

Notes

A FOURTH LIST OF BRITISH SPECIES OF *RUBUS* L. (ROSACEAE)
IN NORTH-WEST FRANCE

Since the publication of the third list in this series (Allen 2002) two further visits to northern France to sample its *Rubus* flora have taken place: in 2004 a three-day return one to Cherbourg and its environs, and in 2005 a week each in the *départements* of Eure-et-Loir (south-west of Paris) and Pas-de-Calais. Neither of the latter appear to have been investigated previously, at any rate more than fleetingly, by a specialist in the group based on the British side of the Channel.

Unfortunately, hotter-than-normal temperatures in preceding weeks had left most *Rubus* species past flowering and wholly into fruit by the third week in July even as far north and west as Cherbourg, while even the beginning of that month proved almost disastrously late for the visit to Eure-et-Loir. Only for the Pas-de-Calais did the second week in July turn out to be satisfactory timing. Twenty years earlier the brambles were scarcely into flower in late June in the hinterland of Cherbourg, but it remains to be seen whether this marked forward shift in the group's flowering period is a lasting phenomenon. Inevitably, the mistimed visits prevented the fieldwork in the two areas affected from being as thorough as it could otherwise have been.

In this latest list, as in its two predecessors, species recorded for the first time from mainland Europe are highlighted with an asterisk (*), while an obelisk (†) indicates the material from the locality cited has been examined, and my determination assented to, by A. Newton. Specimens have all been donated to **BM** except for some Pas-de-Calais duplicates donated to H. Vannerom (Diest, Belgium). Dated records indicate herbarium determinations made subsequent to the previous list.

R. plymensis (Focke) Edees & Newton
Manche: patch in shady lane just above Le Becquet, nr. Cherbourg†. Second record for the Cotentin Peninsula (and for mainland Europe).

R. elegantispinosus (A. Schumacher.) H. E. Weber
Eure-et-Loir: Grand Bois de Dangeau†, also a bush at foot of railway

embankment, Marboué. Apparently the first French records for this species.

R. rubritinctus W. C. R. Watson
Eure-et-Loir: surprisingly widely scattered – for a western species – in woods in the south of the *département*.

R. subinermoides Druce
Pas-de-Calais: Forêt de Desvres, locally common on clay; Bois de Campaigneulles, nr. Montreuil, one bush on roadside margin. Conspicuously absent from the Forêt d'Hesdin and perhaps restricted to the parts nearest to Kent (where this species is abundant round Canterbury). Though now known to be not uncommon in north Belgium and the southern Netherlands, previously known in France only as a single colony in north-east Manche (Allen 1996).

R. adscitus Genev.
Pas-de-Calais: locally common to dominant in every piece of woodland investigated – in surprising contrast to its rarity or absence in southern England east of Hampshire.

[*R. longus* (Rogers & Ley) Newton must be deleted as an extra-British species. Further fieldwork in the far north of Manche has shown the specimen cited in the previous list (Allen 2002) to belong to a closely-allied, apparently undescribed member of series *Vestiti*, "C80", locally frequent in shady places round Cherbourg.]

R. trichodes W. C. R. Watson
Pas-de-Calais: Forêt de Desvres, two patches†. Second French record.

**R. wedgwoodiae* Barton & Riddelsd.
Pas-de-Calais: Forêt d'Hesdin, one clump†. Hitherto believed endemic to west Surrey and the bordering parts of the adjoining counties.

R. formidabilis Lef. & P. J. Mueller
Eure-et-Loir: occasional to rare in woodland. Pas-de-Calais: common in Forêt d'Hesdin, but not seen elsewhere.

R. botryeros (Focke ex Rogers) Rogers
Sarthe: la Hammerie, St-Poevace, 1905–1906, A. Henry, *Bat. Eur.* 465, as *R. micans* subsp.

subrotundus var. *granulatifrons* Sudre†. A southwards extension into Anjou of the range of this western species, recently detected in France in the far north of Manche and found to have been collected in 1897 just inside Côtes-du-Nord.

R. longithyriger Lees ex Focke Eure-et-Loir: Grand Bois de Dangeau, nr. Bonneval, one patch; Bois Bertrand, nr. Châteaudin, one bush. The farthest east in France this western species has been detected so far.

R. asperidens (Sudre ex Bouvet) Bouvet Orne: locally common in wood south of Château de Sassy. Eure-et-Loir: colony round entrance to Grand Bois de Dangeau, nr. Bonneval: wood on D12 at north end of Rouvray St-Florentin. These further finds bridge the gap between the headquarters of this species in Anjou and records for Oise far to the east.

