

WILTSHIRE BOTANICAL SOCIETY



Fritillaria meleagris

EDITOR'S FIRST PAGE



This newsletter is the first in 24 years to come under new editorship. Richard Aisbitt has been the stalwart editor in all that time, but he now feels it is time to hand over the reins. On behalf of the Wiltshire Botanical Society's Committee and all its members, past and present, I would like to pass on our gratitude to Richard for all the hard work that he has undertaken and the spare time he has given up producing it. I shall be taking over the reins for now and hope to do as good a job.

So, to start, I hope that you found the recently sent out Good Plant List of use. As was mentioned this is the last season for plant recording that will go toward the publication of a new Wiltshire Flora. We wanted to

stimulate you to get out and record some species, common or scarce, showy, or little green jobs and, some that might, or are, turning out to be a nuisance such as *Allium triquetrum* Three-cornered Garlic. There are more lists to come as the season progresses and any or all species can be reported back to us at any time throughout the year so, please keep your sheets handy for reference.

In the first article of this issue, Fran Sinclair reports on her Safari with Kat Newbert to Longleat; this is followed by the fourth in a series of conservation agencies whose role it is to protect plants and their habitats; this time it is the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. Steve Jackson then provides us with an in-depth view of botanical identification apps. that may mean we will no longer need to take our field guides out with us, just our smartphones. Finally, there is the report of species new to the county or vice-county in 2023 along with species that were found new to a 10km square (hectad).

The front page contains a photograph I took of a *Fritillaria meleagris* Fritillary flower at Wiltshire Wildlife Trust's Clattinger Farm on 22nd April 2015. This is the symbol of the Wiltshire Botanical Society; a drawing of which you will find on the front of the Meetings Programme 2024. They are normally in full flower around the middle of April, but a warm season can bring them forward and if unseasonably hot can burn them off completely.

Anecdote alert! Member Paul Darby who worked for the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, and myself (former) Clattinger Farm warden accompanied Prince Charles across the meadows when I was queried by His Majesty. 'I understand that there is another site nearby with Fritillaries in?' I replied, 'Yes Sir, that would be Cricklade Meadows, but whilst they have quantity, we have quality!' His Majesty just smiled.



A recording safari

In the summer of 2023 Kat Newbert suggested a recording trip to Longleat to try to increase the records in 3 monads and I was game (insert your own safari park pun here), though unfortunately no-one else could make it on the late August Bank Holiday we chose. This meant more work recording but a lot less organisation.

Our visit began with drive-by botany, which had to be at reasonable speed due to cars behind us, full of people eager to get to the animals and amusements. Unfortunately, we had been marshalled into the centre lane, so when I tried to use binoculars for distant plants, I frequently had an eyeful of SUV instead. Kat showed great skill in identifying plants while not hitting the car in front. The best record in this section was probably Heather *Calluna vulgaris*. We hope to revisit this square on foot with permission and no charge.

The car park was in the next monad and was predictably good. It had hedges and other interesting edges, which included a Kat-friendly ditch with rushes and sedges (you can't fight a rhyme when it offers itself), and we recorded a total of 120 species before leaving the car park. Is this a record?

Keeping close to Longleat House to remain in our monad, the only wall plant we found was a nice one; Black Spleenwort *Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*, though there was also plenty of Common Liverwort at ground level and one nice patch of Great Scented Liverwort. On the north-eastern side of the house there was closely mown lawn of (mostly) Ox-eye Daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare* and, waving out of the top of the Box hedging, unusually tall Lesser Stitchwort *Stellaria graminea*.

We admired the formal gardens, which looked very promising for informal finds, especially when we reached the parterre in front of the Orangery. There was the Mr McGregor-like 'scritch, scritch' of a young gardener's hoe but no other noise here until, as if rehearsed, we both exclaimed at the same time: 'That's...!' and 'Isn't that...?!' And indeed, it was – a carpet of Spotted Spurge *Euphorbia maculata* which the gardener was industriously hoeing out from around the bare stems of rose bushes. We also found Fairy Flax *Linum catharticum* and Grey Speedwell *Veronica polita* nearby. This was a lovely peaceful area so after that excitement we sat on cool stone steps to eat our lunch.

We had only very limited access to the edge of the lake so hoped that the Safari boat trip would solve that, but not only did it cost extra there was also a huge queue. We then wondered if the small-gauge railway would solve the problem but, although included in our tickets, the wait for the train was too long.

So, our last effort in the Main Square was around the various animal attractions, which

yielded a few plants for the list but we both suffered from growing pity for the animals and rising misanthropy in the crowds and noise so we hunted down a cooling ice-cream and headed back to the car for the Safari Park.

This was drive-through botany, much slower than the earlier drive-by, and we could pause to look although unfortunately the herbivores eat just about everything, so we didn't get as many records as we had perhaps hoped. We also had to be careful to keep checking which monad we were in as the road weaves between two grid squares. There was one fortuitous hold-up, due to everyone wanting to pause to watch the big cats and the wolves, where we had Yellow Pimpernel *Lysimachia nemorum* and Water Pepper *Persicaria hydropiper* just beside the car.

When we reached the African Village, I turned up my nose at the commercial tat – 'No, we don't need to stop there,' I said, then after a pause Kat pointed out (quite rightly and quite forcefully!) that we could have walked around and recorded there. Fortunately, there was access to the car park further along, which was a huge relief; no-one wants to incur the Vice County Recorder's severe displeasure. Our walk round added approximately 45 species to the list including Broad-leaved Helleborine *Epipactis helleborine* (you only have to say 'Ooooh, what's that stick with seed pods over there?' and Kat is through the fence in a jiffy), and Ring-tailed Lemur *Lemur catta*.

By the time we left the park our heads were spinning after 5 or 6 hours concentration but we had a satisfying sense of achievement as well as the usual post-botany euphoria.

Written by **Fran Sinclair**



Euphorbia maculata



Ring-tailed Lemur

Conservation organisations 4: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

This is part of a continuing series on conservation organisations that support, inform, manage, or petition on behalf of the flora of Great Britain and beyond. It's time to introduce to you the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew.



The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew (RBG Kew) is one of the world's most famous botanical gardens known for its vast collection of plants from around the planet and its importance has achieved the gardens the status of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is responsible for 68,000 plants of over 27,000 taxa and is one of the largest and most diverse collections in the world containing living plants from tropical, temperate, arid, and alpine climates.

These plants are grown in Kew's grounds and gardens as well as a Palm House, the Princess of Wales Conservatory as well as other glasshouses and nurseries, and at a sister site, Wakehurst Palace. This allows them to be studied for research, conservation and education as well as providing an ornamental display.

In addition to living plants, Kew holds a vast herbarium. Started in 1853, the collection building has had to expand many times and now includes over eight million specimens. It is now a key priority to digitise these plant and fungal specimens along with 200,000 botanical illustrations.

The inventor of scientific plant names, Carl Linnaeus wrote that if you did not know the names, the knowledge is lost. Charles Darwin thought it important that these collections of plants needed a list of names and that it would be beneficial for it to be shared globally. He also thought that if plants could not be named accurately then how could anyone know what plants were in need of protection or hold the keys to protect the planet.

As a direct result of a request from Charles Darwin and following his death in 1892, he left a legacy of around £250 per year, for five years to provide the ability to create a catalogue of all known plants. The first comprehensive list of plants arrived in September 1893 with the production of the '*Index Kewensis*'. The project took 11 years however this mammoth task flourished and continued to be updated with supplements and editions until 1989. From the 1990s, the information was transferred to CD: ROM.

In 2000, a collaboration with Harvard University and the Australian National Herbarium created the International Plant Names Index (IPNI) that included all detail from the Index Kewensis, Harvard's Gray Herbarium index and the Australian Plant Name Index. This meant for the first time that all the gathered plant names were available online.

This index provides global access with around 200,000 users per year particularly from India, China, Brazil, and the U.S. who are amongst the top viewers. This database provides essential data for other taxonomic resources e.g. The Plants of the World Online (POWO) that shows photographs and distribution maps; as well as the World Flora Online (WFO) created in response to the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. Also linked are the findings of new DNA studies through the Plants and Fungal Tree of Life (PAFTOL) and this has paved the way for further and extensive research projects that are still on-going.

The IPNI's data also feeds into the latest Kew report, *State of the World's Plant and Fungi 2023* report providing the names used to create crucial conservation checklists that will help to inform decision making by Governments and non-government agencies; one such list is the World Checklist of Vascular Plants (WCVF) that took its author, Rafael H.A. Govaerts, 35 years to complete but with continuing updates. This is free to use by anyone, anywhere.

Why is all this important? As the recent Covid pandemic has shown, nature is important for everyone's health and well-being and as there is an ever-increasing amount of people living in towns and cities, nature, the natural landscape, plants, and animals have become vital to their needs. In addition, plants provide us with food, oxygen, medicine, fibres, building materials, and fuel. Therefore, the mission at RBG Kew is to protect global plant and fungi biodiversity for the benefit of the plants, and humanity. This is urgent for we live in an age of extinction and the biodiversity crisis is real and so Kew, with others, have to respond to it with urgency by providing science-based knowledge and solutions to protect the biodiversity. So many species are being lost before anything has been written down about them or their value understood.

RBG Kew may well be best-known as a garden however it is one of the world's leading organisations in plant and fungal science. It has one of the largest collections of botanical information anywhere in the world and it has the largest collection of fungi specimens with over 1.24 million samples. Alongside this, it has a wide diversity of living plants, and these are an extraordinary resource in the mission to understand, protect and sustain the world's biodiversity.

The horticultural solution is to create beautiful displays that are engaging and inspire others to protect the natural world, but they also support global conservation and research in themselves. Understanding the fundamental importance of plants to life on earth is really important so learning at Kew is about providing both adults and children with fascinating information and experience of plants and fungal science as well as attractive gardens.

Plants seen at Kew range from the common to some of the world's rarest. They even have some that are critically endangered or even extinct in the wild. Much of the collection is at Wakehurst Palace where the topography of the grounds is used to place plants in surroundings as close to the natural habitats of each species as possible.

Wakehurst is also important for probably the most diverse collection of biodiversity in the world for it is the home of the Millennium Seed Bank project where there are 40,000 seeds stored in vaults with the aim of collecting 75,000 seeds from the world's plants representing 25% of all known flora. They have over 50 projects running worldwide and have agreements with all these partners to conserve and look after the genetic diversity back in the UK. There is also an aim to collect seeds from all of the UK's native flora. This collection allows further research into conservation and preservation of these seeds and plants.

