

## FURTHER NOTES ON THE FLORA OF FAIR ISLE (V.C. 112)

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I visited Fair Isle for a fortnight during May/June 1954, and again for a week during July 1957. A large amount of material was collected, and detailed notes were made on plant distribution within the island. The following notes are arranged in three sections:—

- (1) New records.
- (2) Confirmatory records, suggested by Fitter (1959) in his final list of 25 plants recorded on the authority of Mrs. Stout alone.
- (3) Plants recorded by Trail (1906) but not by Pritchard (1957) or Fitter (1959).

Unless otherwise stated, the records are my own, and the specimens on which they are based are in my private herbarium. For convenience, I have adapted some of my data so that the localities are comparable with those marked on the map published by Pritchard (1957). The nomenclature and order is that of Dandy (1958).

## 1. NEW RECORDS.

- PICEA SITCHENSIS (Bong.) Carriere. Introduced in Vaadal, Davis, 1958.
- SILENE ACAULIS (L.) Jacq. Ward Hill, 550 ft.
- MONTIA FONTANA subsp. VARIABILIS Walters. Slopes of Ruska Lee, det. *S. M. Walters*.
- RADIOLA LINOIDES Roth. Dry patches among roadside heather, and near dykes. First recorded in Fair Isle Bird Observatory Log in 1953 by Prof. M. F. M. MEIKLEJOHN.
- ACER PSEUDOPLATANUS L. Introduced in 1952 in Vaadal and the Gully.
- POLYGONUM VIVIPARUM L. Quite abundant on the north summit slopes of Ward Hill.
- P. CUSPIDATUM Sieb. & Zucc. Introduced in the Haa garden.
- SALIX × MULTINERVIS Doell. Cliff at mouth of the Gully, det. *R. D. Meikle*. The only parent present is *S. cinerea* subsp. *atrocinerea* (Brot.) Silva & Sobrinho, which grows nearby. Meikle (*in litt.*) suggests that the other parent, *S. aurita* L., has perhaps become extinct.
- TARAXACUM OFFICINALE Weber. Common in the burial ground, and occasional in the village.
- LISTERA CORDATA (L.) R.Br. One specimen on the moor above N. Haven.
- CAREX PILULIFERA L. Occasional species of moorland, det. *E. Nelmes*.
- C. DIOICA L. Vaadal, very scarce.

## 2. CONFIRMATORY RECORDS.

- POLYPODIUM VULGARE L. Occasional in certain gullies.  
 RANUNCULUS FICARIA L. Grassy slopes of the Gully. Very small plants.  
 VIOLA TRICOLOR L. Several in fields near the school.  
 SPERGULARIA MEDIA (L.) C. Presl. Ledge at foot of Cliff, Bunes.  
 GLAUX MARITIMA L. Sea shore near S. Harbour.

3. PLANTS RECORDED BY TRAIL (1906) BUT NOT BY  
PRITCHARD (1957) or FITTER (1959)

- SALIX HERBACEA L. Abundant down to 550 ft. on Ward Hill.  
 SENECIO JACOBAEA L. Recorded by Prof. M. F. M. MEIKLEJOHN in Fair  
 Isle Bird Observatory Log in 1953, from roadside between Rock  
 Cottage and Shirva.  
 JUJULA CAMPESTRIS (L.) DC. Grassy slopes near the Haa, det. Miss J.  
 Buchanan, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.  
 CAREX BIGELOWII Torr. ex Schwein. Ward Hill, at about 550 ft., det.  
 S. M. Walters.

In conclusion I should like to draw attention to the boreal species in the Fair Isle flora. The addition of 5 such species in this present paper brings the total to 18. The geographical groups, based on lists by Matthews (1953), are represented as follows.

## NORTHERN MONTANE ELEMENT

*Antennaria dioica*, *Listera cordata*, *Trientalis europaea*.

## OCEANIC NORTHERN ELEMENT

*Armeria maritima*, *Atriplex glabriuscula*, *Cochlearia danica*, *C. officinalis*, *Honkenya peploides*, *Narthecium ossifragum*, *Silene maritima*, *Thymus drucei*.

## ARCTIC-SUBARCTIC ELEMENT

*Ligusticum scoticum*.

## ARCTIC-ALPINE ELEMENT

*Carex bigelowii*, *Empetrum nigrum*, *Polygonum viviparum*, *Salix herbacea*, *Sedum rosea*, *Silene acaulis*.

If the vascular flora of Fair Isle is taken as being just over 200 species, this northern element represents about 9% of the total.

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