R. bercheriensis (Druce ex Rogers) Rogers Orne: one bush on a field hedge south of Manoir de Lys, outside Bagnoles-de-L'Orne, 1999†. Second record for France and mainland Europe.

**R. naldretti* (J. W. White) W. C. R. Watson Indre-et-Loire: Forêt de Chinon, one patch, 1994†. Ille-et-Vilaine: roadside north-west of Paimpont village, Forêt de Paimpont, 1994†. Manche: grounds of Château de Ravenel and

hedge of lane to west, Tournlaville, Cherbourg†. This apparently very sparse and scattered range is in marked contrast to the near-restriction of this species in Britain to the west half of Sussex (where it is locally abundant).

R. britannicus Rogers Pas-de-Calais: common and widespread in the Forêt d'Hesdin† but not seen in the mainly more basic Forêt de Desvres, closer to the coast. First French record, though in recent years found to be common in northern Belgium, continuing into the southern Netherlands, for those who do not accept that the original Munstead (Surrey) plant so named by Rogers is just a shade form of one and the same taxon, *R. luticola* Beek is an alternative name usable for this wide-ranging trans-Channel species.

Also worthy of mention is an apparently undescribed member of series *Hystrix* found on the south and west outskirts of Cherbourg which has proved to be identical with a bramble ("Sa25", now in **BM**) collected in 1978 from a deserted garden in the centre of Guernsey, "seemingly intrusive and probably a lately-arrived French species" (Allen 1981). By reason of being known from only a single spot this was excluded from the fuller *Rubus* list for Guernsey published subsequently (Allen 2001). The plant is not unlike *R. anglofuscus* Eedes but the very broad mucronate leaflets make it distinct at a glance.

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ERICA × *WILLIAMSII* DRUCE (*E. TETRALIX* L. × *VAGANS* L.):
A NOTE ON TYPIFICATION

A single plant of this natural hybrid was found by P. D. Williams on The Lizard, Cornwall, sometime in the early 1900s. Williams “had the good fortune to rediscover it ... [during] the last week in October” 1910 (Davey 1910), and on 3 November 1910 collected specimens from the plant. He sent “two flowering shoots” to F. Hamilton Davey, who postulated that the heath was the progeny of *Erica vagans* and *E. cinerea* L.: “superficially it looks like a plant of the former bearing flowers of the latter” (Davey 1910). Having examined the specimens, Davey (1910) published a description under the subheading “*ERICA VAGANS* × *CINEREA*”.

One specimen, labelled in Davey’s handwriting, is in Davey’s herbarium, Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro (**TRU**): the label reads “*Erica vagans* × *cinerea* ... Lane between Bochym & Goonhilly Downs ... Cornwall ... November 3rd 1910.” This locality was noted by Davey (1911) in an illustrated account of the hybrid, also using the formula *E. vagans* × *cinerea*. However, as pointed out by Turpin (1988), this locality does not agree with details provided by Williams in the early 1920s (Turrill 1922); using these, Coombe calculated that Williams’ plant came from “ $\frac{1}{3}$ of a mile N. W. of Trelan ... on the edge of the rough heath on the Goonhilly (Helston) side of Trelan” at grid reference SW743193 (see Nelson 2007).

Williams also sent a specimen to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (**K**), which Turrill (1911) examined. He correctly surmised that it represented a hybrid between *Erica tetralix* and *E. vagans*. A sheet (with two specimens) labelled “*Erica tetralix* × *vagans*. Comm. Mr P. D. Williams Oct. 1911 coll. on moorland nr. Lanarth, St. Keverne” is in **K**(!).

During the summer of 1911, when the International Phytogeographical Excursion was in Cornwall, Williams brought Drs Druce, Schröter and Graebner to see the plant *in situ* “on the downs near St. Keverne” (Druce 1911b) – Williams also “motored” the three botanists to Lanarth, “his beautiful grounds where he [had] a plant [of *Erica* × *williamsii*] in cultivation” (Druce 1911b: 316). The botanists agreed that the plant was a hybrid and that it must have *E. tetralix*, not *E. cinerea*, as one of the parents because “the glandular hairs must have come from the former species” (Druce 1911b). There is a specimen, labelled “*Erica*

tetralix × *vagans*”, in the Fielding-Druce Herbarium, Oxford (**OXF**!), collected “Near Lanarth Cornwall with Mr. P. Williams Aug. 29 1911 Dr Graebner & Dr. Schroeter. G. C. Druce”.