The mission at Kew and Wakehurst is to understand and protect plants and fungi for the wellbeing of people and the future of all life on Earth. It also has an aspiration to end the extinction crisis and help create a world where nature is protected, valued, and managed responsibly. To that end Kew launched a 10-year strategy in March 2021.

Science strategy: To undertake this, Kew will use science-based knowledge and solutions to protect biodiversity and use natural resources sustainably. Their scientists will identify

and strive to protect species of plants and fungi globally, as well as revealing those that could be new sources of food, medicine, fuel, or materials.

Inspire people: Alongside the horticultural mission they will create a new public science engagement centre, and a 'Carbon Garden' at Kew, as well as a major revisioning of the Palm House.

Education: Kew will aim to train the next generation of scientists and horticulturalists by teaching students from the UK and the rest of the world. They will expand their PhD, MSc, and Diploma programmes as well as offering apprenticeships and short courses. They also plan to develop new learning centres at Kew Gardens and Wakehurst.

Public awareness: The RBG Kew is a public body and charity with global collections and influence. This must be for everyone by disseminating knowledge and collections both physically and digitally for global benefit. The intention is to provide interest to all communities and try to increase the numbers of visitors to Kew and Wakehurst.

Influence policy: Kew will speak with confidence and prominence to advocate policies aligned with their mission both nationally and internationally. They will lead by example and be an exemplar of environmental responsibility in all that they do, including by exceeding net-zero carbon emissions to become Climate Positive by 2030.

Clearly, RGB Kew does a lot of work to protect the plants we all cherish. If you have never been then Kew Gardens is well worth a visit at any time of the year. Entry tickets purchased online for an adult are £20 weekdays and £22 weekends (1st February to 31st October 2024.)

Annual membership provides greater support. Adults are priced at £77 by direct debit or £107 for joint membership. If you are aged between 16 and 29 then it is only £32 by direct debit. This gives you free, unlimited access to Kew Gardens and Wakehurst Palace, along with the usual membership newsletters and magazines, and also 10% discount in their shop (including online) as well as priority booking for events and so on.

Much more can be discovered on all the issues above including not least the *State of the World's Plants and Fungi 2023* report by logging on to <https://www.kew.org> It is well worth a look but makes sober reading however it has facilitated new research that never before could have been achieved.

With the checklist data, Kew and its partners are learning how to increase the value of new protected areas by prioritising plants that carry out different roles within a habitat, or that are distantly related in the evolutionary tree. The checklist has also been used to identify 'dark spots,' parts of the planet harbouring unknown biodiversity that urgently needs a greater understanding-

Martin Buckland

Permission to write an article on Kew using its online resources was sought from Ben Evans, Digital Communications for Kew's Science Directorate.

Plant identification apps.

[Google Lens](#) A general purpose identification tool that is probably already on most mobile phones.

[ObsIdentify](#) Based in the Netherlands and developed by a variety of partners including the [Naturalis Biodiversity Center](#). Recognizes plants, insects, mushrooms, and birds. Provides little information on the identified species but gives an indication of the level of confidence in the result (but read the 'small print'!).

[Flora Incognita](#) Developed in Germany by personnel from Technische Universität Ilmenau and Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry, specifically for plant identification. Can initially select if the plant is a grass, flower, tree, or fern, and can then upload different views, e.g., the flower side or top, leaf, whole plant, fruit, or the upper and lower sides of a frond. The output is informative and gives brief details about the species, alternative names, use and toxicity, habitat, status, and a distribution map. Indicates level of confidence in the result. More detail [here](#).

[PlantNet](#) Produced as part of a consortium (the initials of which elude me!) but includes Montpellier University. Level of confidence in result given but little else. More information [here](#).

[LeafSnap](#) Produced by a team of 'nature lovers.' Contains advertisements. Little information on the species identified. Free, but can upgrade – which I suppose might make the identification more accurate?

Plant identification app to replace County Recorders and Referees

Steve Jackson

Well, No, not yet anyway – but it makes a good headline! And how far off will this be?

The decline in trust over recent years in the so-called experts, the almost universal adoption of smart phones and apps, the rapid rise in artificial intelligence/machine learning, and the development of 'barcoding' for identification, all contributing to growth in citizen science, may make this scenario inevitable.

So, given this scenario, how good are the apps that may be used for *identification*? There are many recording apps available. I am trialling a new one being developed by the BSBI.

I am going to compare a number of free apps – but this is not a strictly scientific study! (There is already a number of studies that have done this. A good start is an [interview](#) with Hamlyn Jones on the BSBI website together with an [article](#).)

The apps chosen are outlined opposite. Google Lens because it's probably on almost everyone's smart phone; ObsIdentify because I use it for moth identification for which it is actually pretty good; Flora Incognita and PlantNet as they are also on my phone and have been developed by the academic community; and LeafSnap simply because it looked like one of the best of the rest and has a pay element to it (to which I have not subscribed). Rather than choose a biased sample to study, I decided, last August, to look at all the photos posted on the WBS WhatsApp group in September (subsequently a number of others were chosen for specific purposes). These were submitted to each identification app and the results recorded in Appendix A. The boxes in green indicate a correct or more or less correct identification. The vernacular names and binomials may differ from Stace 2019 4th edition as variations of the common names and synonyms may be used elsewhere. The figures in the boxes relating to ObsIdentify, Flora Incognita, and PlantNet indicate the level of confidence in the identification. Only the first identification appearing in each app is used here.

But before proceeding further, what is it that we are comparing these apps to? And how good do we expect them to be?

Field Identification Skills

Sarah Whild and Sue Townsend developed a skills pyramid to show what might be expected at different levels as someone

develops their identification skills. Alongside this are the Field Identification Skills Certificates testing a person's identification expertise. The standards are maintained by the BSBI and run by approved local providers. The tests consist of a lab test, without ID guides, of ten common, easily identified specimens; another lab test of 20 more difficult specimens for which ID guides are allowed; and a field test which entails surveying as fully as possible a small site of 2-3 ha in two hours. 'False positives,' i.e., identifying species that are not there are also taken into account. The 'pyramid' and tests are shown below. (I know, it's not actually a pyramid! Pyramid really refers to fewer and fewer people the higher the level.) The descriptions seem reasonable, but I think there is quite a jump from level 3 to level 4, and an exponential increase in ability thereafter. And: *even very good botanists don't usually score more than a Level 5 – this is the highest practical level to which we can usually assess and is equivalent to what you would expect from a very competent professional field botanist (at Accomplished-level competence for botanical ID in CIEEM's Competency Framework for professional ecologists), but we can detect Level 6 botanists – although they are a rare breed!* (BSBI FISC Information Booklet 2023)

There are many potential errors in field work, digitization, and subsequent analysis, but one in particular is of relevance here. False-positives, i.e., recording something that is not there is often an unknown source of error, but a recent study found that: *a person's ability to correctly identify a large number of species is not a safeguard against the generation of false-positive errors. There was no phylogenetic pattern to falsely observed species; however, rare species are more likely to be false-positive as are species from species rich genera.* (Groom and Whild (2017), Characterisation of false-positive observations in botanical surveys. *PeerJ* 5:e3324; DOI 10.7717/peerj.3324)

Botanical Field Skills Pyramid	
Level	Description
7	Outstanding – good national referee for a limited taxonomic or habitat group – may write monographs, review taxonomic groups, supervise research students' projects on a species.
6	Excellent ID skills – likely to be commissioned nationally for surveying a particular group. Likely to publish. Would probably keep a reference collection.
5	Very good ID skills – in one group or more – more-or-less totally reliable for a site survey for that group – would expect to identify any rare species or hybrids or take vouchers for ID. Would be expected to know about legislation and automatically have appropriate licence. Always uses scientific names. Would be expected to record at least 75% of taxa within a site. Minimum level for teaching professional ID courses.
4	Good ID skills in one group – could be commissioned to survey a site for vascular plants but may miss sub-species and hybrids. Reasonable on grasses, sedges, and ferns. Member of relevant recording society. Should automatically submit records. Should use mostly scientific names. Ideally, schemes and societies should aim for this as the minimum for active recorders and VC recorders. Minimum level for agency employee or consultant and for NVC. Minimum level for FSC associate tutor for non-credit teaching.
3	Reasonable ID skills – some flowering plants, some common grasses, sedges, or ferns – an 'improver.' Should be aware of relevant national recording society. May be a member. May submit records locally. Uses common names usually. Minimum level for FSC tutor. Minimum level for a recorder to have their records accepted. Phase 1 survey level.
2	Some ID skills – can ID common flowering species, for example, but not capable of producing a comprehensive site list. No grasses, sedges, or ferns, but some rushes. May have attended one or two ID courses but not familiar with collecting and refereeing of voucher specimens. Unlikely to be a member of relevant recording society although may be a member of a local recording group. Uses common names.
1	Basic ID skills – can recognize a buttercup, daisy, or plantain. No grasses, sedges, or ferns. May not have attended any sort of training course in identification but intends to work/record in that area. Usually not a member of BSBI. Probably unaware that they are at this level but would like to be at one of the above levels (often a recent undergraduate).
0	General populace with no current engagement in field botany.

Adapted from: Sarah Whild and Sue Townsend, University of Birmingham 2005 revised 2007

FISC tests and scoring

Test	Lab test 1	Lab test 2	Field test	False-positives
What is identified	10 species that are common, widespread, and uncontroversial to identify. No ID guides allowed.	20 species including vegetative material, grasses, hybrids, aquatics, rare/scarce species. ID guides allowed.	All species in an area of 2-3 ha. Compared to those recorded by a Gold Standard Surveyor. ID guides allowed.	Species recorded but are not in the Gold Standard Surveyor's list or are unlikely to occur in the area.
Time	1.5 hours		2 hours	
Level	Out of 10 (%)	Out of 20 (%)	% score	Number
5	9+ (90+)	16+ (80+)	70+	5 or less
4	7-8.5 (70+)	13-15.5 (65+)	55-69	6
3	5-6.5 (50+)	9-12.5 (45+)	40-54	7 or 8
2	3-3.5 (30+)	5-8.5 (25+)	20-39	9 to 12
1	0.5-2.5 (5+)	0.5-4.5 (2+)	<20	12+
Final level is calculated by adding up the Level achieved in each of the above categories and dividing by 4. For example, if a candidate scores 5 in Lab Test 1, 4 in Lab Test 2, 5 in the field test and 4 in false-positives, their total is 18 - divide by 4 which gives 4.5 therefore they are a level 4.				

