

Notes

NORTH WALES SPECIES OF *RUBUS* L. (ROSACEAE) IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT

In 1982 two sizeable populations of *Rubus effrenatus* Newton, a species up till then (and still) otherwise known only in north-west Wales, v.cc. 46–49, were discovered in the Isle of Wight, v.c. 10, at a distance of 11 km from each other. One population is near the Island's southernmost tip, mainly among bracken along a crescent of gravel overlying the chalk on the north face of Head Down but with an outlying patch in a deep 'green lane' about 1.4 km to the north-west. The other site is towards the Island's south-east corner, along a much-frequented public footpath forming the north boundary of Sandown Golf Course, a relic fragment of a once-extensive tract of partly-wooded acid ground that constituted Blackpan and Lake Commons. The species is unrepresented in *Rubus* collections made in these two localities by 19th century specialists in the genus, and that negative evidence, taken together with a subjective impression that both populations have expanded slightly in the years since their discovery, could be interpreted as indicating a relatively recent arrival in each case (Allen 2003). Though the two may have had independent origins, it is equally possible that one population has been derived from the other – in which case that on Head Down seems the more likely to be the parent colony.

In 2002–4 two successive finds of another *Rubus* species provided a near-duplicate of this very unexpected national distribution pattern. This one, *R. griffithianus* Rogers, while not otherwise exclusive to north-west Wales (so far as is known) like *R. effrenatus* – for it has proved to have three widely-separate secondary centres, in v.cc. 55, 60 and H27 (Newton & Randall 2004) – is heavily concentrated there, its striking abundance in the adjacent portions of Caernarvonshire, v.c. 49, and Anglesey, v.c. 52, having been responsible for its original gaining of taxonomic recognition (Rogers 1895). Merely on grounds of statistical probability north-west Wales thus seems the likeliest source of the Isle of Wight occurrences. In contrast to those of *R. effrenatus*, these both consist of apparently solitary patches, one on a ride near the south end of the Island's largest tract of woodland, Parkhurst Forest, on the west side of Newport, the other in the middle of a small copse on the south outskirts of Ryde in the Island's north-east corner. The latter gives the impression of being long-established and may have been the source of the other, even though, again, the localities are a considerable distance (in this case 13 km) apart and, again too, there are ample suitable habitats in between.

Apart from accidental introduction with forestry nursery stock, a possibility in the case of the Parkhurst Forest patch, the respective ecological contexts point to frugivorous birds as the dispersal agency most likely to be responsible for the long-distance transport that would seem to have been involved. Field observation by ornithologists in Britain and the Iberian Peninsula has identified blackberries as "probably one of the most important sources of easily obtained energy for migrant passerines", the principal feeders on them being blackbirds and (to a much lesser extent) robins in early September and starlings in October–November (Snow & Snow 1988). Unfortunately, though, the study of passage movements has yet to attain the level of technological development that would enable particular routes, or the particular kinds of birds following those, to be inferred without the great difficulty that at present attends that line of work (J. Clark, pers. comm. 2004). For the time being non-stop flights of some 300 km of perhaps some regularity that the evidence presented in this note implies can therefore be no more than surmise. However, it seems a reasonable guess that the Severn and Wye Valleys serve as well-used southward flyways; it may well be, too, that the conspicuousness of Southampton Water as a landmark has the effect of funnelling migrants on to the Isle of Wight and using it as a halting-place preparatory to the lengthy onward flight across the English Channel.

That plant species otherwise restricted largely or even wholly to the foothills of Snowdonia can persist and even flourish in a lowland area some 300 km to the south is not as surprising as it may appear at first sight. The climate of the Isle of Wight is a similarly moist, maritime one (only one of the four localities identified above is more than 2 km from the sea, perhaps significantly) and though its summer temperatures are considerably higher, cooler conditions are the norm there throughout the autumn migration period. In this connection the distribution of a third *Rubus* species, *R. riparius* W.C. Barton ex Newton, may be instructive. Up to the time of its eventual description (Newton 1972) and for more than two decades subsequently this was believed to

