for wherever this species occurs. The populations at Portholme and Huntingdon may have been introduced with gravel.

Stellaria palustris Ehrh. ex Hoffm.

Marsh Stitchwort

GB Status: Vulnerable

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Hemingford Meadow | TL308712 | 2015 (LF) |
| Holme Fen, Jackson's Covert | TL2188 | 2006 (MM) |
| Needingworth, Overcote Fen | TL357714 | 1995 (BE & JT) |
| St Neots Common SSSI | TL186615 | 2013 (NC) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL23368513 | 2010 (PS) |
| | TL22808390 | 2007 (DB) |
| | TL22978367 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

In Huntingdonshire, this species has only ever been known from a very limited number of wetland sites. Woodwalton Fen is perhaps the only site where it can be found in any great abundance, and both the glaucous and green (f. *virens*) foliage variants occur here.

Symphytum officinale* L. ssp. *bohemicum (F.W. Schmidt) Čelak

Fen Comfrey

GB Status: Nationally Rare, Waiting List

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Waiting List

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Sawtry Fen | TL20078306 | 2016 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL232832 | 2010 (DB) |
| | TL23418450 | 2010 (DB) |
| Yaxley, Broad Drove | TL197921 | 2014 (JOM) |
| Yaxley Fen | TL21869189 | 2014 (JGr) |

This rare fenland subspecies is only known in Britain from the Fens. It is widespread through Woodwalton Fen and may occur at Holme Fen also.

Taraxacum akteum Hagend., Soest & Zevenb.

Hampshire Dandelion

GB Status: Nationally Rare, Vulnerable

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Data Deficient

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lammas Meadow | TL18206125 | 2010 (DB) |

This species is now known to occur in more counties than just Hampshire but it is still a rare species associated with species-rich, wet meadows. Lammas Meadow is managed through a traditional grazing regime involving the occasional taking of a crop of hay no later than Lammas Day (1st August) after which the meadow is aftermath grazed.

Taraxacum haematicum G.E. Haglund ex H. Øllg. & Wiezell

Blood-red Dandelion

GB Status: Nationally Scarce?, Not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lammas Meadow | TL18206137 | 2010 (DB) |

This is the most widespread of the wet grassland species but is nowhere common. Like *T. akteum* it is associated with species-rich, traditionally managed riverside meadows. Based on

gatherings made in 2010, Lammas Meadow supports a rich dandelion flora and future searches may reveal further rarities.

***Teucrium scorodonia* L.**

Wood Sage

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2016 (SL) |
| | TL201842 | 2016 (SL) |
| Holme Fen SSSI | | |
| Compartment 8 | TL20058928 | 2009 (DB) |
| Compartment 12 | TL202891 | 2001 (MM) |
| Compartment 14 | TL20558942 | 2009 (DB) |
| | TL20128934 | 2012 (JS) |

Exceptionally rare in Huntingdonshire due to the scarcity of suitable acidic substrates. It has been known at Holme Fen since 1945 and was discovered in low numbers by the railway at Conington in 2009.

***Tolypella glomerata* (Desv.) Leonh.**

Clustered Stonewort

GB Status: Nationally Scarce

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Stibbington Pits LWS | TL0899 | 2017 (JS) |
| Teardrop Pit (CP) | TL189955 | 1999 (NS) |
| Upwood Meadows SSSI, Bentley Meadow | TL251826 | 2007 (DB) |

This species can be found in both fresh and slightly brackish waters that are typically base-rich. It seems to benefit from periodic disturbance of its habitats (Moore, 1986) and at Upwood Meadows it occurs in a small pond that is seasonally disturbed by grazing cattle.

***Torilis arvensis* (Huds.) Link**

Spreading Hedge-parsley

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Endangered

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Endangered, NERC S41

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------|----------------|-------------|
| Sawtry Fen | TL18W | 2004 (TW) |

A very rare species of arable farmland. This species was formerly widespread in southern and eastern England but has undergone a marked decline as a result of increases in nitrogen

applications to competitive modern crops. It is also late fruiting and may have been disadvantaged by recent trends for the earlier harvesting of crops (as a result of the breeding of new crop cultivars) and the consequent earlier tilling of farmland. It may also be susceptible to herbicides (Wilson & King, 2003). An unsuccessful search was made for this species on Sawtry Fen in 2011.