So, how do the five apps examined here compare with the above skills levels? Sixteen species were posted and identified (I am assuming correctly!) on WhatsApp during September 2023 (Fig. 1; Appendix A). A wide variety of species was posted, some of which could be described as easy to identify, others more difficult. Grasses, herbs, water plants, and shrubs were included, and the sample maybe similar to one used for Lab test 2, and although only a small number of species compared to what a field survey might produce, could represent the Field test. Incorrect identifications may be equated with false-positives. The results are given below. With the exception of Google Lens and bearing in mind that we are not comparing exact equivalences, the other four apps would have gained a Level 4 or 5 on the FISC tests, which is probably not too bad. As can be seen from Appendix A, some species such as Buckthorn, Hairy Finger-grass, Beggarticks, and others were identified by all the apps (binomials may be found in the Appendices). But there were two species, Common Calamint and Common Dog-violet, that none of the apps was able to correctly identify. In fact, four out of five of the apps identified the latter as Early Dog-violet and the fifth as Sweet Violet. It may be that in this case the apps are 'incorrectly' reading the photo which points to the fact that generally good images are required if using apps. And maybe in the case of the Common Calamint the necessary identification features were not obvious.

	Google Lens	ObsIdentify	PlantNet	Flora Incognita	Leaf snap
% correct	44	69	81	88	69
No. correct	7	11	13	14	11
No. incorrect	9	5	3	2	5
Lab test 2 level	2	4	5	5	4
Field test level	3	4	5	5	4
False-positives level	2	5	5	5	5
Mean level	2	4	5	5	4

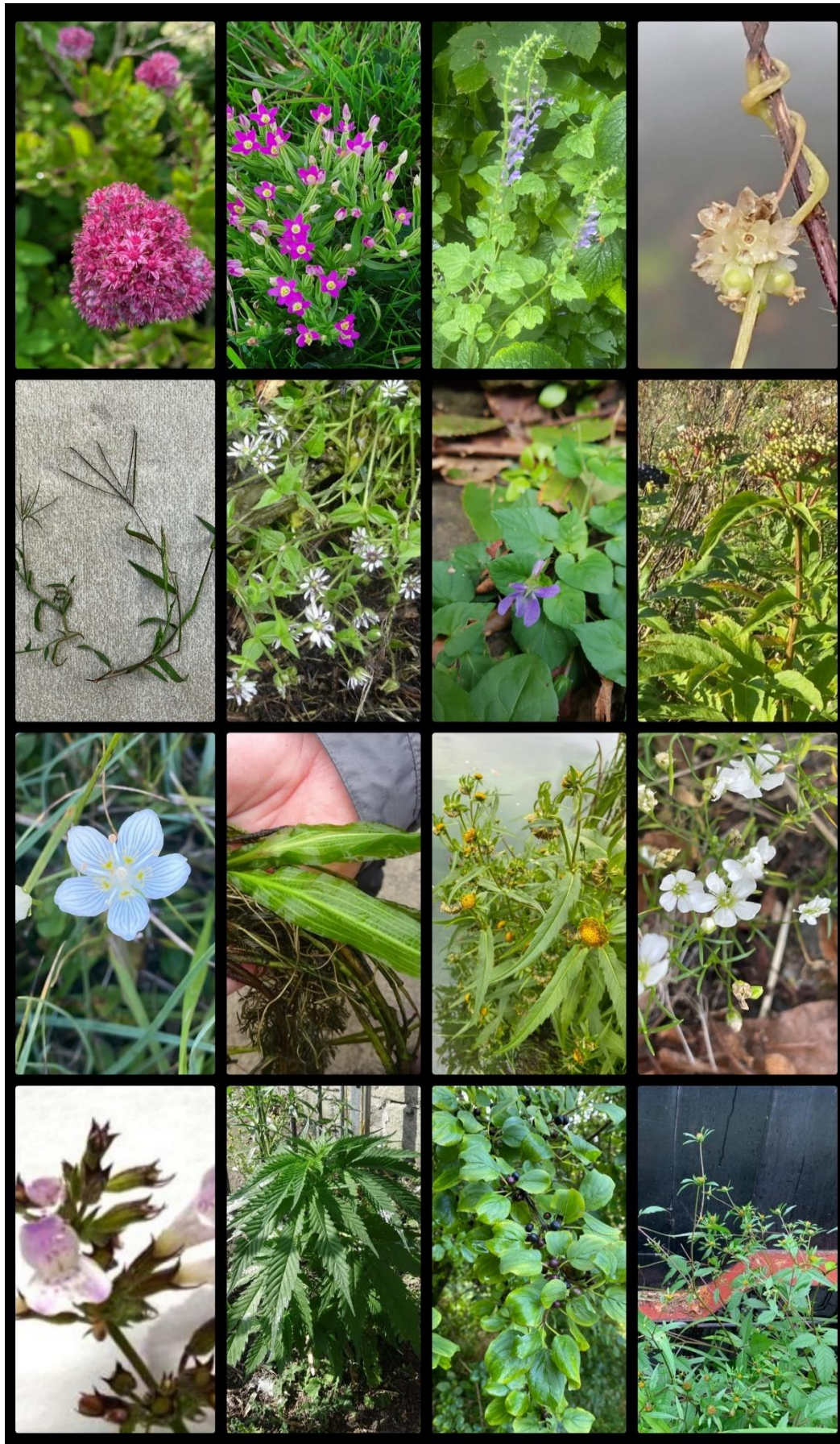


Figure 1. Sixteen species posted on WhatsApp, September 2023. Not labelled so you can make your own identification and link them to the apps' attempts.

So, how about a harder challenge for the apps? What if we only have seedlings? Or an inflorescence, or leaves and buds? Or petiole hairs or inner tepals/tubercles? The eight in Figure 2 (and Appendix B) were selected for this task. The results were quite mixed but overall, the apps made reasonable identifications. In some cases where an image was used that contained numerous plants such as the seedlings of Common Centaury, the identification depended



Figure 2. Parts of plants used for identification. Not labelled so you can make your own identification and link to the apps' attempts.

Taken as a group, the apps performed relatively well and would be considered to have 'good' or 'very good' identification skills based on the FISC tests. The exception being Google Lens. Since such apps are often designed to 'learn' as they accumulate more knowledge, they might be expected to improve in the future. Nevertheless, they should not be relied on and always used with good quality photographs of the whole plant and the features that may be needed to make a positive identification.

2024 is the last year for recording before the writing of a new publication of the plants of Wiltshire. So, with the summer approaching, now is the time to ramp up your botanizing!

Many thanks to those who submitted photos to WhatsApp and for allowing me to use them.

to a large extent on selecting the appropriate seedling. Similarly, each seedling leaf needed to be chosen for identification of the hogweeds. Surprisingly, two of the apps identified Dove's-foot Crane's-bill simply from the petiole hairs, and correct identifications were made from the inner tepals/tubercles of the Golden Dock. Overall, ObsIdentify performed the best but completely misidentified one specimen, concluding that the Awned Canary-grass (correctly identified by all the other apps) was a *Dryopteris* sp., and even then with virtually no confidence whatsoever. PlantNet and Flora Incognita tied for second place, and those specimens incorrectly named were mostly correct to the genus level. It is perhaps not entirely surprising that Google Lens performed the worst as it is not optimised for plant identification.

The last test for the apps was to use images posted on WhatsApp where an identification was requested (Fig. 3; Appendix C). Here, the apps were as uncertain as their human counterparts! Both the apps and humans identified the walnut as Black Walnut, but from the wording when posted, I suspect it may be something much rarer. The mint was mostly identified to genus level as was the *Persicaria*. The apps were unable to satisfactorily differentiate between the two agrimonies or two *Arums* and were very poor in identifying the grasses. These results suggest that where closely related and very similar species are being identified, then even more caution is needed than where an identification is likely to be more obvious. Nevertheless, the apps may give a starting point when referring to standard identification works.



Figure 3. Images where the identification was uncertain. Not labelled so you to make your own identification and link to the apps' attempts.

