

Worcestershire plant records 2018

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The following list updates the status of a selection of the county's uncommon and rare species. Nomenclature follows Stace, C. 2019 *New Flora of the British Isles* 4th edition published by the author.

Cystopteris fragilis – Bayton, SO6873, long term declining population reduced to a single plant

Ranunculus arvensis – Naunton Beauchamp, SO9552, c. 100 plants on margin of rape crop

Onobrychis viciifolia – Bredon Hill, SO9438, scattered along trackside bank above Westmancote where known for at least 40 years

Hippocrepis comosa – Bredon Hill, SO9439, only one small patch in grassland, due to a lack of grazing

Vicia bithynica – Reduced populations on roadsides at Alfrick, SO7552, and Witton Hill, SO7662, but large population still present along 200m of road verge at Boxleys, SO7786/7787

Lathyrus aphaca – Berrow, SO7934, small population on lane verge appears stable

Medicago polymorpha – Malvern Link, SO7847, c. 30 plants on edge of carpark

Trifolium ochroleucon – Broadwas, SO7755, small population much reduced by an overgrowth of vegetation, small patch 2x2m surviving

T. striatum – Wilden, SO8272, frequent on sandy waste ground E. of Wilden Lane

Genista anglica – Not re-found at former site on Castlemorton Common, SO7838; at least 23 small plants on Monkwood Green, SO8060

Potentilla tabernaemontani – Hangman's Hill, Malvern, SO7638, declining population under pressure from spreading *Brachypodium sylvaticum*

Comarum palustre – Large populations on Hartlebury Common, SO8270, and in old brick-pit at Grimley, SO8460

Rosa x pseudorusticana (*R. arvensis* x *R. stylosa*) – Castlemorton Common, SO7738, first record for the Malvern Hills and Commons. An uncommon hybrid with c.25 scattered records for the southern half of the county

Frangula alnus – Hawkbatch Bog, SO7677, margin of bog

Salix x multinervis – Wyre Forest, SO7476, single bush edge of dismantled railway

Geranium sylvaticum – Wyre Forest, SO7476, a few plants in several places along dismantled railway

Rumex hydrolapathum – Uckinghall Pool, SO8637, small quantity on pool margin

Microthlaspi perfoliatum – Hill Croome, SO8839, only c.25 plants at original site due to lack of soil disturbance, but c. 100, including non-flowering plants, in adjacent field

Stellaria palustris – Grimley, SO8460, very thinly scattered over a few metres along the margin of old brick-pit

Scleranthus annuus – Wilden, SO8272, few scattered small patches on sandy waste ground E. of Wilden Lane

Hydrocharis morsus-ranae – Grimley, SO8360/8460, abundant non-flowering plants in old brick-pit

Lysimachia vulgaris – Uckinghall Pool, SO8637, frequent around pool margin; Longdon Marsh N.R., SO8235, small quantity in ditches

Samolus valerandi – Coombe Green Common, SO 7836, c.15 plants in roadside ditch

Erica tetralix – Hartlebury Common bog, SO8270, population much reduced, only several scattered very small patches

E. cinerea – Wyre Forest, SO7476, reduced patch on N. bank of dismantled railway

Pyrola rotundifolia – Grimley, SO8361 c.25 non-flowering plants in disused sand-pit, at only known county site

Lithospermum arvense – Bredon Hill, SO9438, only 1-2 plants at usual site on arable margin above Westmancote

Symphytum asperum – Croome, SO8845, long-standing roadside colony appears to have slightly increased in recent years

Myosotis secunda – Hawkbatch Bog, SO7677, much reduced population due to an overgrowth of vegetation

Veronica scutellata var. *villosa* – Hartlebury Common, SO8270,

large quantity of the uncommon hairy variety in the Rush Pool

Marrubium vulgare – Birtsmorton Bank, SO7836, 1-2 large patches

Leonurus cardiaca – Laughern Hill, SO7758, small patch still present on waste ground (formerly chicken pens) where first found in 2003