[*Torilis nodosa* (L.) Gaertn. Knotted Hedge-parsley. The number of sites now exceeds the criteria for County Scarce status, removed from the Register in 2012.]

***Trifolium fragiferum* L.**

Strawberry Clover

GB Status: Not threatened

County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Catworth | TL0873 | 2018 (JS) |
| Catworth Gorse, track southwest of | TL1073 | 1996 (NM) |
| Folksworth churchyard | TL146903 | 2015 (NC) |
| Hemingford Meadow | TL31027129 | 2013 (BS) |
| Leighton Bromswold | TL115753 | 2004 (TS) |
| Little Catworth | TL108729 | 1999 (RE) |
| Morborne | TL140915 | 2015 (NC) |
| Morborne Hill road verge | TL119912 | 2000 (IH) |
| Portholme SSSI | TL240706 | 2002 (RE) |
| RAF Wyton | TL27X | 1997 (TB) |
| Sawtry to Tort Hill road verge | TL171841 | 2000 (IH) |
| St Ives, The Pound | TL314723 | 2002 (BS) |
| Stilton to Folksworth | TL153892 | 2015 (NC) |
| Stow Longa | TL1072 | 2018 (JS) |
| Toll Bar Spinney, near | TL09Y | 2010 (DB) |
| Winwick | TL18A | 2004 (TS) |
| Yaxley | TL17439118 | 2009 (DB) |

A species of short grassland on heavy clay soils. It was a widespread feature of grassy bridleways and green lanes before these were lost to, or damaged by, changes in land use and management (Wells, 2003).

***Trifolium micranthum* Viv.**

Slender Trefoil

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2018 (SL) |

Ferry Meadows Country Park (CP) TL148976 2015 (SL)

A winter-annual of neutral or moderately acidic soils, on gravelly substrates, in drought-prone pastures, and on paths and verges. It is tolerant of grazing, mowing and heavy trampling (Preston *et al.*, 2002). It has always been rare in the county.

Trifolium ochroleucon Huds.

Sulphur Clover

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Vulnerable County Status: Not scarce

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Brampton Racecourse SSSI | TL20587219 | 2015 (LF, BaD) |
| | TL204719 | 2007 (KW) |
| Caxton Road, near Common Farm | TL286567 | 1996 (NM) |
| Coppingford Lane | TL170790 | 1996 (NM) |
| Crimpledean Paddock | TL259564 | 2008 (CPe & MB) |
| Elsworth / Hilton Protected Road Verge | TL26X | 2007 (CPe & SH) |
| Grafham Water | TL170666 | 2007 (KW) |
| Settlement Lagoons | TL15596680 | 2012 (DB) |
| East of Plummer Car Park | TL163664 | 2006 (JL) |
| Great Gransden | TL269579 | 1996 (NM) |
| Great Paxton to Gransden, Protected Road Verge | TL216652 | 2007 (KW) |
| Kimbolton Airfield | TL109694 | 2016 (BD) |
| Leighton Bromswold, Sheep Street | TL120760 | 1999 (TP) |
| Midloe Grange Farm, Horse Paddock | TL162647 | 2007 (KW) |
| Offord D'Arcy, Bullens Farm road verges | TL216625 | 2000 (IH) |
| RAF Wyton | TL2674 (tetrad) | 1997 (TB) |
| Stocking Lane Protected Road Verge | TL123695 | 2010 (BD) |
| Tilbrook Hill (VC30) | TL085698 | 2007 (KW) |
| Upwood Meadows SSSI, Bentley Meadow | TL251827 | 2008 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Marsh SSSI | TL212812 | 2007 (KW) |
| Woodwalton Hill | TL210800 | 2007 (KW) |
| Woolley Hill | TL148730 | 2007 (KW) |

This is a species of grassland on calcareous boulder clay. It can be found in old pastures and in association with old trackways, railway embankments and roadside verges. The latter niche is probably the one where colonies are at greatest risk of being destroyed e.g. as a result of realignment works, the installation of utilities and inappropriate management (Stewart *et al.* 1994).