Appendix A

Posted by	Identified by	Identified as	Google Lens	ObsIdentify	PlantNet	Flora Incognita	Leaf snap	Stace vernacular	Stace 4 taxon	Notes	% correct
Dave	Dave	Buckthorn	Buckthorn	Purging Buckthorn 95	Common Buckthorn 90	Common Buckthorn 100	Common Buckthorn	Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	All gave it as <i>R. cathartica</i>	100
Dave	Dave	Somerset Skullcap	<i>Scutellaria barbata</i>	Large Skullcap <i>S. columnae</i> 100	Somerset Skullcap 81	Somerset Skullcap 94	Somerset Skullcap	Somerset Skullcap	<i>Scutellaria altissima</i>	Some agreement	60
Pat	Pat	Orpine	Orpine	Orpine 63	Orpine 40	Witch's Moneybags 99	Butterfly Stonecrop <i>Hylotelephium spectabile</i>	Orpine	<i>Hylotelephium telephium</i>	Generally good	80
Dave	Dave	common Calamintha <i>Clinopodium ascendens</i>	Wild Basil	Black Horehound <i>Ballota nigra</i> 68	Large Thyme <i>Thymus pulegioides</i> 9	Calamint <i>Calamintha nepeta</i> agg. 95	Field Woundwort <i>Stachys arvensis</i>	Common Calamint	<i>Clinopodium ascendens</i>	Apps struggled with this one!	0
Fran	David	<i>Canabis sativa</i>	Kush <i>Cannabis indica</i>	Hemp <i>Cannabis sativa</i> 100	<i>Cannabis Cannabis sativa</i> 89	Hemp <i>Cannabis sativa</i> 99	<i>Cannabis Cannabis sativa</i>	Hemp	<i>Cannabis sativa</i>	Good consensus	80
Sam	Sam	<i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i>	<i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i>	Hairy Finger-grass <i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i> 1	Common Crabgrass <i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i>	Hairy Crabgrass <i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i> 92	Common Crabgrass <i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i>	Hairy Finger-grass	<i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i>	Good consensus	100
David	Martin	Annual Gypsophila, <i>Gypsophila muralis</i>	<i>Sagina subulata</i>	Annual Gypsophila, <i>Gypsophila muralis</i> 100	Slender mountain sandwort <i>Eremogone capillaris</i> 13	Low Baby's Breath <i>Psammophylliella muralis</i> (syn.) 72	<i>Heliosperma pusillum</i>	Not given	<i>Gypsophila muralis</i>	Not too good	40
Fran	Fran	Beggarticks <i>Bidens frondosa</i>	Devil's Beggarticks <i>Bidens frondosa</i>	Beggarticks <i>Bidens frondosa</i> 95	Devil's Beggarticks <i>Bidens frondosa</i> 85	Beggarticks <i>Bidens frondosa</i> 83	Devil's Beggarticks <i>Bidens frondosa</i>	Beggarticks	<i>Bidens frondosa</i>	Good consensus	100
Dave	Dave	Grass of Parnassus	Marsh grass of parnassus <i>Parnassia palustris</i>	Grass of Parnassus <i>Parnassia palustris</i> 100	Grass of Parnassus <i>Parnassia palustris</i> 82	Grass-of-Parnassus <i>Parnassia palustris</i> 98	Bog star <i>Parnassia palustris</i>	Grass-of-Parnassus	<i>Parnassia palustris</i>	Photographed in Slovenia. Good consensus.	100
Dave	Dave/Martin	Elderberry by Dave; Danewort by Martin	<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Danewort <i>Sambucus ebulus</i> 95	Danewort <i>Sambucus ebulus</i> 92	Danewort <i>Sambucus ebulus</i> 98	Danewort <i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf Elder	<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Posted at same time as Grass of Parnassus - so from Slovenia?	100
Fran	Fran	Water Chickweed	<i>Stellaria aquatica</i>	Water Chickweed <i>Stellaria aquatica</i> 100	Water Chickweed <i>Stellaria aquatica</i> 34	Water Chickweed 68	Giant Chickweed <i>Myosoton aquaticum</i> (syn.)	Water Chickweed	<i>Stellaria aquatica</i>	Good consensus although Leaf snap has a different common name and syn.	100
John	John	small century	Rock Centaury <i>Zeltnera beyrichii</i>	Seaside Centaury <i>Centaureum littorale</i> 97	Branched Centaury <i>Centaureum pulchellum</i> 43	Lesser Centaury <i>Centaureum pulchellum</i> 95	Branched centaury <i>Centaureum pulchellum</i>	Lesser Centaury	<i>Centaureum pulchellum</i>	I'm sure John meant to write Lesser Centaury!	60
Karen	Karen	Dodder	Alfalfa Dodder <i>Cuscuta approximata</i>	Greater Dodder <i>Cuscuta europaea</i> 100	European dodder <i>Cuscuta europaea</i> 88	Greater Dodder <i>Cuscuta europaea</i> 52	European dodder <i>Cuscuta europaea</i>	Greater Dodder	<i>Cuscuta europaea</i>	I think Karen probably meant Greater Dodder	80
Fran	Fran	Loddon Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton lucens</i>	Field Mouse-ear <i>Cerastium arvense</i> 63	Longleaf pondweed <i>Potamogeton nodosus</i> 29	Loddon Pondweed <i>Potamogeton nodosus</i> 91	Alpine pondweed <i>Potamogeton alpinus</i> [P. nodosus listed second]	Loddon Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton nodosus</i>	Apps struggling here	40
Fran	Fran	<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Sweet violet <i>Viola odorata</i>	Early Dog-violet <i>Viola reichenbachiana</i> 51	Early dog violet <i>Viola reichenbachiana</i> 23	Early Dog-violet <i>Viola reichenbachiana</i> 89	Early Dog-violet <i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>	Common Dog-violet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Apps seem to insist this is <i>V. reichenbachiana</i> !	0
Dave	Dave	<i>Bidens cernua</i>	<i>Bidens radiata</i>	Nodding Bur-marigold <i>Bidens cernua</i> 100	Nodding beggar-ticks <i>Bidens cernua</i> 92	Nodding Bur-marigold <i>Bidens cernua</i> 93	Nodding beggar-ticks <i>Bidens cernua</i>	Nodding Bur-marigold	<i>Bidens cernua</i>	Generally good consensus	80

Appendix B

Posted by	Identified by	Part of plant	Identified as	Google Lens	ObsIdentify	PlantNet	Flora Incognita	Leaf snap	Stace vernacular	Stace 4 taxon	Notes
Karen	Karen	Inflorescence	<i>Carex spicata</i>	<i>Carex spicata</i>	Spiked Sedge <i>Carex spicata</i> 100	Spiked Sedge <i>Carex spicata</i> 51	Prickly Sedge <i>Carex muricata</i> agg. 93	Spiked Sedge <i>Carex spicata</i>	Spiked Sedge	<i>Carex spicata</i>	Good. <i>C. muricata</i> is very similar to <i>C. spicata</i> differing in length of utricles and beak.
Dave	Kat	Seedlings	Common Centaury	Broadleaf plantain <i>Plantago major</i>	Common Centaury <i>Centaureum erythraea</i> 80	Hoary Plantain <i>Plantago media</i> 8	Common Centaury <i>Centaureum erythraea</i> 96	Hoary Plantain <i>Plantago media</i>	Common Centaury	<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>	This was a tricky one as the result depended on which seedling was chosen.
Pat	Pat	Petiole hairs	<i>Geranium molle</i>	Shaggy Soldier	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill <i>G. molle</i> 54	Round-leaf crane's-bill <i>G. rotundifolium</i> 5; with <i>G. molle</i> 4	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill <i>G. molle</i> 95	Pallid Bramble <i>Rubus pallidus</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium molle</i>	A good effort by some apps considering this was based solely on the characteristics of the hairs of the petiole.
Dave	Dave	Inner tepals/tubercles	Golden Dock	<i>Bulbostylis barbata</i>	Golden Dock <i>Rumex maritimus</i> 100	Golden Dock <i>Rumex maritimus</i> 37	Golden Dock <i>Rumex maritimus</i> 24	Dune sandbur <i>Cenchrus longispinus</i>	Golden Dock	<i>Rumex maritimus</i>	The three main contending apps did well here but not with great confidence.
Kat	Kat	Seedlings	Hogweed and Giant Hogweed	Giant Hogweed/Common Hogweed	Giant Hogweed <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> 100 Hogweed <i>H. sphondylium</i> 100	Giant Hogweed <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> 70 Hogweed <i>H. sphondylium</i> 84	Giant Hogweed <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> 88 Hogweed <i>H. sphondylium</i> 99	Giant Hogweed <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> /Hogweed <i>H. sibiricum</i>	Giant Hogweed/Hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> / <i>H. sphondylium</i>	Good consensus with only one app not identifying Hogweed.
Dave	Dave	Inflorescence	<i>Phalaris paradoxa</i>	<i>Phalaris paradoxa</i>	<i>Dryopteris</i> sp. 1	<i>Phalaris paradoxa</i> 71	Awned Canary-grass <i>Phalaris paradoxa</i> 99	Paradoxa grass <i>Phalaris paradoxa</i>	Awned Canary-grass	<i>Phalaris paradoxa</i>	Good with the very surprising exception of ObsIdentify.
Dave	Dave	Leaves and buds	Turkey oak	<i>Quercus canbyi</i>	Turkey Oak <i>Quercus cerris</i> 83	Turkey Oak <i>Quercus cerris</i> 47	European turkey oak <i>Quercus cerris</i> 99	Turkey Oak <i>Quercus cerris</i>	Turkey Oak	<i>Quercus cerris</i>	Good apart from Google Lens.
Karen	Karen	Inflorescence	Yellow Bristle-grass <i>Setaria pumila</i>	<i>Setaria viridis</i>	Yellow Bristle-grass <i>Setaria pumila</i> 77	Yellow foxtail <i>Setaria pumila</i> 29	Yellow Bristle-grass <i>Setaria helvola</i> 81	Yellow foxtail <i>Setaria pumila</i>	Yellow Bristle-grass	<i>Setaria pumila</i>	All in the right area.

Appendix C

Posted by	Identified by	Identified as	Google Lens	ObsIdentify	PlantNet	Flora Incognita	Leaf snap	Stace 4 vernacular	Stace 4 taxon	Notes
Dave	Various	3/4 suggested Black Walnut <i>Juglans nigra</i> ; suggestion of <i>J. cinerea</i> Butternut Walnut	Eastern Black Walnut <i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut <i>Juglans nigra</i> 99	Black Walnut <i>Juglans nigra</i> 81	Black Walnut <i>Juglans nigra</i> 99	Black Walnut <i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Probably concensus for <i>Juglans nigra</i> ???
Rhianna	Dave	Could be spearmint but need inflorescence to be sure	Peppermint	Water Mint <i>Mentha aquatica</i> 51	Peppermint <i>Mentha x piperita</i> 30	Spearmint <i>Mentha spicata</i> 88	Mediterranium Prasium <i>Prasium majus</i>	Spearmint	<i>Mentha spicata</i>	Mostly in the mint area but no real consensus
David	David Hocken	Possibly <i>Agrimonia procera</i> or maybe <i>A. eupatoria</i> ?	Flower: <i>Agromonia japonica</i> (but <i>A. eupatoria</i> listed next). Leaf: <i>A. eupatoria</i>	Agrimony <i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i> (93 flower, 89 leaf)	Scented agrimony <i>A. procera</i> (23 flower, 82 leaf)	Agrimony <i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i> 99	Scented agrimony <i>A. procera</i>	Agrimony/Fragrant Agrimony	<i>A. eupatoria</i> / <i>A. procera</i>	Flower and leaf/stem uploaded to WhatsApp. Consensus at the genus level.
Richard on behalf of David Pickering	Various	David Pickering - <i>Persicaria chinensis</i> ; Richard - Buckwheat; Martin - <i>Persicaria capitata</i> ; Dave - <i>Persicaria virginiana</i> ; Dave - <i>Polygonum chinense</i>	Arrow-leaved tearthumb <i>Persicaria sagittata</i>	Black Nightshade <i>Solanum nigrum</i> 11	Chinese knotweed <i>Persicaria chinensis</i> 39	Chinese knotweed <i>Persicaria chinensis</i> 88	Pink-headed Knotweed <i>Persicaria capitata</i>	?	?	No sensible outcome
Hayley	Hayley	<i>Lolium</i>	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	Tall Fescue <i>Schedonorus arundinaceus</i> 47	English Bluegrass <i>Lolium pratense</i> 44	Perennial rye-grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> 81	Rough Meadow-grass <i>Poa trivialis</i>	?	?	An unusual specimen. Dave: Basically It hasn't read the book, it doesn't know how it's supposed to be growing, very strange. Sharon: Odd growth like that is often caused by a plant gall. Not much consensus here!
David	David	<i>Arum italicum</i> or <i>A. maculatum</i>	Cuckoo Pint <i>Arum maculatum</i>	Italian Lords-and-Ladies <i>Arum italicum</i> 51	Lords and Ladies <i>Arum cylindraceum</i> 94	Italian Lords-and-Ladies <i>Arum italicum</i> 77	Lords and Ladies <i>Arum cylindraceum</i>	Italian Lords-and-Ladies/Lords and Ladies	<i>Arum italicum</i> / <i>Arum maculatum</i>	Consensus at the genus level.
Steve	Various	Steve - Creeping Bent???; Dave - may or may not be; Martin - <i>Agrostis canina</i> or <i>vinealis</i>	<i>Corynephorus canescens</i>	Grey Hair grass <i>Corynephorus canescens</i> 22;	Bristleleaf bulrush <i>Isolepis setacea</i> 17	Jointed rush <i>Juncus articulatus</i> 30	Wood horsetail <i>Equisetum sylvaticum</i>	?	?	Very poor!