On 2 December 1911 in *The gardeners’ chronicle*, Druce (1911a) published a brief account of *Erica tetralix* × *vagans* which concluded: “It is greatly to be hoped that Mr. Williams will be able to propagate this new hybrid, which should bear his name × *Erica Williamsii*.” At the start of this note Druce (1911) had stated: “Under the name *E. cinerea* × *vagans* this interesting hybrid Heath was described last year in the *Journal of Botany* by Mr. F. H. Davey.”

The *International code of botanical nomenclature (Vienna code)* (2006) Art. 32.5 states: “For the purpose of valid publication of a name, reference to a previously and effectively published description or diagnosis may be direct or indirect (Art. 32.6) ...”. Art. 32.6 states: “An indirect reference is a clear (if cryptic) indication, by an author citation or in some other way, that a previously and effectively published description or diagnosis applies.” Druce’s indirect but clear reference to Davey’s note in the *Journal of botany* validates the binomial *Erica* × *williamsii*, even though Davey (1910) postulated the wrong parentage.

In the report of the International Phytogeographical Excursion, Druce (1911b) included a Latin diagnosis and this cross-reference: “I have named it (*Gard. Chron.*, Dec. 2nd, 1911) × *E. Williamsii* after its discoverer.” This clearly indicates that Druce’s note in *The gardeners’ chronicle* was published first and has priority: in fact, the issue of the *New phytologist* containing the Excursion report was issued three weeks later, on 23 December 1911.

Under *ICBN (Vienna code)* (2006) Art. 7.7, “A name validly published by reference to a previously and effectively published description or diagnosis ... is to be typified by an element selected from the context of the validating description or diagnosis, unless the validating author has definitely designated a different type” Given that Druce did not designate any type, nor refer to examining or possessing any herbarium specimens – he saw living plants, one *in situ* and one in Williams’

garden – and that the validating description was Davey's (1910), the specimen from Davey's herbarium has to be designated as the lectotype of *Erica* × *williamsii* Druce.

Erica × *williamsii* Druce, *The gardeners' chronicle*, series 3, **50**: 388 (2 December 1911).

E. vagans × *cinerea* [sic] F. H. Davey, *Journal of botany* **48** (12, December): 333–334 (1910).

Type: “*Erica vagans* × *cinerea* ... Lane between Bochym & Goonhilly Downs ... Cornwall ... November 3rd 1910. Legit P. D. Williams.”; lecto. **TRU** (ex Herb Fred. Hamilton Davey) *hic designatus*.

Erica × *williamsii* is known in the wild only from The Lizard; for accounts of subsequent collections in the area see McClintock (1974, 1998), Turpin (1984) and Nelson (2007). However, the hybrid has been synthesized – by Dr John Griffiths (1985, 1987) in Yorkshire, England, and by Mr David Wilson in British

Columbia, Canada (McClintock 1992) – by deliberate cross-pollination of specially chosen clones of *E. tetralix* and *E. vagans*. Eleven cultivars, nine being wild-collected clones, are listed by Nelson & Small (2000).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My thanks are due to Gerardo V. Mazzetta, Curatorial Assistant (Natural History), Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro, for tracing Williams' specimen, and to Dr R. K. Brummitt for comments on a draft of this note. I also gratefully acknowledge the work of the late Major-General P. G. Turpin, whose meticulous notes about the heathers of The Lizard proved invaluable; these papers were given to The Heather Society by Mrs Cherry Turpin.

This work was carried out with grants from The Appleyard Fund of The Linnean Society of London, and from The Authors' Foundation (The Society of Authors).

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AN EARLY SPECIMEN OF *CYSTOPTERIS DIAPHANA* (BORY) BLASDELL
SUPPORTS ITS NATIVE STATUS

Cystopteris diaphana (Bory) Blasdell was confirmed as British by Murphy & Rumsey (2005), although the lack of historical records backed by herbarium specimens was felt to weaken the case for its consideration as a native plant.