***Trifolium ornithopodioides* L.**

Bird's-foot Clover

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Ferry Meadows Country Park (CP) | TL14919764 | 2015 (SL) |

A winter-annual (i.e. autumn germinating) of acidic sands, gravels and compacted shingle, occurring on bare ground in disturbed, often much trampled places like car parks, tracks and paths, and occasionally in lawns and on heavily grazed commons. At Ferry Meadows the habitat derives from formal mineral working. It prefers sites that are moist in winter and parched in summer (Preston *et al.*, 2002), and is primarily coastal in distribution.

***Trifolium striatum* L.**

Knotted Clover

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (4 sites, 4 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL202840 | 2009 (SL) |
| Ferry Meadows Country Park (CP) | TL148976 | 2015 (SL) |
| Paxton Pits Nature Reserve | TL199627 | 2000 (RE) |
| Peterborough Motorway Services | TL13879386 | 2017 (BL) |

This species shows an affinity for old gravel pit complexes where the shallow, mineral-rich soils and sparse vegetation provide suitable niches.

***Triglochin palustris* L.**

Marsh Arrowgrass

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| St Neots Common SSSI, Lammas Meadow | TL181612 | 2009 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 37 | TL23118518 | 2010 (MM) |

This is a very rare species in Huntingdonshire. The only other known site was a flood meadow at Water Newton where it was last recorded in 1968.

[*Urtica dioica* L. **ssp. galeopsifolia** (Wierzb. ex Opiz) Chrtek

Fen Nettle

GB Status: Waiting List

County Status: Unknown

England Status: Waiting List

This species was listed for the county in earlier editions of the Register. Having had the opportunity to see the true subspecies in Norfolk in 2014, I have come to realise (a) just how distinct the true plant is, and (b) that plants attributed to the subspecies in Huntingdonshire are but a poor imitation. Further research is needed, but a reasonably working hypothesis is that our plants are hybrid in origin and established when fenland drainage brought the two subspecies together. For the time being it has been removed from the Register.]

***Utricularia vulgaris* L.**

Greater Bladderwort

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 8 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| Conington Fen | TL209859 | 2016 (NC) |
| Darlows Farm (Great Fen Project) | TL226858 | 2016 (NC) |
| Great Raveley Drain, near Speed the Plough Farm | TL2286 | 2011 (JOM, JGr) |
| Monk's Lode, Conington Fen Bridge | TL2185 | 2013 (NC) |
| Monk's Lode, Cobalder Farm | TL2085 | 2013 (NC) |
| Monk's Lode, Pole's Bridge | TL204845 | 2013 (NC) |
| Monk's Lode, Higney Grange | TL2083 | 2013 (NC) |
| Monk's Lode, dyke parallel to River Nene (Old Course): | | |
| Stoke's Bridge | TL24358819 | 2017 (JOM, JGr) |
| Old Decoy Farm | TL243890 | 2013 (NC) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL23098382 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23098404 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL23468509 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |

Focussed work in 2013 has done much to extend our understanding of the range of this species, but it is still predominately known from only a relatively small area focussed on the Great Fen.

Valeriana officinalis* L. ssp. *collina (Wallr.) Nyman

Common Valerian

GB Status: Not threatened

County Status: Scarce (5 sites, 5 tetrads)

England Status: Waiting List

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Brampton Wood SSSI | TL18167007 | 2010 (DB) |
| Great Stukeley Railway Cutting SSSI | TL2374 | 2010 (TC) |
| Monks Wood SSSI | TL20218012 | 2014 (CNHS) |
| Woodwalton, railway at Green Lane Bridge | TL21058135 | 2011 (DB) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL23478522 | 2010 (DB) |