Plant records 2023

Introduction

The recording of all possible 1km squares in the county continued apace in 2023 with many areas not previously sought out being covered particularly in the north-west. There were even a few 1km squares that had very few previous records even during the end of the last century. Examples are within SO90 at the Wiltshire / Gloucestershire border and within ST75 and ST77. In these cases, the majority of records have been omitted as the following list would be replete with rows of very common species.

The following list contains all species, both native and non-native, which are new to the County or Vice-counties along with those new to a 10k square. Within the list the words 'new' or 'recent' refers to records gathered since the early 1980's and the publication of the 1993 *Wiltshire Flora*.

The information contains both scientific and common names based on the *New Flora of the British Isles 3rd edition* (Stace); together with site, 10k square, brief description where supplied and the initials of the recorder [Recorders and their initials can be found at the end.] First County or Vice-county records appear in bold italics.

Plant species new to the County

Eryngium planum (Blue Eryngo); Sopworth (ST82668628), a single self-sown plant at wall to pavement angle, MBu. First seen on 12th May, the recorder returned on 20th June when it was in flower to secure Id.

Euphorbia mellifera (Canary Spurge); Bradford-on-Avon, Whitehill (ST82816116), a garden escape. Parent plants in nearby property, FS.

Euphorbia myrsinites (Broad-leaved Glaucous-spurge); Corsham (ST87476969), in crack at the base of a light column, DWa.

Hibiscus trionum (Bladder Kenna); Great Cumberwell (ST8263) a single flowering plant on a landfill site, DG. This is a rarely grown, sub-tropical, annual, or biennial, garden plant and said to be easy to grow.

Matthiola incana (Hoary Stock); Bradford-on-Avon (ST826608), three plants at footpath near Town Bridge, CHg & FS, determined by Dave Green.

Medicago polymorpha (Toothed Medick); Manton south, (SU175669), several plants at roadside, JBr. A rare occurrence for VC7 as the last plant recorded was in 1947.

Pittosporum tenuifolium (Kohuhu); Bradford-on-Avon (ST818609), at Meadowfield, three plants at edge of footpath, self-seeded from parent plant in neighbouring garden, FS.

Potentilla fruticosa (Shrubby Cinquefoil); Devizes (SU00566015), a self-sown seedling in highway block paved road. Parent shrubs in neighbouring garden, MBu.

Scorpiurus muricatus (Caterpillar-plant); Broadchalke, near (SU055273), arable stubble field, PLe. This is an annual leguminous herb originating from southern Europe, North Africa, and the Mediterranean. It is a low-growing curiosity plant for after its small yellow pea-like flowers are over they are followed by tightly curled, hairy seed pods or 'caterpillars.'

Tropaeolum peregrinum (Canary-creeper); Keevil (ST916581), several plants, garden escapes, FS.

VC7 North Wiltshire

Acanthus mollis (Bear's-breech); Highworth (SU29), at roadside, probably garden throw-out, RAi.

1st VC7 record

Agrostemma githago (Corncockle); Pickwick, Corsham (ST87), two sites. Almost certainly introduced or volunteer plants from previous sowing, both DHk.

Alcea rosea (Hollyhock); Sopworth (ST88), scattered throughout village at wall to pavement angle, MBu.

Alisma lanceolatum (Narrow-leaved Water-plantain); Dauntsey (ST98), in a stream, RAi.

Allium paradoxum (Few-flowered Garlic); Farleigh Wick (ST76), roadside population; Inwoods (ST76), small group under tree, both DG.

Allium roseum (Rosy Garlic); Charlton (ST98), single plant in flower at roadside, RAi.

Allium schoenoprasum (Chives); Pewsham, Forest Gate (ST97), small bunch, self-sown at wall to pavement angle, MBu.

Allium triquetrum (Three-cornered Garlic); Cleverton (ST98) and Lea (ST98), both roadside plants, RAi.

Alnus incana (Grey Alder); Pewsham, Forest Gate (ST97), three small standards, probably planted, with one self-sown sapling, MBu.

Amaranthus retroflexus (Common Amaranth); Marshfield (ST77), five plants on disturbed ground, DG.

Ammi majus (Bullwort); Corsham (ST87), two plants at kerb side, DG. In spite of its popularity as a garden annual, this records represents only the 4th record this century for VC7.

Anemone appennina (Blue Anemone); Fosseway/Crudwell Lane jct. (ST99), small patch. Position suggests they were likely dumped there many years ago and have now naturalised, MBu.

Anemone blanda (Balkan Anemone); Bradford-on-Avon, Meadowfield (ST86), pavement 'weed', FS; Melksham (ST96), near The Spa, KAn.

Anemone x hybrida (Japanese Anemone); Corsham, Middlewick Lane (ST87), garden escape, FS.

Anthriscus caucalis (Bur Chervil); Avebury Down (SU16), SBe.

Arabis caucasica (Garden Arabis); Trowbridge, Bythesea Road (ST85), on wasteland, FS.

Arum italicum (Italian Lords-and-Ladies); Little Somerford (ST98), roadside, RAi.

Astragalus glycyphyllos (Wild Liquorice); Sopworth, south-east (ST88), a single plant in fruit on grass verge near road edge, MBu. This VC7 record represents only the third 10k square record this century.

Aubrieta deltoidea (Aubretia); Biddestone (ST87), MGe; Melksham (ST96), MBu.

Avena sativa (Oat); Home Woods, Nettleton PRV (ST87), AA; Sherston Parva (ST88) and Maud's Heath Causeway (ST97), both MBu. All casuals, likely from tractor-trailer dropped seed.

Barbarea intermedia (Medium-flowered Winter-cress); Luckington, east (ST88), single in harvested arable field, RAi; Maidford (ST88), single, flowering at edge of arable field, MBu.

Barbarea verna (American Winter-cress); Allington (ST87), DG; Corsham (ST87), DHk.

Bidens frondosa (Beggarticks); Staverton (ST85), single plant, FS. **1st VC7 record**

Brachypodium rupestre (Tor-grass), Tormarton (ST77), two sites, West Littleton (ST77), abundant in road verge, all DG; Kemble (ST99), two sites near former railway, both RAi.

Calendula officinalis (Pot Marigold); Melksham (ST96), garden escape as pavement weed, KAn; Kington Langley, Plough Lane (ST97), garden escape, self-sown into pavement cracks, MBu.

Calystegia pulchra (Hairy Bindweed); Yatton Keynell, south (ST87), at edge of new housing estate, RAi, AA, SFi & PMW; Luckington (ST88), on garden wall, MBu.

Carlina vulgaris (Carline Thistle); Hullavington CP (ST88), DLy.

Carum carvi (Caraway); Great Cumberwell (ST86), single plant at landfill site, DG. Only the second record this century and just the sixth including record from the Wiltshire Flora published in 1993.

Centaurea cyanus (Cornflower); West Kington (ST77), volunteer plants at arable headland following conservation mix sowing in previous years, DG.

Centaurea debauxii (Chalk Knapweed); Sherston (ST88), on a bank above the River Avon; Fosse Way near Kemble (ST99), near Cotswold Airport, both RAi.

Centaurea montana (Perennial Cornflower); Melksham (ST96), a single, self-sown plant at wall to pavement angle, MBu.

Cephalanthera damasonium (White Helleborine); Purton (SU0987), three single plants within 25m of each other, LDu. This is a remarkable record for SU08 as the last time this species was seen in this area was at Lydiard Millicent, a few miles away, in 1939.

Cicerbita macrophylla (Blue Sow-thistle); Easton Grey (ST88), at the road side, RAi.

Claytonia perfoliata (Springbeauty); Swindon, Old Town (SU18), a small patch, kerbside in Westlecot Road; Brinkworth, Dollacker's Green (ST98), in a layby, probably from garden dumping, both RAi. Springbeauty is a scarce plant in Wiltshire with these two records representing only the 6th and 7th records for North Wiltshire since 1953. In VC8 there has only ever been one record; Potterne, in 1930.

Conyza floribunda (Bilbao's Fleabane); Chippenham, Derriards (ST87), urban weed, DG & FS.

Conyza sumatrensis (Guernsey Fleabane); Colerne Airfield NW. (ST87), DG.

Cotoneaster franchetii (Franchet's Cotoneaster); Sherston (ST88), a well established bush at the base of a wall suggesting it's origin was bird-sown, MBu.

Crocasmia x crocosmiiflora (Montbretia); Marshfield (ST77), on a bridleway, DG.

Cyclamen hederifolium (Sowbread); Alderton (ST88), population in churchyard, RAi.

Datura stramonium (Thorn-apple); Marshfield (ST77), a single on motorcycle scrambling area, DG.

Dittrichia graveolens (Stinking Fleabane); Foscote (ST87), two plants on M4 bridge with a large population stretching along the M4 central reservation, in both directions, DG. Since the mid-2000's, this species has expanded its way through the southern half of the country having taken a 'liking' to the edges of main roads, including the roads of Wiltshire. Records also received from the A36 and the A303 in VC8.

Erodium moschatum (Musk Stork's-bill); Sherston (ST88), Seven plants spread along over two sites, at path and fence edges, both MBu.

Eryngium giganteum (Tall Eryngo); Bradford-on-Avon (ST86), eight plants as a pavement weed, DG. Only the second VC7 record for this species.

Eryngium planum (Blue Eryngo); Sopworth (ST88), a single self-sown plant at wall to pavement angle, MBu. First seen on 12th May, the recorder returned on 20th June when it was in flower to secure Id.

