ADDENDA TO THE FLORA OF FAIR ISLE

By R. S. R. FITTER

As Pritchard (1957) points out, no record of the plants of Fair Isle (v.c. 112) was published between Trail (1906) and his own paper, based on a visit in August 1956. Pritchard lists some 48 species not recorded by Trail, while 26 species recorded by Trail were not seen by Pritchard. Some light on the reality of these gaps is thrown by a list which I made myself on a visit to the island from August 25 to September 9, 1948. This can be supplemented by a list kindly supplied to me at that time by Mrs. Hannah Stout, who was born on the island. Her list roughly covers the period 1930-48.

Fourteen plants, recorded by Trail but not by Pritchard, were noted either by myself (F) or by Mrs. Stout (S), viz.:

Equisetum arvense (S)
Athyrium filix-femina (F, S)
Cochlearia scotica (S)
Filipendula ulmaria (S)
Pedicularis sylvatica (F, S)
Carex serotina (S)
Euphrasia foulaensis (F, Gestuca ovina (F)
det. P. F. Yeo)
Euphorbia helioscopia (S)

Gnaphalium vliginosum (S)
Achillea ptarmica (S)
Coeloglossum viride (S)
Carex serotina (S)
Festuca ovina (F)
Holcus lanatus (F, S)

Nineteen plants, seen by Pritchard but not recorded by Trail, were also noted either by myself (F) or by Mrs. Stout (S), viz.:

Luzula multiflora (F) Isoetes lacustris (F) Ranunculus repens (F) Schoenus nigricans (F) Poa pratensis (F, S) Sagina maritima (S) P. trivialis (F, S) Honkenya peploides (S) Spergularia arvensis (S). Dactylis glomerata (F, S) Agrostis stolonifera (F, S) Atriplex patula (F, S) A. hastata (F, S) Alopecurus geniculatus (F, S) Trifolium pratense (F, S) Anthoxanthum odoratum (F, S) Primula vulgaris (S) Anagallis tenella (S) Juncus squarrosus (F)

Four plants, recorded by neither Trail nor Pritchard, were noted both by Mrs. Stout and myself, viz.:

Sinapis arvensis Vicia sepium Trifolium hybridum Rumex obtusifolius

Two plants that I saw myself were not recorded by Trail, Pritchard or Mrs. Stout, viz.:

Barbarea vulgaris Phleum pratense

Finally, the following 25 plants are recorded on the authority of Mrs. Stout alone, and it is very desirable that their presence should be verified by future botanical workers on Fair Isle, viz.:

Hymenophyllum wilsonii

Polypodium vulgare Ranunculus ficaria Viola tricolor

Stellaria alsine Spergularia media Chenopodium album

Linum catharticum Lathyrus pratensis

Potentilla palustris
Epilobium parviflorum

Aegopodium podagraria

Polygonum persicaria Empetrum hermaphroditum

Trientalis europaea*
Anagallis arvensis
Glaux maritima
Myosotis discolor
Veronica persica
Odontites verna

Chrysanthemum leucanthemum

Dactylorchis purpurella Eriophorum vaginatum

It seems probable from these lists that even on a small island, not only may local resident plants easily be overlooked, but colonists may frequently appear and die out.

REFERENCES

PRITCHARD, M. M., 1957, Notes on the flora of Fair Isle, Proc. B.S.B.I., 2, 219-25. TRAIL, J. W. H., 1906, The flora of Fair Isle, Ann. Scot. Nat. Hist., 57, 165-70.

^{*}See Plant Records -- ED