

Plants recorded at Penlanole in May, June and July 2008

**Periwinkle Field**

Dicotyledons

<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed
<i>Cerastium holostoides</i>	Common Mouse-ear
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut
<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Smooth Hawk's-beard
<i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> agg.	Eyebright
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed
<i>Hieracium pilosella</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed
<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear
<i>Leontodon autumnalis</i>	Autumn Hawkbit
<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	Rough Hawkbit
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil
<i>Myosotis</i> sp.	Forget-me-not
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Buttercup
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow Rattle
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock
<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	Lesser Stitchwort
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell

Grasses

<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Meadow Foxtail
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass
<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	Soft-brome
<i>Bromus lepidus</i>	Slender Soft-brome
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass
<i>Phleum bertolonii</i>	Smaller Cat's-tail
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Timothy
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Smooth Meadow-grass
<i>Trisetum flavescens</i>	Yellow Oat-grass

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*Pteridium aquilinum*                      Bracken  
*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*              Bluebell

Total 41 species. (Bracken and Bluebell not included)

#### Observations for 2008

The total of 41 species is the highest recorded since monitoring began in 2002.

In October 2007, approximately 1000sq.m (0.25acre) of the central part of the field was scarified with a chain harrow to create bare soil, sown with a wildflower seed mix and rolled to firm in the seed. The seed mix came from Ty Brith SSSI near Welshpool plus the addition of Yellow Rattle seed obtained from Emorsgate Seeds. Ursula Bowen and Philip have the full details of the procedure.

Yellow Rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*) was abundant (dominant?) throughout the experimental area. Its role in suppressing grass growth may account for the increase in the number of species.

Eyebright (*Euphrasia officinalis* agg.) was more abundant than in previous years. There was one small area where it was dominant; this was in the area where badgers had grubbed up the grassland looking for leather jackets in 2007. Did this activity stimulate the germination of dormant seed? Eye bright is not one of the species recorded during the survey of Ty Brith.

No new species of dicotyledons were recorded.

Four new species of grass were recorded – Meadow Foxtail, Red Fescue, Smooth Meadow-grass and Yellow Oat-grass.

The abundance of dicotyledonous flowers was much higher than in previous years. The experimental area looked very colourful.

These observations are not based on quantified data.

#### References

Stace, Clive (1977) New Flora of the British Isles. CUP

Survey and records compiled by Ursula Bowen 2008