1st Wiltshire record

Erysimum cheiri (Wallflower); Swindon (SU18), self-sown into crack in broken concrete, WBS.

Euphorbia amygdaloides ssp. robbiae (Turkish Wood-spurge); Bradford-on-Avon, Trowbridge Road (ST86), spreading out from wall, FS.

Euphorbia characias (Mediterranean Spurge); Thingley (ST87), urban weed, DG; Sherston (ST88), at wall to pavement angle, MBu.

Euphorbia mellifera (Canary Spurge); Bradford-on-Avon, Whitehill (ST86), a garden escape. Parent plants in nearby property, FS.

1st Wiltshire record

Euphorbia myrsinites (Broad-leaved Glaucous-spurge); Corsham (ST86), pavement weed, DWa.

1st Wiltshire record

Euphorbia oblongata (Balkan Spurge); Chippenham, Derriards (ST87), DG & FS; Swindon (SU18), self-established into cracks of a broken down wall, WBS.

Fagopyrum esculentum (Buckwheat); West Kington (ST77), as a weed amongst arable Pea crop, DG. Casual records for this species are likely to increase as Buckwheat begins to be used more as a green manure crop in agriculture. – Ed.

Fallopia baldschuanica (Russian-vine); Sherston (ST88), garden escape, RAi.

Foeniculum vulgare (Fennel); Sherston Parva (ST88), a mature flowering plant at wall to road tarmac angle, MBu.

Fumaria officinalis ssp. wirtgenii (Common Fumitory); Colerne (ST87), as an urban weed, DG. [Determined by Tim Rich.] This sub-species is quite scarce in the west with most plants in the country being found to the east, particularly around the fens.

Fumaria reuteri (Martin's Ramping-fumitory); Great Cumberwell (ST86), a single plant on a landfill site, DG. This represents only the 2nd ever record in Wiltshire for this species.

Galega officinalis (Goat's-rue); Bupton (SU07), spontaneous arising in unkempt garden, RAi.

Galinsoga quadriradiata (Shaggy-soldier); Swindon (SU18), Radnor Street, dense patch kerbside, RAi. An isolated record well away from its usual haunts of Chippenham, Lacock and Bromham. – Ed.

Geranium macrorrhizum (Rock Crane's-bill); Kington Langley (ST97), Ten small clumps plus several self-sown seedlings in side of stone wall, MBu. **1st VC7 record**

Geranium phaeum (Dusky Crane's-bill); Bradford-on-Avon (ST86), Woolley, a single plant roadside, DG; Bradford-on-Avon (ST86), Cemetery Lane, a garden escape, FS. These plants represent the only two recent records for VC7. [VC8 has had records from just 8 1km squares in the same period.]

Why is this species so rarely recorded as it grows like a weed in the Editor's garden? **1st VC7 record**

Geranium x oxonianum (Druce's Crane's-bill); Foscote (ST87), on a road verge, DG; Corsham (ST87), FS; Bushton (SU07), garden escape at roadside, RAi.

Gymnadenia conopsea (Chalk Fragrant-orchid); Compton Hill (SU07), north-facing downland, RAi.

Hedera hibernica (Atlantic Ivy); Colerne Airfield, adj. (ST87); Leigh Delamere (ST87), both garden escapes onto road verge, DG; Lower Stanton St. Quinton (ST98), garden escape onto track, MBu.

Helianthemum nummularium (Common Rock-rose); Morningside WWT Reserve (SU08), JBk & KD.

Helianthus annuus (Sunflower); Great Cumberwell (ST86), on a landfill site, DG; Sherston (ST88) a roadside casual; Thornend (ST97), on a canal bank below a tree and presumed bird-sown, both MBu.

Helleborus argutifolius (Corsican Hellebore); Bradford-on-Avon (ST86), two separate sites DG, and FS; Sherston (ST88), MBu; Christian Malford (ST97), two separate sites, MBu, CJg & MJg, and CJg and MJg. All these records are self-sown plants into walls, wall bases and pavement cracks.

Helleborus orientalis (Lenten-rose); Wingfield, crossroads (ST85), single plant on road verge, DG.

Hesperis matronalis (Dame's-violet); Littlecott (SU07) road verge, RAi.

Hibiscus trionum (Bladder Kenna); Great Cumberwell (ST86) a single flowering plant on a landfill site, DG. This is a rarely grown, sub-tropical, annual, or biennial, garden plant and said to be easy to grow.

1st Wiltshire record

Hieracium exotericum (Jordan's Hawkweed); Kemble area (ST99), two close sites related to former railway line, both RAi.

Hippophae rhamnoides (Sea-buckthorn); Swindon (SU18) former car park, abundant and fruiting, WBS.

Hordeum distichon (Two-rowed Barley); Corsham (ST87), casual, FS; Brokenborough (ST99), road verges, RAi.

Hypericum calycinum (Rose-of-Sharon); Home Woods, Nettleton Verge PRV (ST87), AA.

Hypericum maculatum (Imperforate St. John's-wort); Crudwell, north (ST99), RAi.

Impatiens glandulifera (Indian Balsam); Forlorn, Sherston (ST88), twenty plants along ditch, MBu.

Lamium maculatum (Spotted Dead-nettle); Crofton (SU26), AOL.

Laurus nobilis (Bay); Chippenham north-west (ST97); seedling, DG & FS.

Lepidium ruderae (Narrow-leaved Pepperwort); Royal Wootton Bassett (SU08), twelve plants at the inner edge of the main road pavement and next to a railway embankment, MBu, PMN, DWP & HR.

Lepidium virginicum (Least Pepperwort); Bradford-on-Avon (ST86), at a kerbside, DG, corroborated by Helena Crouch. This is only the second county record in VC7 for this species and only the third county record of all time.

Limnanthes douglasii (Meadow-foam); Chippenham SW (ST87), two plants in disturbed ground, DG.

Linum usitatissimum (Flax); Fosse Way (ST98), in farm track, RAi.

Lobularia maritima (Sweet Alison); Bromham (ST96), self-seeded plants in wall, paving and road, MBu.

Lolium multiflorum (Italian Rye-grass); A433/A420 road junction (SO90 Wiltshire), MBu.

Lonicera nitida (Wilson's Honeysuckle); Marshfield (ST77), bridleway, DG.

Lonicera pileata (Box-leaved Honeysuckle); Chippenham, Derriards (ST87), urban weed, DG & FS.

Lysichiton americanus (American Skunk-cabbage); Biddestone (ST87), MGe; Bowood Woodland (ST96), TH.

Mahonia aquifolium (Oregon-grape); Charlton Heath (ST98), in a woodland strip beside road, RAi.

Malus sylvestris (Crab Apple); Huish Hill, Huish (SU16), SBe.

Matthiola incana (Hoary Stock); Bradford-on-Avon (ST86), three plants at footpath near Town Bridge, CHg & FS, determined by Dave Green. **1st Wiltshire record**

Medicago arabica (Spotted Medick); Little Somerford (ST98), roadside verge, RAi.

Medicago polymorpha (Toothed Medick); Manton south, (SU16), several plants at roadside, JBr. A rare occurrence for VC7 as the last record was in 1947. (see introductory notes) **1st Wiltshire record**

Medicago sativa (Lucerne); Bradford-on-Avon (ST85), pavement weed, FS.

Mentha x gracilis (Bushy Mint); Great Cumberwell (ST86), landfill site, DG. A very rare occurrence for VC7 as the last plant recorded was in 1959. (see introductory notes) **1st VC7 record**

Mercurialis annua (Annual Mercury); Marshfield (ST77), DG.

Nasturtium microphyllum (Narrow-fruited Water-cress); Poole Keynes (ST99), roadside ditch, RAi.

Nigella damascena (Love-in-a-mist); Notton (ST88) a few plants at wall to pavement angle; Grittleton (ST88), self-sown plants at path edge, both MBu.

Nonea lutea (Yellow Nonea); Chippenham, south-west (ST87), in an area of disturbed ground; Great Cumberwell (ST86), two plants at a landfill site, both DG. These represent only the 2nd and 3rd VC7 records. Yellow Nonea is grown as a garden plant but is not that common. The RHS suggest that there are only three suppliers for this species in the country.

Ornithogalum umbellatum (Star-of-Bethlehem); Rowde (ST96), two close sites, with up to five and twenty plants, both KGr.

Parthenocissus inserta (False Virginia-creeper); Tormarton (ST77), scrambling through hedge, DG.

Passiflora caerulea (Blue Passion-flower); Melksham (ST96), a garden escape, KAn. **1st VC7 record**

Persicaria lapathifolia (Pale Persicaria); Tormarton (ST77), Ebbdown Farm, DG.

Phacelia tanacetifolia (Phacelia); Yatton Keynell (ST87), DG; Corsham (ST87), DHk.

Phalaris paradoxa (Awned Canary-grass); Chippenham west (ST87), large population along the northern edge of cereal crop, DG.

Pittosporum tenuifolium (Kohuhu); Bradford-on-Avon (ST86), at Meadowfield, three plants at edge of footpath, self-seeded from parent plant in neighbouring garden, FS. **1st Wiltshire record**

Platanus coronopus (Buck's-horn Plantain); Chippenham, Derriards (ST87), pavement edge; Colerne Airfield, south-east (ST87), edge of roadway, both DG & FS; Lower Stanton St. Quinton (ST98), patch within a narrow verge edge of A429, MBu.

Poa humilis (Spreading Meadow-grass); Webb's Wood (SU08), WBS.

Polygonum rurivagum (Cornfield Knotgrass); Sopworth, S.E. (ST88), abundant edge of maize crop, RAi.

Polypodium x mantoniae (P.interjectum x P.vulgare); Easton Grey (ST88), luxuriant on wall, RAi.

Polypogon viridis (Water Bent); Freeman's Marsh (SU36), K&A Canal, brickwork, RAi.

Potentilla anglica (Trailing Tormentil); Blakehill Farm WWT (SU09), at track edge, DG & FS.

Potentilla x mixta (P.anglica x P.reptans); Leigh Delamere (ST87), in churchyard, DG.

Prunus cerasifera (Cherry Plum); Winterbourne Monkton. (SU07), roadside hedge, MBu.

Prunus domestica (Wild Plum); West Littleton (ST77), DG.

Prunus laurocerasus (Cherry Laurel); West Kington (ST77), DG.

Pseudofumaria alba (Pale Corydalis); Colerne Airfield, S.E. (ST87), garden escape, DG.

Pyrus pyraeaster (Wild Pear); Crudwell, north (ST99), hedge line tree of 50cm diameter, RAi.