Many named cultivars of the *Cystopteris fragilis* group were grown during the Victorian fern craze. One name widely used in the 19th Century fern literature is “*sempervirens*”. This has often been equated with *C. diaphana* and Macaronesian specimens from this period are usually so named. Moore (1860) stated of *sempervirens*, that, “the reputed British plant has been found at Tunbridge Wells, and is in cultivation from this source, but there are rumours of it having been planted there; it is further stated to have been found in Devonshire, but this is also open to suspicion, the garden whence it has been distributed having been enriched by importations from Madeira.” This latter record referred to a find made by the Rev. J. M. Chanter, near Ilfracombe (Keys 1871). At the time of publication, Murphy & Rumsey (2005) had not located this, or other material that might prove the presence of *C. diaphana* in the British Isles before 1961, when a *Cystopteris* now known to be *C. diaphana* was first spotted at Penjerrick. Investigation of the Thomas Moore fern herbarium at K has, however, helped to throw some light on this matter. Present in one of the “*Cystopteris fragilis* vars.” folders is a herbarium specimen, collected by Chanter in 1869, with an accompanying note documenting where he had found the plant, “not a mile from my own house, by the turnpike road in a hedgebank...”. However, the plant, although attributed to *sempervirens* by Moore, lacks the characteristic venation of *C. diaphana* and is best referred to *C. fragilis*.

More interesting, though, is the presence of two sheets, labelled “Harrison’s Rocks, nr. Tunbridge Wells, Kent”, one sheet marked “cult. 1853-4”, the other “cult. 1855”. The collector’s initials I had difficulty deciphering. These specimens clearly are nice material of good, well-grown *C. diaphana*. In their *Flora of Kent*, Hanbury & Marshall (1899) list “*C. fragilis* b. *dentata*” as present at Tunbridge Wells, citing Pratt and noting that “Mr. Wollaston also marks it for this district.”

George Buchanan Wollaston was a very competent botanist and a keen cultivator of ferns – could the specimens in the Moore herbarium have originated with him? He also botanised in Madeira (where he is commemorated in the spectacular endangered endemic *Musschia wollastonii* Lowe). Could this connection suggest an accidental introduction, or confusion once into cultivation, reflected in Moore’s (1860) comment? Wolley-Dod (1937) records *Cystopteris fragilis* as having been collected at Harrison’s Rocks by William Borrer, the material preserved in Herb. F. Roper, then held at Brighton. He also cites W. W. Reeves as saying of *Cystopteris fragilis* at this site, “I fear that this should have a * [i.e. be an introduction] as it is not the British form of the plant”.

While an unlikely site for the calcicolous *C. fragilis*, these sheltered Wealden sandstone outcrops do harbour a range of Atlantic species, such as *Hymenophyllum tunbrigense*, and therefore suggest suitability for *C. diaphana*. Although not listed in Arnold (1907), and not noted by Jenner (1845), or Forster (1816) before him, there are, however, even earlier records of *Cystopteris* from the sand-rocks in the Tunbridge Wells area. *Cystopteris* had first been collected by a Mr. Thorpe, “nr. Tunbridge”, along with *Asplenium obovatum* subsp. *lanceolatum*. Hanbury and Marshall (1899) cite these as the first collections from Kent of both species, but wrongly identify (P. lxxvii) the collector as John Thorpe of Bexley (1714–1792), who provided the first printed Kentish records of *Corylus avellana* and *Betula verrucosa*, in the late 1760’s. This is perplexing as they later (Pp. 421; 424) cite the collection date for the ferns as c. 1700, before their alleged collector’s birth. (Wolley-Dod (1937) gives the date of collection as c. 1706).; Clearly another Mr. Thorpe was responsible. The specimens were indisputably in the possession of the Rev. A. Buddle, then working on a (sadly unfinished) *British Flora*, some while before his untimely death in 1715. His very impressive herbarium was purchased, after his death, by Sir Hans Sloane. Sloane’s collection in turn was to form the basis of the herbarium at BM, where Buddle’s material now resides. Wolley-Dod (1937) clearly regarded the material in Sloane’s herbarium as

inconclusive. Examination of the appropriate folio revealed that at the base of the page in Herb. Buddle, iii, 31 are five rather immature fern fronds, representing several species, collectively labelled "*Filix rarabilis omnium minima elegantissima*". The second from left of these, identified by a later pencilled "6", is a young *Cystopteris* frond, that from its venation can be clearly identified as *C. diaphana*. While it is not possible to be precise as to the exact date of these specimens' collection, they

clearly pre-date the death of Buddle in 1715. The presence of this species at this early date, and in an ecologically plausible environment, adds compellingly to the species' claim to be regarded as native.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am grateful to Peter Edwards (Kew) for making available, and his assistance with, the Thomas Moore Herbarium.

