



<http://www.botanical-society-scotland.org.uk/>

[illegible]

***Optional, but please try**

In your area of observation, (for instance a section of a street, a patch of waste ground, part of a public park), please say whether this plant is **Dominant** - this is the most common plant, **Abundant** - this is common, but not the most common, **Frequent** - less common, but still quite easy to find, **Occasional** - just a few, **Rare** - only one or two of these.

Thank you for your contributions



Join us in a survey of plant life (flowering plants, ferns, mosses, liverworts, lichens, fungi and algae) within the cities and towns of Scotland. All the information you collect will be fed into national databases and analysed to understand the unique flora of our cities and towns, and to provide baseline data which can be used to measure future change.

Please visit our website <http://www.botanical-society-scotland.org.uk/> for further details and information on how to register. Data will be collected into **iRecord** and **iSpot**, which are online national databases of wildlife records.

Should I use iSpot or iRecord?

If you are a **beginner** in plant identification, or not sure of your identification, we recommend that you use **iSpot** <http://www.ispotnature.org/communities/uk-and-ireland> For iSpot, you don't need to know what the plant is, just post some photos and give some details about where you found it. Usually someone will quickly make some suggestions, so don't be shy! You can of course, also use any identification handbooks that you may have.

If you are **more experienced**, and fairly confident of your identification, please use **iRecord** <http://www.brc.ac.uk/iRecord/> and enter data under the activity called 'Urban Flora of Scotland'.

You can use both systems, but please don't enter the same data twice. There are more instructions on our website, including information about bulk upload of data from .csv files to iRecord.

For iSpot, you must submit some photographs. Photos are not obligatory for iRecord, but useful for others to check your identification. There is guidance on iSpot about photography. Many mobile phones take acceptable photographs, and can also be set up to record the latitude and longitude of the photograph.

What if I don't want to use an online system?

Don't worry! We would prefer it if you could enter data online, but if you can't, please send completed data recording sheets to the address at the top of this page, or give them to your local organiser.

Safety in data collecting, and the law on land access and plant collecting

Anyone attending field meetings, or otherwise conducting field recording does so at their own risk. Beware of traffic, and be especially careful near water and cliffs. Follow local safety guidance and byelaws, and behave responsibly. Tell people where you are going, and be sensible about working on your own. Your rights and responsibilities with respect to land access, are summarised here <http://www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/publications/access/full%20code.pdf>.

Plant collecting

All wild plants are protected by law. **Uprooting** of any plant without permission from the owner or occupier of the land is prohibited, but **picking** small pieces of wild plants with care is usually permitted for your personal use unless you are in a nature reserve or other protected area. However, there are a number of rare species (such as adder's tongue and many orchids) which you must NEVER pick. Identification of plant species often requires a detailed examination of many plant features. Take field guides and a camera with you, and take photographs rather than samples.

Do not collect anything if the plant population is very small or if the plant is rare. If a sample is needed, remove a single leaf or flower, a few stems from a moss cushion, a small piece of a lichen or a single fungus fruiting body. If you find an uncommon plant which is difficult to identify take a photograph and record the location and ask an expert.

<i>Habitats: main category / code (sub-categories can be found on our website and in iRecord)</i>
agricultural A
buildings and walls B
craggs and quarries C
derelict and waste ground D
gardens, parks and grounds G
heath, moor and grassland H
inland water and wetlands WA
marine and coastal M
roads, paths and pavement R
woodland, scrub and hedgerow W