Quercus cerris (Turkey Oak); Sevington (ST77), standard tree on road verge, DG.

Quercus ilex (Evergreen Oak); Dauntsey (ST98), RAi.

Ranunculus peltatus (Pond Water-crowfoot); Broughton Gifford Common (ST86), pond, DG.

Reseda alba (White Mignonette); Ford, near (ST87), MGe.

Rhus typhina (Stag's-horn Sumach); Notton (ST88), many suckers along 10m road verge, MBu.

Ribes nigrum (Black Currant); Sopworth (ST88), well established, bird-sown plant, wall base, MBu.

Ribes sanguineum (Flowering Currant); Colerne Airfield S.E. (ST87), single on dumped ground, DG & FS; Sopworth (ST88), two bird-sown plants base of wall, parent plant in nearby garden, MBu.

Rosa x andegavensis (R.canina x R.stylosa); Lower Swinley (ST97), two sites, a single bush in hedge and at another, many plants in hedgerow, DG.

Rosmarinus officinalis (Rosemary), Sherston (ST88), a single, self-sown plant in side of wall, MBu.

Rostraria cristata (Mediterranean Hair-grass); Bromham (ST96), six clumps at edge of village centre car park, DG. Determined Helena Crouch. Only the second county record. This grass originates from southern Europe, the Mediterranean and central and south-west Asia. It is thought that it may be an alien included in bird-seed or alternatively may arrive in basketry made of esparto grass from Spain and Portugal. Countrywide, it is very scarce with only 19 1km square records since 2000.- Ed. **1st VC7 record**

Rubus armeniacus (Himalayan Bramble); Swindon (SU18), WBS, determined by Kat Newbert.

Rubus pruinosis; Swindon (SU18), WBS, determined by Kat Newbert.

Salix elaeagnos (Olive Willow); Hullavington (ST88), RAI.

Salix holosericea (S.cinerea x S.viminalis); Littlecott (SU07), roadside, stream bank, RAI.

Salix multinervis (S.aurita x S.cinerea); Webb's Wood (SU08), WBS. **1st VC7 record**

Sedum dasyphyllum (Thick-leaved Stonecrop); Fosse Way (ST98), wall tops, RAI.

Sedum rupestre (Reflexed Stonecrop); six sites (ST88) walls, graves, records from RAI, MBu and DLy.

Sedum spectabile (Butterfly Stonecrop); Brinkworth, Dollacker's Green (ST98), in layby, probably from dumped material, RAI. **1st VC7 record**

Sedum spurium (Caucasian-stonecrop); Lea (ST98), limestone wall-top; Fosse Way (ST98), wall-top, both RAI.

Sempervivum tectorum (House-leek); Sherston, south-east (ST88), drystone garden wall, RAI.

Setaria viridis (Green Bristle-grass); Colerne Airfield S.E. (ST87) common in maize crop, DG; Alderton south (ST88), Luckington, east (ST88) arable field edge, both RAI.

Solanum lycopersicum (Tomato); Kington Langley, Plough Lane (ST97), on gravelled surround of sewage pumping station, MBu.

Solanum physalifolium (Green Nightshade); Maud's Heath Causeway (ST97), in cereal stubble, MBu.

Solanum tuberosum (Potato); Colerne Airfield N.W. (ST87), DG; Knap Hill, Workway Drove (SU16), RAI. Not so rare a sighting these days. Potatoes are often found on verges where garden waste has been placed out and presumably the mild winters are allowing them to survive.- Ed.

Solidago canadensis (Canadian Goldenrod); Luckington, east (ST88); Norton, west (ST88), both RAI.

Solidago gigantea (Early Goldenrod); Neston, west (ST88), on road verge, RAI.

Spartium junceum (Spanish Broom); Swindon (SU18), WBS, determined by Kat Newbert.

Spergularia marina (Lesser Sea-spurrey); Chippenham, west (ST87), central reservation kerb edge, DG.

Stachys byzantina (Lamb's-ear); Kington Langley, Plough Lane (ST97), self-sown in path crack, MBu.

Symphoricarpos x chenaultii (Pink Snowberry); Sherston Parva (ST88), dumped in woodland, MBu.

Symphytum orientale (White Comfrey); Highworth (SU29), roadside, probably dumped, RAI.

Symphytum x Hidcote Blue (Hidcote Comfrey); Cleverton (ST98), garden escape at roadside, RAI.

Symphytum x uplandicum (Russian Comfrey); West Kington (ST77), DG; Charlton (ST98); Little Somerford (ST98); Lea (ST98), all RAI.

Thlapsi arvense (Field Penny-cress); Marshfield (ST77), fifty plants on motorbike scrambling area, DG.

Torilis arvensis (Spreading Hedge-parsley); Atworth (ST86), many plants in arable field, PWN.

Torilis nodosa (Knotted Hedge-parsley); Lower Stanton St. Quinton (ST98); Stanton St. Quinton (ST98), both large patches in lawns of military establishments, both MBu.

Tragopogon porrifolius (Salsify); Holt (ST86), single, road-verge; Bradford-on-Avon (ST86) single, Budbury Close, both DG.

Trifolium hybridum (Alsike Clover); Tormarton (ST77), DG.

Trifolium incarnatum (Crimson Clover); Atworth (ST86), a few plants at the edge of set-aside, FS.

Trifolium micranthum (Slender Trefoil); Lea (ST98), churchyard; Malmesbury, south (ST98), in mown grass, both RAi.

Triticum aestivum (Bread Wheat); Corsham (ST87), FS.

Tsuga heterophylla (Western Hemlock); Addy's Firs Wood (ST99), RAi.

Ulmus x vegeta (Huntingdon Elm); Luckington, Cherry Orchard (ST88), ten standard trees within 100m of hedge of the same species, MBu.

Umbilicus rupestris (Navelwort); Spirithill (SU07), limestone, garden wall, RAi.

Verbascum blattaria (Moth Mullein); Kington Langley, Plough Lane (ST97), ten plants in abandoned car park, growing in block paver cracks, MBu.

Verbascum virgatum (Twiggy Mullein); Biddestone, east (ST87), two sites, single on a spoil heap and thirty plus in area of demolished buildings, both DG.

Verbena bonariensis (Argentinian Vervain); Bushton (SU07), on dumped rubble, RAi; Swindon, Even Swindon (SU18) three plants self-sown at wall to tarmac angle, MBu.

Veronica anagallis-aquatica (Blue Water-speedwell); Sherston (ST88), River Avon, RAi.

Veronica x lackschewitzii (*V. anagallis-aquatica* x *V. catenata*); Crudwell (ST99), stream; Crudwell S.W. (ST99), trackside ditch, both RAi.

Vinca major (Greater Periwinkle); Marshfield (ST77), DG.

Vinca minor (Lesser Periwinkle); Notton (ST88), MBu.

Viola x wittrockiana (Garden Pansy); Sopworth (ST88), two self-sown plants in pavement cracks, MBu.

Vulpia bromoides (Squirreltail Fescue); Sopworth (ST88), small patch in centre of track, MBu.

Vulpia myuros (Rat's-tail Fescue); Colerne Airfield S.E. (ST87), colony by crash gate, DG & FS; Thingley (ST87), large numbers in former marshalling yard, DG.

VC8

Acer cappadocicum (Cappadocicum Maple); Westwood (ST75) an unusual discovery of a mature tree in secondary woods, near a pond. Presumably planted yet no other ornamental tree species present, DG.

Ailanthus altissima (Tree-of-heaven); Bulkington (ST95), sucker on verge, FS.

Allium paradoxum (Few-flowered Garlic); Semley (ST82), WBS.

Atriplex retroflexus (Common Amaranth); Marston (ST95); Great Cheverell (ST95), both FS.

Amelanchier lamarckii (Juneberry); Langley Wood: Bishops' Wood (SU22), a well established old tree just behind an established track that was likely bird-sown, PMW.

Anacamptis pyramidalis (Pyramidal Orchid); Sedgemoor (ST82), SJJ.

Anemone x hybrida (Japanese Anemone); Marden (SU05), population at base of wall, MBu, DG & FS.

Anthriscus caucalis (Bur Chervil); Netheravon (SU14) very many plants around a tree seat, JBr & PD.

Arenaria leptoclados (Slender Sandwort); SPTA, Tilshead N.W., SPi.

Asplenium trichomanes (Maidenhair Spleenwort); Westwood (ST75), DG.

Aubrieta deltoidea (Aubrietia); Maiden Bradley (ST83), self-sown into side of wall, MBu.

Betula x aurata (*B. pendula* x *B. pubescens*); RSPB Franchises Lodge (SU21), SJJ, JSh, VW & PMW.

Bidens frondosa (Beggarticks); Bradford-on-Avon (ST86), two sites, each with eleven plants; Avoncliff (ST86), two sites along the canal; Devizes: Caen Hill Locks (SY96), gate 40, all FS.

Borago officinalis (Borage); Longbridge Deverell (ST84), urban weed, DG; Pepperbox Hill (SU22), volunteer from previous crop, PMW.

Brachypodium rupestre (Tor-grass); Ham Hill SSSI (SU36), JAm, KDa, THo & LLv.

Brassica nigra (Black Mustard); Berwick St.James PRV (SU03), CWy.

Bromus secalinus (Rye-brome); Worton (ST95); Poulshot (ST95) two sites, all three DG; Countess Farm (SU14), five sites. Numbers varying from a few plants to thousands, all in arable situations; all SPi.

Campanula persicifolia (Peach-leaved Bellflower); Little Marsh, Semington (ST85) two plants self-sown, from nearby garden, FS.

Carex divulsa (Grey Sedge); Westwood (ST75), DG; Ham (SU36), RAi.

Centaurea cyanus (Cornflower); Fonthill Bishop (ST93), volunteers from previous sowing, SJJ.

Chenopodium ficifolium (Fig-leaved Goosefoot); Countess Farm (SU14), two sites, SPi.

Cornus alba (White Dogwood); SPTA: Norton Down (ST94), PLe. **1st VC8 record**

Cotoneaster franchetii (Franchet's Cotoneaster); Bulford, Henge Green (SU14) edge of beech wood, JRM & LRa.

Crassula helmsii (New Zealand Pigmyweed); Ham (SU36) extensive floating raft in pond, RAi.

Crataegus laevigata (Midland Hawthorn); Little Langford (SU03), AA & SFi.

Cyperus longus (Galingale); Ham (SU36), around pond, RAi.

Datura stramonium (Thorn-apple); Sedgehill (ST82), SJJ.

