

Shakespeare's Flowers found in the wild in the British Isles

Only species native to the UK are listed here. Non-native herbs are not included eg. *Rosmarinus officinalis*.
Only those native species suitable for establishing in the habitats at Penlanole are listed. eg. Maritime species are not included.

Trees

Elm	<i>Ulmus procera</i>
Crab Apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
Pedunculate Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Sessile Oak	<i>Quercus patraea</i>
Wild Cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>
Willow	<i>Salix spp.</i>
Osier	<i>Salix viminalis</i>
Yew	<i>Taxus baccata</i>

Shrubs and Climbers

Bindweed /Woodbine	<i>Calystegia sepium</i>
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Bramble/ Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.
Dog-rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>
Eglantine/Sweet Briar	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>
Field Rose /Musk Rose	<i>Rosa arvensis</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europeaus</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus mongyna</i>
Honeysuckle /Woodbine	<i>Lonicera periclymenon</i>
Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>
Mistletoe	<i>Viscum album</i>
Myrtle (native??)	
Sweet Briar	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>
'Woodbine' encompasses Honeysuckle and Bindweed	

Rose - Many of Shakespeare's references are almost certainly to cultivated roses as well as native species e.g..Red Rose of Lancaster (*Rosa gallica*) and White Rose of York (*Rosa alba*).

Spring Flowers

Cowslip	<i>Primula veris</i>
Daffodil (Welsh Wild Daffodil)	<i>Narcissus pseudonarcissus ssp.pseudonarcissus</i>
Harebell (S = Bluebell?)	<i>Campanuls rotundifolia</i> or <i>Endymion nonscriptus</i>
Early-purple Orchid (S = Long Purples)	<i>Orchis mascula</i>
Ladies' Smock /Cuckooflower	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>
Oxlip	<i>Primula elatior</i>
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>
Buttercup (S= Cuckoo Buds)	<i>Ranunculus spp.</i>

Summer Flowers

Belladonna (Deadly Nightshade)	<i>Atropa belladonna</i>
Bog Asphodel	<i>Narthecium ossifragum</i>
Burnet *	<i>Sanguisorba spp.</i>
Burdock (Greater or Lesser?)	<i>Arctium lappa</i> or <i>A.minus</i>
Buttercup spp.(S calls them Cuckoo Buds)	<i>Ranunculus spp.</i>
Clover (Red Clover?)	<i>Trifolium pratense</i> or <i>T.spp?</i>
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>
Corncockle	<i>Agrostemma githago</i>
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
Dock	<i>Rumex spp.</i>
Fumitory (Common)	<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>
Harebell (S = Bluebell?)	<i>Campanuls rotundifolia</i> or <i>Endymion nonscriptus</i>
Heartsease see below	
Hemlock **	<i>Conium maculatum</i>

Henbane	<i>Henbane niger</i>
Iris (Yellow Iris)	<i>Iris pseudoacorus</i>
Love-in-Idleness/Pansy/Violet/ Heartsease	<i>Viola tricolor/ Viola odorata</i>
Mallow (Commom?)	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>
Marigold	
Marsh-marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>
Corn Marigold	<i>Chrysanthemum segatum</i>
Pot Marigold	<i>Calendula officinalis</i>
Mint	
Spear Mint? - an introduced species	<i>Mentha spicata</i>
Water Mint - a native species	<i>Mentha aquatica</i>
Monk's-hood	<i>Aconitum napellus</i>
Mustard	
Hedge Mustard	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>
Charlock	<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>
Nettle (White Dead-nettle)	<i>Lamium album</i>
Oats	<i>Avena sativa</i>
Poppy	
Opium poppy (Introduced)	<i>Papaver somniferum</i>
Common Poppy (Native)	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>
Ragged-Robin (S=Crow-flower)	<i>Lycnnis flos-cuculi</i>
Stinging Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Strawberry (Native wild strawberry)	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>
Thistle	<i>Carduus spp. and Cirsium spp.</i>
Vetch	<i>Vicia sativa or otherV. spp.?</i>
Violet	<i>Viola odorata or V.spp.</i>
Wild Marjoram	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>
Wild Thyme	<i>Thymus polytrichus or T. pupegoides</i>
Wormwood	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>

Sedges, Grasses and Rushes

Darnel	<i>Lolium temulentum</i>
Rush	<i>Juncus spp.</i>
Flowering-rush	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>

* Shakespeare does not qualify the name any further. There are 3 native species.

**May also refer to other species of Umbelliferae eg Cow Parsley(*Anthriscus sylvestris*)

S = Shakespeare

The species listed above grow in habitats such as meadows, pastures and hedgerows with nutrient poor soils. In the past traditional farming methods with low inputs of fertilisers have provided these conditions and favoured grasslands with a high biodiversity of native plant species, creating meadows and pastures full of colourful wildflowers. Shakespeare would have gazed upon them. From the 1940s onwards farming methods intensified. Applications of artificial fertilisers, pesticides, herbicides along with ploughing and reseeding have destroyed a large percentage of our flower-rich meadows and pastures.

To establish a species-rich field of wildflowers around the Globe Theatre at Penlanole, it will be necessary to create nutrient poor soils and either sow a wildflower seed mixture or use hay bales taken from a species-rich grassland. Many of Shakespeare's wildflowers could flourish here.

References

Stace, Clive (1997). New Flora of the British Isles. CUP (Nomenclature follows this work)

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De Bray, Lys (1997) Elizabethan Garlands. Brockhampton Press.

Milne, Pamela (2004) Flowers, Herbs and Husbandry in Shakespeare's Plays. 36 Waverley Park, Great Shelford, CBB2 5BA UK.

The Famous Shakespeare's Flowers Playing Cards (2000) Heritage Playing Card Company.

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