

# Cambridgeshire Flora Group

## NEWSLETTER 2011

### Progress with the Flora

Preparation of the species accounts has progressed well over the year and approximately one third have been completed. Another three years work should see the project nearing completion, although the impending move of the University Herbarium may delay the final versions of some accounts for a while. If anyone feels inspired to contribute to the likely range of introductory material for the Flora please get in touch with ACL. Good quality and informative illustrations of Cambridgeshire localities (both present day and historical), as well as of Cambridgeshire botanists, will be needed and potential contributions would be welcomed. Thank you to all those who have patiently answered queries and chased after plants in the last year. Please keep your records coming in, whether these are new finds or updates on old ones, all are welcome. Bear in mind that if your record is of something new to the county or one which might be described as 'critical' in nature, you will probably need to back this up with a voucher specimen or confirmation from someone such as a BSBI referee.

### Threatened Plant Project

In 2010 the success rate was the same as that in 2009 at 64%; of our eleven target sites only one was not visited, due to lack of access. The majority of our targets were *Sium latifolium* sites, largely on the Ouse or Nene Washes. In June James Cadbury, Paul Harrington, Owen Mountford and Jonathan Graham combined the TPP survey work with a comprehensive survey of the Ouse Washes *Sium* populations; in excess of 2400 plants were recorded with fewer than 10% flowering. This continues the increase in the number of plants observed since the early 1990s.

We now have the national list of target species for the final two years of the project but do not yet know the locations:

**2011** *Baldellia ranunculoides*, *Cicendia filiformis*, *Cuscuta epithymum*, *Galium pumilum*, *Juncus compressus*, *Neotinea (Orchis) ustulata*, *Pseudorchis albida*, *Sedum villosum*, *Silene conica*, *Torilis arvensis*.

**2012** *Aceras anthropophorum*, *Alchemilla wickhamiae*, *Anacamptis (Orchis) morio*, *Bupleurum tenuissimum*, *Fumaria parviflora*, *Hypochaeris glabra*, *Persicaria minor*, *Ranunculus arvensis*, *Tephrosia integrifolia* subsp. *integrifolia*, *Vicia parviflora*.

### Highlights from excursions in 2010

#### Ten Wood - April

Good populations of *Oxalis acetosella*, *Paris quadrifolia*. Still present *Euphorbia amygdaloides*, *Geum rivale*, *Veronica montana*. Not found *Luzula sylvatica*, it seems likely that this species has been lost from the wood.

#### Isleham - May

*Fumaria densiflora* in allotments, *Asplenium adiantum-nigrum* on building, *Epipactis helleborine* on verge of drove in village. Still present *Scabiosa columbaria* etc on priory earthworks, *Chenopodium murale*. Not found *Cardamine amara*. *Carex paniculata* stools on Little Wash all seem to be dead.

#### Whittlesey brickpits (Kings Dyke nature reserve) - June

Second vc record for *Oenanthe crocata*, also *Rosa rubiginosa* in quantity. Still present *Baldellia ranunculoides*, *Utricularia vulgaris*, *Sagina nodosa* (but the site for this last partly covered by pond excavation spoil).

**Chippenham Fen - July**

Further locations in Snailwell Pools Fen for *Salix myrsinifolia* and a second vc record for the hybrid with *Salix cinerea*. Not found *Danthonia decumbens*, and the woodlands seem to be virtually devoid of ferns.

**Ouse Washes, Welney - August**

Good populations of *Sium latifolium* including one or two small ones not already known to James Cadbury. Probable *Mentha x villosa*. Still present *Persicaria minor* and *P. laxiflora (mitis)*.

**Landbeach Pits - September**

New record *Rumex palustris*. Still present *Mentha x verticillata*, *Rosa rubiginosa*. Not found *Mentha x villosa*, *Cladium mariscus*, *Catapodium maritimum*, *Lysimachia ciliata* (now thought to be an error for *L. punctata*).

**Excursion programme for 2011**

Excursions start in the morning at 10.00 (unless stated otherwise) and continue until the end of the afternoon or until participants have had enough. All excursions are on a Saturday.

Date	Locality	Meeting point – 10.00am unless stated otherwise
April 16th	<b>Great Covens Wood &amp; Park Wood</b>	TL621528, Mill Hill, Weston Colville; by track to Great Covens/Lower Wood
May	NO MEETING	
June 4th	<b>Soham.</b> General recording around town.	TL593732, St Andrew's church, High St, Soham
July 9th	<b>Great &amp; Little Chishill.</b> Joint excursion with Essex Flora Group mainly for <i>Melampyrum</i> and woodlands	TL436376, concrete pad in corner of field on NW side of Bilden (Building) End Road, opposite Lower Farm, southwest of Chrishall
July 23rd	<b>Wicken Fen.</b> Searching for 'lost' species such as <i>Carex lasiocarpa</i> , <i>Salix x subsericea</i>	TL564706, NT carpark, Lode Lane, Wicken. If any participants are NT members, please bring your membership card so that the Fen can receive a financial credit for your visit. Any others on this day will have their admission fee waived.
August 13th	<b>Doddington.</b> Looking for any remnants of Doddington Wood in hedgerows and a general exploration of parish.	TL400905, St Mary's church, Church Lane, Doddington
September	TBA	

**NO DOGS PLEASE**

*Please note that there is no guarantee that you will be able to park directly at the meeting point listed and should leave time to find a parking place and walk to the meeting point if necessary.*

ALL ENQUIRIES REGARDING CFG EXCURSIONS TO NM, PLEASE:

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