Digitalis purpurea (Foxglove); Westwood (ST75), two sites, garden escapes, DG.

Dryopteris carthusiana (Narrow Buckler-fern); Great Cheverell (ST95), FS.

Eranthis hyemalis (Winter Aconite); Imber (ST94), fifty plus, flowering plants, NLw & RLw. Presumed to be naturalised from earlier planting or from garden escapes. – Ed.

Erodium moschatum (Musk Stork's-bill); Worton (ST95), garden escape, FS.

Erysimum cheiri (Wallflower); Westwood (ST75), urban weed, DG.

Euphorbia characias (Mediterranean Spurge); Keevil, east (ST95), DG & FS. **1st VC8 record**

Euphorbia exigua (Dwarf Spurge); Charlton (ST82), SJJ.

Euphorbia oblongata (Balkan Spurge); Westwood (ST75), urban weed, DG; Semley (ST82), several naturalised at the edge of a track, WBS.

Ficus carica (Fig); Crockerton (ST84), single bush in an elevated position on top of a bank, DG.

Foeniculum vulgare (Fennel); Westwood (ST75), urban weed, DG.

Galeopsis bifida (Bifid Hemp-nettle); Marston (ST95), FS.

Galinsoga parviflora (Shaggy Soldier); Berwick St.James (SU03), outside Old Boot Inn, BL.

Galinsoga quadriradiata (Gallant Soldier); Berwick St.James (SU03), outside Old Boot Inn, BL.

Geranium nodosum (Knotted Crane's-bill); Keevil (ST95), garden escape, FS.

Geranium pusillum (Small-flowered Crane's-bill); Berwick St. John (ST92), SJJ.

Geranium rotundifolium (Round-leaved Crane's-bill); Fonthill Bishop (ST93), SJJ.

Geranium x oxonianum (Druce's Crane's-bill); Poulshot (ST95) garden escape, FS.

Glebionis segetum (Corn Marigold); Fonthill Bishop (ST93), volunteers from previous sowing, SJJ.

Guizotia abyssinica (Niger); Trowbridge (ST85), plentiful at park pond area, FS.

Helleborus foetidus (Stinking Hellebore); Keevil (ST95), garden escape, FS.

Hesperis matronalis (Dame's-violet); Alderbury (SU12) garden escape, AA, SFi & PMW.

Himantoglossum hircinum (Lizard Orchid); Dilton Marsh (ST84), single plant 'arrived' in lawn in 2021 as leaves only but it flowered in 2022 and 2023. SHr. Determined Richard Aisbitt.

Hippophae rhamnoides (Sea-buckthorn); Donhead St.Andrew, near (ST92), CHa.

Hordeum distichon (Two-rowed Barley); Steeple Ashton (ST95); Keevil (ST95), both FS.

Hyacinthoides x massartiana (Hybrid Bluebell); Westwood (ST75), DG.

Hypericum calycinum (Rose-of-Sharon); Shute End (SU12), naturalised in verge, AA, SFi & PMW.

Impatiens capensis (Orange Balsam); New Town (SU15), SBg.

Lactuca virosa (Great Lettuce); Devizes (SU06), in gravelled area, MBu.

Lavandula angustifolia (Garden Lavender); Marden (SU05), self-sown into wall, MBu, DG & FS.

Lepidium didymum (Lesser Swine-cress); Sedgemoor (ST82), SJJ.

Leucanthemum X superbum (Shasta Daisy); Upton Scudamore (ST84), garden escape, FS.

Leucojum aestivum (Summer Snowflake); Keevil (ST95), garden escape, FS.

Linaria repens (Pale Toadflax); Fonthill Bishop (ST93), SJJ.

Lonicera nitida (Wilson's Honeysuckle); Westwood (ST75), urban weed, DG.

Luzula campestris (Field Wood-rush); Westwood (ST75), DG.

Lysimachia punctata (Dotted Loosestrife); Little Marsh, Semington (ST85), FS.

Meconopsis cambrica (Welsh Poppy); Westwood (ST75), urban weed, DG.

Melilotus altissima (Tall Melilot); Sedgemoor (ST82), SJJ.

Mentha suaveolens (Round-leaved Mint); Trowbridge (ST85), FS.

Muscari armeniacum (Garden Grape-hyacinth); Westwood (ST75), urban weed, DG.

Muscari neglectum (Grape-Hyacinth); Keevil (ST95), SJJ.

Nigella damascena (Love-in-a-mist); Westwood (ST75), urban weed, DG.

Nonea lutea (Yellow Nonea); Paxcroft, Trowbridge (ST85), small flowering plant, edge of footpath, MBu.

Oenothera glazioviana (Large-flowered Evening-primrose); Ham (SU36), RAi.

Onopordum acanthium (Cotton Thistle); Ludgershall Test Track (SU25), possibly from imported soil, ALA.

Panicum miliaceum (Common Millet); Edington (ST95), a single at edge of wheat crop, FS.

Papaver lecoqii (Yellow-juiced Poppy); SPTA: Tilshead N.W. (SU04), SPi.

Papaver orientale (Oriental Poppy); Alvediston (ST92), SJJ.

Papaver somniferum (Opium Poppy); Westwood (ST75), DG.

Parthenocissus quinquefolia (Virginia-creeper); West Dean (SU22) garden escape into verge, PMW.

Phalaris paradoxa (Awned Canary-grass); Poulshot (ST95), single clump by a pond, MBu & DG.

Phuopsis stylosa (Caucasian Crosswort); Figheldean (SU14), JRM.

Polygonum rurivagum (Cornfield Knotgrass); Fovant (ST92), SJJ.

Polypodium interjectum (Intermediate Polypody); Hungerford, near (SU36), two sites, RAi.

Potentilla fruticosa (Shrubby Cinquefoil); Devizes (SU06), a self-sown seedling in highway block paved road. Parent shrubs in neighbouring garden, MBu. **1st Wiltshire record**

Prunus cerasifera (Cherry Plum); Poulshot (ST95), FS.

Pulmonaria officinalis (Lungwort); Westwood (ST75), urban weed, DG.

Pyrus communis (Pear); Great Cheverell (ST95) large tree, FS; Plaitford Green (SU22), two mature trees in hedgerow, AA, SFi & PMW.

Rosa rugosa (Japanese Rose); Thorny Down PRV (SU23), MDA.

Rumex pulcher (Fiddle Dock); Langley Wood: Bishop's Wood (SU22), AA, SFi & PMW.

Rumex x pratensis (R.crispus x R.obtusifolius); Edington (ST95); Keevil (ST95), both FS.

Sagina nodosa (Knotted Pearlwort); White Sheet Hill (ST83), ANo. Determined by Kat Newbert.

Salix x smithiana (S.viminalis x S.caprea); Poulshot (ST95), in a wet hedge line, MBu & DG.

Sanguisorba officinalis (Great Burnet); Chisenbury Warren, north (SU15), MBu.

Scorpiurus muricatus (Caterpillar-plant); Broadchalke, near (SU02), arable stubble field, PLe. This is an annual leguminous herb originating from southern Europe, North Africa, and the Mediterranean. It is a low-growing curiosity plant for after its small yellow pea-like flowers are over they are followed by tightly curled, hairy seed pods or 'caterpillars.'

1st Wiltshire record

Scutellaria altissima (Somerset Skullcap); Edington (ST95), several plants on bank, FS. **1st VC8 record**

Sedum spurium (Caucasian-stonecrop); Little Marsh, Semington (ST85), FS; Figheldean, St Michael's and All Angel's Church (SU14), JRM.

Sedum telephium (Orpine); Semley (ST82), WBS.

Senecio cineraria (Silver Ragwort); Worton (ST95), garden escape, FS.

Senecio sylvaticus (Heath Groundsel); Poulshot (ST95), single plant on wet greenway, MBu & DG.

Sison amonum (Stone Parsley); Westwood (ST75), DG; West Orcheston Downs (SU04), SPi.

Soleirolia soleirolii (Mind-your-own-business); Westwood (ST75), urban weed, DG.

Stachys ambigua (S.palustris x S.sylvatica); Langford Lakes WWT reserve (SU03), on bank of the River Wylye, SPi.

Symphytum orientale (White Comfrey); Westwood (ST75), DG; Teffont Evias (ST93), SJJ; Wilton (SU03), IWi.

Tilia x europaea (Lime); Westwood (ST75), DG.

Tragopogon porrifolius (Salsify); Hilpertion (ST85), single plant on verge, MBu & DG.

Tropaeolum peregrinum (Canary-creeper); Keevil (ST95), several plants, garden escapes, FS

1st Wiltshire record

Valerianella carinata (Keeled-fruited Cornsalad); Westwood (ST75), DG.

Vicia faba (Broad Bean); Longbridge Deverell (ST84) urban weed, DG & FS; Coulston (ST95) on road verge, FS.

Viscum album (Mistletoe); Hungerford, near (SU36) two sites, RAi.

2023 Recorders		HR	Hayley Roberts	NLw	N.Lawrence
Initials and names		IWi	Ian Williams	PD	Paul Darby
		JAm	Jenny Amor	PLe	Penny Lee
AA	Anne Appleyard	JBK	J.Blake	PMN	Peter Marren
ALa	Andy Law	JBr	Jane Brown	PMW	Pat Woodruffe
ANo	Alison Norris	JRM	John Moon	PWn	Pauline Wilson
AOL	Anthony O'Leary	JSh	J.Shorrocks	RAi	Richard Aisbitt
BL	Barbara Last	KAn	Karen Andrews	RLw	R.Lawrence
CHa	Christopher Hart	KD	Kirsty Doughty	SBe	Stephen Beal
CHg	Chris Hogg	KDA	K.D'Aucourt	SBg	S.W.Bragg
CJg	Christine Jago	KGr	Katie Gray	SFi	Sue Fitzpatrick
CWy	Claire Whatley	LDu	L.Duncombe	SHr	S.Harris
DG	Dave Green	LLv	L.Lovelace	SJJ	Steve Jackson
DHk	David Hocken	LRa	L.R.Rawlinson	SPi	Sharon Pilkington
DLy	Debbie Lawley	MBu	Martin Buckland	TH	Tim Havenith
DWa	Darrel Watts	MDA	M.D'Apice	THo	T.Hopgood
DWP	Dominic Price	MGe	Martin Genner	VW	Ness Williams
FS	Fran Sinclair	MJg	Malcolm Jago	WBS	Wiltshire Botanical Society

Compiled by Martin Buckland