

Interesting finds in Kirkcudbrightshire (VC73) during 2021

David Hawker & the Kirkcudbright Botany Group

***Sedum villosum* Hairy Stonecrop**

A single shoot was last seen in 1997 on Cairnmore of Carsphairn at 500 m in the north of the VC. This August a colony of >260 flowering shoots was discovered nearby. The surrounding area is currently being prepared for afforestation, but the owner has agreed to modify the scheme to conserve the only colony known in the VC. Previously only two 19th C records.



***Viola reichenbachiana* Early Dog-violet**

Decidedly rare in the VC until recent discoveries at a variety of sites in the east produced a spate of records and sites which exceeds the numbers recorded prior to 2000. It is now known from at least 8 sites here as opposed to 3 before.



***Amaranthus retroflexus* Common Amaranth**

This species was growing beside the hen house at Argrennan Mains near Kirkcudbright (NX700566). It may be from a bird seed mix. Previously seen in 1989 from Dalbeattie & Castle Douglas.



***Plantago media* Hoary Plantain**

The only previous record dates from 1897, in a private tennis court. The species is now present as plants in a re-seeded roadside, with a variety of other species considered non-native there.



Additional records

- ***Ambrosia artemisifolia*** Ragweed: two sites in adjoining gardens, Gatehouse of Fleet NX5956. Bird-seed alien **NCR**.
- ***Oxalis stricta*** Upright Yellow-sorrel: Garden escapee, near Tongland NX6056. First record since 1988.
- ***Lamium amplexicaule*** Henbit Dead-nettle: Only 2nd record since 1992, at Carsluith NX4854.
- ***Bromus racemosus*** Smooth Brome: Belated submission of a species last seen in 1882, the only previous record. Found in Castle Douglas NX 7662 in August 2020.
- ***Trifolium incarnatum*** Crimson Clover: **NCR** at Garroch NX9475, August 2020.
- ***Echinocloa crista-galli*** Cockspur: **NCR** Castle Douglas NX7662 August 2016.
- ***Chenopodium ficifolium*** Fig-leaved Goosefoot: **NCR** Kirkcudbright NX6851 August 2021.
- ***Pratia pedunculata*** Trailing Pratia: **NCR** Southernness car park, NX8754 August 2021.

NCR= New County Record