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THE BRITISH ENDEMIC *HIERACIUM CAMBRICOGOTHICUM* (ASTERACEAE)
 IS PROBABLY EXTINCT

Hieracium cambricogothicum Pugsley (Asteraceae), Llanfairfechan Hawkweed, is a rare British endemic (Sell & Murrell 2006). It is a member of *Hieracium* Section *Tridentata* (Fr.) Arv.-Touv. which was first described by Pugsley (1948) when he split the rather variable *H. gothicum* Fries *sensu lato* into nine taxa. Furthermore, Pugsley described two varieties: var. *cambricogothicum* from Llanfairfechan, and var. *glandulosum* from South Wales (the latter is now included in *H. scabrisetum* (Zahn) Roffey and is not discussed further). Key identification features of *H. cambricogothicum* are that it is robust, with stems densely hairy below with simple eglandular hairs, has 10–15 stem leaves, the lower elliptic to ovate-lanceolate, glabrescent above and with simple eglandular hairs below, has a racemose-corymbose inflorescence with straight, erect to spreading branches, has 5–12 medium-sized capitula, has blackish-green, broad involucrel bracts with a few, dark, glandular hairs along the median line, and has fuscous styles (Pugsley 1948).

Hieracium cambricogothicum has been recorded from four, disjunct localities in England, Scotland and Wales (Sell & Murrell 1968). It is a Red Data Book species (Wigginton 1999), and as very little information was known about it, surveys were carried out in 2004 and 2006 to provide information for its conservation. The results of our surveys are briefly summarised below (see Rich 2004 and Sawtschuk 2006 for full details).

RIVERHEAD, SEVENOAKS, KENT (V.C. 16)

Hieracium cambricogothicum was first found in this area in 1952 by C. West (cited as Dunton Green; CGE), and it was subsequently reported in at least three sites; Shoreham Lane (especially around the railway bridge), Riverhead Inn, and Worships Hill. The most recent specimen we have seen was collected on 27 July 1970 by J. N. Mills and C. West (MANCH).

The three areas were searched on 8 July 2004 by T. Rich and on 31 July 2006 by J. Sawtschuk. A few plants of *H. cantianum* Hanbury occurred amongst frequent *H.*

sabaudum L. at Shoreham Lane (NMW), but no *Hieracium* was found elsewhere. A comparison of the type specimen of *H. cambricogothicum* with material labelled as *H. cambricogothicum* from Riverhead suggests that the latter is more similar to *H. cantianum*.

BECKENHAM, KENT (V.C. 16)

Hieracium cambricogothicum was recorded from a railway bank at Beckenham Hill (Sell & West 1968); we have seen no material. Burton (1983) reported that the site where it used to grow was covered with sycamore and snow-berry, and we have not searched it again.

LLANFAIRFECHAN, CARNARVONSHIRE (V.C. 49)

Hieracium cambricogothicum was described from walls at Llanfairfechan by H. W. Pugsley who had first seen it in 1903, and again in 1921 and 1922 (BM, the latter is the Holotype). It was last collected on 26 June 1955, C. A. E. Andrews (BIRM).

The village and adjacent roads within 2 km were searched on 12 July 2004 by T. Rich, and the village was searched again on 29 July 2006 by J. Sawtschuk, without success. Although many walls had vegetation, some were completely bare, a few had been sprayed with herbicide, some had been repointed, and the new A55 road had destroyed others. *Hieracium vagum* Jord. and *H. argillaceum* Jord. were scattered along the north wall of the railway line (NMW).

FORRES, MORAY (V.C. 95)

It was reported from the right bank of the River Findhorn, Greshop Wood, Forres, September 1953 (Sell & West 1968; Webster 1978), but we have not traced any specimens.

The site was visited by I. Green on four occasions in 2004, including two specific searches for *H. cambricogothicum*, without success. *Hieracium sabaudum* and another *Hieracium* species were still present but the river wall has been realigned (NMW).

Thus it now appears that *H. cambricogothicum* can be classified as 'Extinct (EX)' under the IUCN (2001) threat categories. The last time it was recorded for certain was 1955 at the type locality. Although some doubt exists about the identification of material from Kent (and possibly Forres in the absence of a specimen), no *H. cambricogothicum* could be found there either. No live material is known to remain in cultivation or in seed banks.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to thank David McCosh for his help and advice, Wendy McCarthy, Eric Philp, Peter Sell and the keepers of the herbaria for access to libraries and specimens. Collation of historical data was funded by the Countryside Council for Wales.

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