Ssp. collina is long established and very distinctive but was largely forgotten when the recording of infraspecific taxa fell out of fashion. It is very poorly known but the publication of descriptions in Stace (2010) and Sell & Murrell (2006) should hopefully start to rectify this and it is worth recognising that many continental botanists consider it to be a good species. Wells (2003) did not segregate the subspecies but identifies that the species occurs on woodland rides as well as in wetlands. Our woodland plants are undoubtedly attributable to *ssp. collina*, which is typical of boulder clay woodlands and calcareous grassland. While good data is lacking, having surveyed this subspecies rigorously for the last three years, I consider that in Huntingdonshire it will have a distribution comparable to *Dipsacus pilosus* and is probably at least as scarce if not more so. Unlike that species it appears to be intolerant of shade and has probably declined extensively as a result of poor woodland management. I could only find it on one ride in Monks Wood where it was locally abundant for no more than 20m. Woodland and grassland managers need to have their attention drawn to this subspecies as distribution maps for the species do not adequately reflect the more restricted distribution of the subspecies (although they are probably representative of the distribution of our other subspecies, *ssp. sambucifolia*).

Valerianella carinata Loisel.

Keel-fruited Cornsalad

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington, roadside bank | TL194869 | 2005 (WM) |
| Huntingdon | TL234718 | 2005 (KW) |
| Peterborough, Woodbine Street (CP) | TL190975 | 2010 (NC) |

Perhaps overlooked or only a recent colonist. There are indications that it may be increasing nationally (Stace, 2010).

***Verbascum lychnitis* L.**

White Mullein

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2018 (SL) |
| | TL2084 | 2018 (SL) |
| Holme, by railway | TL19898618 | 2018 (JOM, JGr) |

Only known in the county from the vicinity of a short section of the East Coast Mainline. It is a biennial, or occasionally short-lived perennial, herb of dry, usually calcareous soil. Seed is copiously produced, and remains viable for many years (Preston *et al.*, 2002).

***Verbascum nigrum* L.**

Dark Mullein

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 6 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL2083 | 2018 (SL) |
| | TL202844 | 2018 (SL) |
| Hemingford Grey | TL2870 | 2010 (LF) |
| | TL3068 (tetrad) | 2008 (LF) |
| Stibbington, near Toll Bar Spinney | TL08839806 | 2010 (DB) |
| A1, Stibbington: | | |
| nr A1 bridge over Nene Valley Railway | TL09049785 | 2010 (DB) |
| central reservation | TL08679829 | 2016 (DB) |

This has always been rare and as a native population is largely restricted to the most calcareous soils in the far northwest of the county, perhaps only occurring as a casual further south in the county.

[***Verbena officinalis* L.**, Vervain. The number of sites now exceeds the criteria for County Scarce status, removed from the Register in 2018.]

***Veronica montana* L.**

Wood Speedwell

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Scarce (8 sites, 10 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Aversley Wood SSSI | TL15988161 | 2008 (DB) |
| | TL16318183 | 2010 (DB) |
| | TL162820 | 2008 (DB) |
| confidential | TL2254 | 2016 (PW) |
| Hill Wood | TL20647862 | 2016 (LF) |
| Holland Wood | TL239786 | 2003 (TW & SW) |
| Raveley Wood Nature Reserve | TL245818 | 2003 (TW & SW) |
| Savage's Spinney Nature Reserve | TL13416921 | 2009 (DB) |
| Warboys Wood SSSI | TL3081 | 2012 (LF) |
| Wennington Wood | TL246794 | 1996 (TW) |

An uncommon species of ancient woodland on the boulder clay. It may be under-recorded but probably not to the extent that it would no longer merit inclusion in the Register.

***Veronica scutellata* L.**

Marsh Speedwell

GB Status: Not scarce, not threatened

County Status: Rare (1 site, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC | TL22588356 | 2018 (PS, JGr) |
| | TL229845 | 2009 (MM) |
| | TL23478523 | 2010 (DB) |

This is a rare species in Huntingdonshire and can be found on the margins of ponds and dykes and in fen meadows. Our plant is var. *scutellata*.

