

Useful resources for identification

Online

<http://www.tombio.uk/idsignpost> an online searchable catalogue of UK biological identification resources

<http://www.wildflowerfinder.org.uk/> does not cover everything, but beautiful photographs and some help in identification

<http://www.ispotnature.org/> Register with iSpot and put up a photograph of a plant and someone will suggest what it is

<http://britishlichensociety.org.uk/> The British Lichen Society has many online resources

<http://rbg-web2.rbge.org.uk/bbs/bbs.htm> The British Bryological Society has many online resources

<http://www.field-studies-council.org/publications.aspx> The Field Studies Council has many useful publications aimed at beginners and upwards

Books (prices indicate those found with online sales)

There are many available, but ones which get repeated mentions from local botanists are listed below: Some books are too large or heavy to carry on a field visit.

Flowering plants (mostly)

W Keble Martin and others **The Concise British Flora**. Now out of print, but various editions available second hand at very low prices (from £ 0.01)

Excellent drawings, large format, no keys. A bit limited and some plant names are out of date, but still a nice book to have

Marjorie Blamey, Richard Fitter and Alistair Fitter **Wild Flowers of Britain and Ireland 2nd edition** 2013. Published by Bloomsbury Price £27.00 approx

Fairly comprehensive, good drawings, helpful text, few keys and useful distribution maps. The mixing up of grasses, sedges and rushes is confusing. Contains horsetails and ferns as well as flowering plants

Francis Rose (revised and expanded by Clare O'Reilly) **The Wild Flower Key: how to identify wild flowers, trees and shrubs in Britain and Ireland 2nd Edition**, 2006 Price £17.00 approx

Fairly comprehensive, good but small drawings, helpful text, uses keys for identification. No distribution maps. Unlike Blamey's book, it excludes grasses, sedges and rushes, ferns and horsetails.

Francis Rose **Colour identification guide to the Grasses, Sedges, Rushes and Ferns of the British Isles and north-western Europe** 1989 Viking £25.00 upwards

This book partners The Wild Flower Key (see above)

Cope T and Gray A (2009) **Grasses of the British Isles**. BSBI.

David Streeter, C. Hart-Davies, A. Hardcastle, F. Cole and L. Harper (2009) **Collins Flower Guide**. £13.99

A.R Clapham **The Illustrated Book of Trees** (1984) (available second hand at low prices)

Contains keys and fantastic illustrations, cannot go wrong with this

Clive Stace **New Flora of the British Isles 3rd edition** 2011 Price £65 (also available on Kindle)

Very comprehensive, uses keys, with black and white diagrams of critical parts.
Aimed at the advanced user.

J. Poland and E.J. Clement **The Vegetative Key to the British Flora**. 2009 £23.00

For when the plant that you are trying to identify has no flowers. Uses a different style of key, takes a bit of getting used to.

Mosses and Liverworts

Atherton I, Bosanquet S, Lawley M (2010) **Mosses and Liverworts of Britain and Ireland, a field guide**. British Bryological Society. £26.00

Mushrooms and fungi

Roger Phillips (2006) **Mushrooms**. Pan/Macmillan, price £16, or the earlier edition (1981)

The earlier edition is larger and too big to carry in the field, but it has excellent life-size pictures.

Paul Sterry and Barry Hughes (2009) **Collins Complete British Mushrooms & Toadstools**. £14.00

Good photographic guide, but all pictures are labelled with weird common names.

Stefan Buczacki and Chris Shields, (2012) **Collins Fungi Guide**. £15.00

Has the latest names.

Regis Courtecuisse and B. Duhem Mushrooms and Toadstools (Collins Field Guide). 1995. £16.00

Good text and excellent illustrations but slightly dated

Lichens

Lichens: An Illustrated Guide to the British and Irish Species by Frank Dobson
Easy to use and is illustrated

Lichen AIDGAP guides (Urban, Churchyard, Trees) by Field Studies Council

Perfect for children and beginners and those who ID by eye, simple keys