



Survey of Plantlife at Wildernessfarm

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27.04.07

Sections Surveyed

1. Steep Wood behind house, west side of property.
2. Species-rich field, east flank of hillfort between woodland and riverbank.
3. Riverbank wet fields on east side of River Alun.

1. **Steep Wood**

Unmanaged. Think ground flora due to density of shade. Ramsons, Bluebell, Wood anemone, common violet, bramble.

Trees

Ash, Oak, Sycamore, Wild Cherry, Holly, Crab Apple, Rowan, Scots Pine, Birch, Elm sp, Elderberry, Hawthorn, Hornbeam (edge of lower wood).

Comment: Interesting to find 13 tree species in a small wood.

2. **(Steep) species-rich field**

Between R.Alun and edge of wood on west side. Includes bank of hill fort.

Violet, common
Speedwell, wall
Speedwell, ivy leaved
Speedwell, thyme leaved
Speedwell, germander
Speedwell, brooklime
Oxeye Daisy
Bulbous buttercup
Daisy
Woodrush, field (*Luzula campestris*)
Pignut
Wood Anemone
Thale Cress
Hairy Bittercress
Common Chickweed
Knapweed
Mouse-ear Chickweed
Sticky Mouse Ear
Early Purple Orchid
Sanicle
Common Cat's Ear
Birds-foot Trefoil
Bluebell

Agrimony
Barren Strawberry
Thistle-Creeping
Thistle-Spear
Thistle-Musk
Milkwort (*Polygala vulgaris*)
Common Sorrel
Rumex acetosella
Harebell
Common Centaury
Field Rose
Burnet-saxifrage
Cowslip
Restharrow (*Ononis repens*)
Spring Cinquefoil (To be confirmed!) [British Scarce Species]

Present management

Grazing- cattle, geese
Weed-killing of thistles

Comment: Worthy of protection as neutral grassland species-rich meadow

3. Riverbank

Crosswort
Water figwort
Fleabane
Creeping Cinquefoil
Gypsywort
Creeping Jenny
Iris Foetidissima
Hedge Woundwort
Marsh Horsetail
White Dead-Nettle
Water Figwort
Mugwort
Soft Rush
Yellow Archangel
Cranesbill, cut leaved
Lambs Lettuce
Hedge Mustard
Himalayan Balsam
Cow Parsley
Speedwell, Thyme Leaved
Brooklime
Oil-seed Rape
Hemlock Water Dropwort

Coltsfoot
Silverweed
Great Horsetail
Cuckoo Flower

Present management satisfactory

4. Wet Field East of River Alun

Carex acutiformis
Chara sp.
Pendulous Sedge
Giant Horsetail
Marsh marigold
Malefern
Angelica
Black Bryony
Yellow Pimpernel

Comments

Characteristic wet meadow flora
Management satisfactory

Summary

1. Strip wood on western boundry of land behind house

13 tree species (all native to the area except Hornbeam and Scots Pine). Management satisfactory.

2. Field, sloping from R.Alun up to wood on western boundary of land (i.e. east facing)

Herb-rich neutral grassland of conservation interest.

Present management:

Grazing (cattle and few geese)
Weed-killing of thistles

Requires:

No grazing Jan- end of July to allow plants to flower and seed.
No weed-killing.

Check on possible *Potentilla heumannaria* (Spring Cinquefoil) which is a British Scare Species.

3. Riverbank river fields east of R.Alun

Otter holt and riverside protective fencing (Betty Lee)

Interesting flora but nothing rare
Present management satisfactory