Viola canina* L. subsp. *canina

Heath Dog-violet

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Rare (3 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Vulnerable

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Monks Wood SSSI, East Field | TL198805 | 2002 (MM) |
| Upwood Meadows SSSI, Bentley Meadow | TL252828 | 2014 (SL) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Compartment 79 | TL231836 (centroid) | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 82 | TL227835 (centroid) | 2011 (MM) |
| Compartment 84 | TL231834 | 2011 (MM) |

In Huntingdonshire this subspecies can be found in the drier parts of fens and in wet grasslands on the boulder clay. It undoubtedly also still occurs at Holme Fen, but recent records have not been determined to subspecies. In 2011 the population in Compartment 84 of Woodwalton Fen comprised approximately 1500 plants, three times more than the total number of plants recorded from the rest of the Fen that year.

Viola canina* L. subsp. *ruppii (All.) Schübl. & G. Martens (formerly *Viola canina* subsp. *montana* auct. non (L.) Hartm.)

Heath Dog-violet

GB Status: Nationally Rare, Endangered County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Endangered

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI , Compartment 6 | TL19748916 | 2017 (FR, PS) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | | |
| Compartment 41 | TL22748508 | 2018 (FR, PS) |
| Compartment 47 | TL23038482 | 2009 (MM) |
| Compartment 58 | TL228843 | 2012 (PS) |

This subspecies is Nationally Rare and restricted to a limited number of fenland sites where it grows in wetter habitats than ssp. *canina*.

***Viola stagnina* Kit.** (formerly *Viola persicifolia* auct. non Schreb.)

Fen Violet

GB Status: Nationally Rare, Critically Endangered County Status: Rare (1 site, 1 tetrad)

England Status: Critically Endangered,
NERC S41, Schedule 8

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--|---------------------|-------------|
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC, Compartment 55 | TL228845 (centroid) | 2011 (MM) |

This species is widely distributed from western Ireland to Russia, but it is in decline across Western Europe and is rare in many countries. It was formerly more widespread in England but it is currently extant at only three sites (Woodwalton Fen, Wicken Fen and Otmoor). It flourishes where the surface of the soil is periodically disturbed, and cannot persist in dense vegetation. It is capable of forming a large and persistent seed bank and when peat was still dug commercially in the Fens, a show of *Viola persicifolia* often appeared in the wake of the peat diggers. During the 1960's and 1970's it appeared in abundance in various parts of Woodwalton Fen in the years following the extraction of fen carr and disturbance caused by excavating clay for waterproofing the banks around the SSSI. It is currently very rare at Woodwalton Fen but its decline might be reversible with appropriate management (Palmer, 2006a).

Viola tricolor* L. ssp. *tricolor

Wild Pansy

GB Status: Near Threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Near Threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Field Farm | TL122885 | 2004 (KW) |
| Ongutain Manor, near | TL120898 | 2004 (KW) |
| Winwick | TL1080 (tetrad) | 2003 (TP) |

This species has always been rare in Huntingdonshire where it has been confused with some of the variants of *Viola arvensis* (Wells, 2003) and possibly with plants of hybrid origin also (hybrid swarms are abundant in parts of the Soke of Peterborough). Any future records should be supported by specimens or other appropriate evidence.

***Viola x ritschliana* W. Becker**

Viola canina x *Viola stagnina*

GB Status: Nationally Rare

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 3 tetrads)

England Status: Not assessed

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Holme Fen SSSI, Compartment 50 | TL198893 | 2010 (MM) |
| Woodwalton Fen SSSI & SAC: | TL232835 | 2006 (MM) |
| Compartment 84 | TL231850 | 2010 (MM) |

This hybrid might arise as a result of crosses involving either *Viola canina* subspecies. It is often very vigorous, but so infertile that the possibility of back-crossing is very unlikely. This hybrid is closer to *Viola stagnina* in habit, but its flowers resemble those of *Viola canina* (Stace, 2010).

[*Viscum album* L. Mistletoe. The number of sites now exceeds the criteria for County Scarce status, removed from the Register in 2014.]