Scutellaria minor – Hawkbatch Bog, SO7677, small quantity still present

Prunella laciniata – Birtsmorton Bank, SO7836, only a single plant found due to under-grazing

Mentha x smithiana (*M. arvensis* x *M. aquatica* x *M. spicata*) – Newtown, SO7658, a few scattered small patches in ditches where formerly plentiful, but almost certainly extinct in overgrown, dried up pool at Laughern Hill, SO7758

Salvia verbenaca – Birtsmorton Bank, SO7836, small patch

Cirsium dissectum – Poolhay Meadow N.R., SO8230, increased population now at least 300 plants

Filago germanica (*F. vulgaris*) – Wilden, SO8272, frequent on sandy waste ground E. of Wilden Lane

Logfia minima (*Filago minima*) – Wilden, SO8272, in small quantity on sandy waste ground E. of Wilden Lane

Senecio viscosus – Holt Heath, SO8262, common on rubble heap

Petasites japonicus – Hanley Court, SO6766, large naturalised population greatly expanded in recent years

Sambucus ebulus – Longdon Hill End, SO8037, large patch still present on trackside

Valerianella dentata – Bredon Hill, SO9438, common along arable margin above Westmancote

Bupleurum tenuissimum – Castlemorton Common, SO7738, 3 plants on road verge; Hollybed Common, SO7737, 1-2 small clumps

Falcaria vulgaris – Malvern Wells, SO7841, scattered along c.30m of trackside, formerly along at least 100m

Petroselinum segetum – Castlemorton, SO7837, few plants on laneside; Longdon Hill End, SO8037, few plants amongst large quantity of *Sison amomum*

Hydrocharis morsus-ranae – Grimley, SO8360/8460, abundant non-flowering plants in old brick-pit

Potamogeton polygonifolius – Hartlebury Common, SO8270, several places in bog

Epipactis phyllanthes – Hartlebury Common, SO8270, 16 plants (29 in 2017) along 100m of wooded road verge

Plantanthera chlorantha – Penny Hill N.R., SO7561, only 3 plants where formerly a much larger population

Gymnadenia densiflora – Eades Meadow, SO9764, massive recent increase, population estimated in low thousands

Dactylorhiza maculata – c. 20 plants in Hawkbatch Bog, Wyre Forest, SO7677; 9 plants in the bog on Hartlebury Common, SO8270

Orchis anthropophora – Bredon Hill, SO9739, 9 flowering plants

Convallaria majalis – Wyre Forest, SO7476, long-standing large patch on bank of dismantled railway somewhat reduced recently due to an overgrowth of vegetation

Juncus bulbosus – Hartlebury Common bog, SO8270

J. squarrosa – Hartlebury Common bog, SO8270

Eriophorum latifolium – Park Brook, Wyre Forest, SO7576, long declining population now c.100 plants

Cyperus eragrostis – Holt Heath, SO8262, several clumps on rubble heap

Carex muricata ssp. *pairae* – Hartlebury Common, SO8270, few places on W. side of Common

C. divulsa ssp. *leersii* – Wyre Forest, SO7476, scattered along the margin of the dismantled railway

C. echinata – Still frequent in bogs on Hartlebury Common, SO8270, and at Hawkbatch, Wyre Forest, SO7677

C. canescens – Not found in bog on Hartlebury Common, SO8270 (see editor's note); Hawkbatch Bog, SO7677, very thinly scattered as in previous years

C. vesicaria – Small stand in bog on Hartlebury Common, SO8270

C. montana – Park Brook, Wyre Forest, SO7576, scattered small quantity on E. Bank.

Melica nutans – Park Brook, Wyre Forest, SO7576, c. 10 plants in one spot.

Editors's Note. *C. canescens* was re-found at Hartlebury Common, SO8270 on 18/05/2018 by the Bonkers on Botany Field Meeting, Michael Liley et al.

Reference

Stace, C. 2019. *New Flora of the British Isles* 4th edition published by the author