***Vulpia unilateralis* (L.) Stace**

Mat-grass Fescue

GB Status: Nationally Scarce, Not threatened

County Status: Rare (2 sites, 2 tetrads)

England Status: Not threatened

| Site | Grid Reference | Last Record |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conington 'Dump' | TL202840 | 2018 (SL) |
| Kimbolton Airfield | TL108695 | 2008 (BD) |

This poorly known species is an early flowering spring annual. It grows in dry, open and very bare, often rubbly, places with a calcareous influence (Stewart *et al.* 1994). At Kimbolton

Airfield it grows on thin soil that has developed over old concrete structures. At Conington it grows on sparsely vegetated railway ballast with other notable flora.

Appendix 1 Extinctions

Many of the species listed below are undoubtedly long since extinct, having disappeared with the last remnants of their habitats. For some species, the evidence for them ever having occurred in the County is very weak.

Despite the above, the re-discovery of Marsh Lousewort (*Pedicularis palustris*) and Small Cudweed (*Logfia minima*) in 2005, Parsley Water-dropwort (*Oenanthe lachenalii*) in 2008, and both Long-stalked Pondweed (*Potamogeton praelongus*) and Small Water-pepper (*Persicaria minor*) in 2014 shows that there is still some hope, however slight, that further species might be re-discovered.

| | Species | Last Known Sighting |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| | <i>Adoxa moschatellina</i> ¹ | Moschatel ? |
| | <i>Andromeda polifolia</i> | Bog-rosemary 1840 |
| | <i>Antennaria dioica</i> | Mountain Everlasting 1886 |
| | <i>Astragalus danicus</i> | Purple Milk-vetch 1952 |
| | <i>Bidens cernua</i> | Nodding Bur-marigold 1974 |
| | <i>Bistorta officinalis</i> | Common Bistort 1886 |
| | <i>Blechnum spicant</i> | Hard Fern 1972 |
| | <i>Botrychium lunaria</i> | Moonwort 1880-1890 |
| | <i>Bupleurum rotundifolium</i> | Thorow-wax c. 1895 |
| | <i>Bupleurum tenuissimum</i> | Slender Hare's-ear 1884 |
| | <i>Carex hostiana</i> ² | Tawny Sedge 1884 |
| | <i>Carex strigosa</i> ³ | Thin-spiked Wood-sedge ? |
| | <i>Carex vesicaria</i> ⁴ | Bladder-sedge 1880-90 |
| | <i>Clinopodium nepeta</i> | Lesser Calamint 1851 |
| | <i>Dactylorhiza viridis</i> | Frog Orchid 1936 |
| | <i>Dianthus armeria</i> | Deptford Pink 1984 |
| | <i>Drosera anglica</i> | Great Sundew 1840 |
| | <i>Drosera intermedia</i> | Oblong-leaved Sundew 1848 |
| | <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i> | Round-leaved Sundew 1848 |
| | <i>Dryopteris cristata</i> | Crested Buckler-fern 1889 |
| | <i>Eleocharis multicaulis</i> | Many-stalked Spike-rush 1846 |
| | <i>Eleocharis quinqueflora</i> | Few-flowered Spike-rush 1846 |
| | <i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i> | Common Cottongrass 1850 |
| | <i>Eriophorum latifolium</i> | Broad-leaved Cottongrass before 1836 |
| | <i>Filago lutescens</i> | Red-tipped Cudweed 1886 |
| | <i>Galium saxatile</i> | Heath Bedstraw 1885 |
| | <i>Galium tricornutum</i> | Corn Cleavers 1950 |
| | <i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i> | Chalk Fragrant-orchid 1985 |

¹ Wells considered this un-localised record dubious but the presence of this species in adjacent South Cambridgeshire lends the record credence.

² Only doubtfully recorded, see the Wells (2003) for more detail.

³ Source reputable but not seen firsthand and details/specimens lacking.

⁴ Source reputable but not seen firsthand and details/specimens lacking.

| Species | Last Known Sighting |
|---|--|
| <i>Hammarbya paludosa</i> | Bog Orchid 1840 |
| <i>Helosciadium inundatum</i> | Lesser Marshwort 1913 |
| <i>Lactuca saligna</i> | Least Lettuce 1951 |
| <i>Liparis loeselii</i> | Fen Orchid 1850 |
| <i>Lycopodiella inundata</i> | Marsh Clubmoss before 1850 |
| <i>Melampyrum pratense</i> | Common Cow-wheat c. 1930 |
| <i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i> ⁵ | Bogbean 1926 |
| <i>Moenchia erecta</i> | Upright Chickweed 1887 |
| <i>Myriophyllum alterniflorum</i> | Alternate Water-milfoil 1978 |
| <i>Narthecium ossifragum</i> | Bog Asphodel 1860 |
| <i>Neotinia ustulata</i> | Burnt Orchid 1890 |
| <i>Oreopteris limbosperma</i> | Lemon-scented Fern 1860 |
| <i>Parnassia palustris</i> | Grass-of-Parnassus 1888 |
| <i>Pedicularis sylvestris</i> | Lousewort before 1965 |
| <i>Pilularia globulifera</i> | Pillwort 1864 |
| <i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i> | Common Butterwort 1909 |
| <i>Platanthera bifolia</i> | Lesser Butterfly-orchid before 1926 |
| <i>Potamogeton polygonifolius</i> | Bog Pondweed before 1906 |
| <i>Potamogeton x grovesii</i> | <i>Potamogeton pusillus</i> x <i>trichoides</i> 1909 |
| <i>Potamogeton x nitens</i> | Bright-leaved Pondweed 1910 |
| <i>Potamogeton x salicifolius</i> | <i>P. lucens</i> x <i>perfoliatus</i> 1975 |
| <i>Potamogeton x sparganiifolius</i> | <i>P. gramineus</i> x <i>natans</i> 1979 |
| <i>Pulicaria vulgaris</i> | Small Fleabane 1846 |
| <i>Rhynchospora alba</i> | White Beak-sedge 1846 |
| <i>Rosa sherardii</i> | Sherard's Downy-rose 1910 |
| <i>Salix aurita</i> ⁶ | Eared Willow 1884 |
| <i>Schoenus nigricans</i> | Black Bog-rush 1845 |
| <i>Sparganium natans</i> | Least Bur-reed 1909 |
| <i>Stratiotes aloides</i> ⁷ | Water-soldier 1828 |
| <i>Teesdalia nudicaulis</i> | Shepherd's Cress 1926 |
| <i>Teucrium scordium</i> | Water Germander 1826 |
| <i>Thelypteris palustris</i> | Marsh Fern 1860 |
| <i>Thysselinum palustris</i> | Milk Parsley 1845 |
| <i>Umbilicus rupestris</i> ⁸ | Navelwort 1880 |

⁵ Still present as a garden escape.

⁶ Long extinct as a native tree but over recent years it has become fashionable to plant this species when restoring old gravel workings.

⁷ Still present as a garden escape.

| Species | | Last Known Sighting |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Utricularia minor</i> | Lesser Bladderwort | 1845 |
| <i>Vaccinium oxycoccos</i> | Wall Pennywort | 1845 |
| <i>Viola palustris</i> | Marsh Violet | 1886 |
| <i>Wahlenbergia hederacea</i> | Ivy-leaved Bellflower | 1886 |

Appendix 2 Data Deficient Species

A list is provided below of species that would qualify for inclusion in the Rare Plant Register (excluding County Rare and Scarce Species) but for which we have no recent records (i.e. post-1990). Some are likely lost and should be moved to Appendix 1, but others may yet still be re-found. These species should be urgent priorities for species-specific survey work.

| Species | | Last Known Sighting |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Aphanes australis</i> | Slender Parsley-piert | 1954-56 |
| <i>Anthemis arvensis</i> | Corn Chamomile | 1981 |
| <i>Callitriche brutia</i> | Intermediate Water-starwort | 1954 |
| <i>Campanula glomerata</i> | Clustered Bellflower | 1986 |
| <i>Campanula latifolia</i> | Giant Bellflower | 1971 |
| <i>Carex divulsa</i> ssp. <i>leersii</i> | Many-leaved Sedge | 1975 |
| <i>Comarum palustre</i> | Marsh Cinquefoil | 1968 |
| <i>Eleocharis acicularis</i> | Needle Spike-rush | 1986 |
| <i>Epilobium roseum</i> | Pale Willowherb | 1979 |
| <i>Galeopsis angustifolia</i> | Red Hemp-nettle | 1980 |
| <i>Helianthemum nummularium</i> | Rockrose | 1974 |
| <i>Helleborus viridis</i> ssp. <i>occidentalis</i> | Green Hellebore | 1976 |
| <i>Legousia hybrida</i> | Venus's-looking-glass | 1977 |
| <i>Lysimachia nemorum</i> | Yellow Pimpernel | 1984 |
| <i>Mentha x verticillata</i> | Whorled Mint | 1975 |
| <i>Montia fontana</i> ssp. <i>chondrosperma</i> | Blinks | 1978 |
| <i>Oenanthe fluviatilis</i> | River Water-dropwort | 1975 |
| <i>Orobanche elatior</i> | Knapweed Broomrape | 1975 |
| <i>Oxalis acetosella</i> | Wood-sorrel | 1969 |
| <i>Ranunculus arvensis</i> | Corn Buttercup | 1984 |
| <i>Ranunculus hederaceus</i> | Ivy-leaved Water-crowfoot | 1973 |
| <i>Ranunculus peltatus</i> | Pond Water-crowfoot | 1981 |
| <i>Roemeria hybrida</i> | Rough Poppy | 2006 ⁹ |
| <i>Rosa agrestis</i> | Small-leaved Sweet-briar | 1970 |

⁸ It is difficult to visualise what niche this species would have occupied at Holme Fen and there is no specimen to support its presence. Could this be an error for *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*?

⁹ This record was a casual occurrence at Holme Fen SSSI. Given the habitat context it is excluded from the main Register.

| | | |
|--|----------------------------|------|
| <i>Rosa micrantha</i> | Small-flowered Sweet-briar | 1974 |
| <i>Rosa tomentella</i> | Round-leaved Dog-rose | 1975 |
| <i>Sambucus ebulus</i> | Dwarf Elder | 1975 |
| <i>Scabiosa columbaria</i> ¹⁰ | Small Scabious | 1976 |
| <i>Scleranthus annuus</i> | Annual Knawel | 1972 |
| <i>Silene noctiflora</i> | Night-flowering Catchfly | 1979 |
| <i>Spergula arvensis</i> | Corn Spurrey | 1979 |
| <i>Thymus drucei</i> | Wild Thyme | 1979 |
| <i>Valeriana dioica</i> | Marsh Valerian | 1979 |
| <i>Valerianella dentata</i> | Narrow-fruited Cornsalad | 1975 |
| <i>Viola x scabra</i> | <i>V. hirta x odorata</i> | ? |

¹⁰ Recently found sown at Crown Lakes, Farcet with other plants of Continental origin.

Appendix 3 Additional Species Not Yet Assessed

Below follows a list of all other taxa that are currently being considered for inclusion in the Register, under the County Scarce and County Rare categories. The data are currently insufficient to determine whether these taxa meet the criteria or are just under-recorded.

| | |
|--|--|
| <i>Centaurea debeauxii</i> ssp. <i>thuilleri</i> | perhaps only worthy of varietal status |
| <i>Centaurea nigra</i> sens. str. | early flowering floodplain populations may lie here |
| <i>Cerastium semidecandrum</i> | probably over-looked, more data needed |
| <i>Cirsium eriophorum</i> | probably in decline relative to historic baseline |
| <i>Euphrasia nemorosa</i> | probably in decline relative to historic baseline |
| <i>Glyceria x pedicellata</i> | possibly over-looked |
| <i>Lotus tenuis</i> | border line and probably under-recorded in the Peterborough area |
| <i>Nasturtium x sterile</i> | probably over-looked, cultivated for watercress |
| <i>Poa humilis</i> | more data needed |

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