resemble *R. effrenatus* in being restricted to north-west Wales exclusively. Since then, however, it has been found to have several large populations along the coastal belt of Central South England, from Hayling Island to the far west of Dorset, as well as occurring in a wide scatter of localities in the Isle of Wight (Allen 2003, Newton & Randall 2004), where it turns out to have been collected as long ago as 1868. More surprisingly, that distribution has proved to extend across the English Channel to the Orne Valley in central Normandy with an outlier 35 km further south still, almost halfway to the Loire (Allen 2002). This would seem to suggest that temperature is not a seriously restrictive factor until much further south than one might suppose for species occurring in greatest quantity in as distant a region as north-west Wales.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am grateful to Alan Newton for assistance with determinations and to Miss Jacquie Clark, Head on the Ringing Unit of the British Trust for Ornithology, for guidance on the present explanatory limitations of that technique.

REFERENCES

- ALLEN, D. E. (2002). A third list of British species of *Rubus* L. (Rosaceae) in north-west France. *Watsonia* 24: 220–222.
- ALLEN D. E. (2003). *Rubus*, in POPE C., SNOW, L. & ALLEN, D. *The Isle of Wight flora*. Dovecote Press, Wimborne.
- NEWTON, A. (1972). A Welsh bramble foray. *Watsonia* 9: 317–330.
- NEWTON, A. & RANDALL, R. D. (2004). *Atlas of British and Irish brambles*. Botanical Society of the British Isles, London.
- ROGERS, W. M. (1895). *Rubus*, in GRIFFITH, J. E., *The flora of Anglesey and Caernarvonshire*, Nixon & Jarvis, Bangor.
- SNOW, B. & SNOW, D. (1988). *Birds and berries*. T. & A. D. Poyser, Staffordshire.

D. E. ALLEN

Lesney Cottage, Middle Road, Winchester SO22 5EJ

EPIPACTIS PHYLLANTHES VAR. *CAMBRENSIS* (C. A. THOMAS) P. D. SELL AND
OTHER UNUSUAL *EPIPACTIS* AT KENFIG NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE

BACKGROUND

C. Thomas (1950) published a paper entitled “The Kenfig *Epipactis*” describing his discovery in July 1941 of two delicate, yellowish-green plants with yellowish white flowers, *Epipactis cambrensis* C. Thomas (1950), more recently *Epipactis phyllanthes* var. *cambrensis* (C. A. Thomas) P. D. Sell (1996) (“*cambrensis*”), growing on the steep sides of sand heaps at Kenfig Burrows (now Kenfig N.N.R.) and the adjacent Margam Burrows. He also listed other *Epipactis* which he had found growing at Kenfig, including a form of *Epipactis helleborine* growing in the open dunes and an unidentified *Epipactis* [“No 4”] which he described as “closely resembling *E. dumensis*”.

C. Thomas deposited a specimen of *cambrensis* collected on 19 July 1941 with **NMW** (“paratype”) and a further specimen (in bud) collected 18 July 1942 with **BM** (“holotype”). A description of *cambrensis*, based on C. Thomas’s original description and an inspection of the **BM** holotype (per. comm., 2004), was included by P. D. Sell and J. G. Murrell (1996) in the *Flora of Great Britain and Ireland*. However, the existence of *cambrensis* as a distinct taxon has not been generally accepted and it is normally listed in reference works (most recently Delforge, 2001 and Lang, 2004) only as a synonym under *E. phyllanthes*. Indeed, only two years after Thomas’s paper, D. P. Young (1952), in a study of *Epipactis phyllanthes*, was dismissive, stating:

“I do not understand *E. [phyllanthes var.] cambrensis* ... and have left it out of account here. Thomas’s type in Hb. Mus. Brit. [BM] is immature; specimens in various other herbaria determined (by him and others) as *E. [phyllanthes var.] cambrensis* appear to me to be *E. phyllanthes* var. *vectensis*, which he himself (1950) records (as *E. pendula*) from the same locality. On several visits to the Kenfig dunes I have not been able to find plants corresponding exactly to his description of *E. [phyllanthes var.] cambrensis* although *E. phyllanthes* was seen both on tops of dunes and in the slacks. More evidence that *E. [phyllanthes var.] cambrensis* is distinct from *E. phyllanthes* and not just a dwarfed state of it would be welcome.”

Similarly, D. M. Turner Ettlinger (1997) reported that no-one had been able to re-find or identify *cambrensis* with certainty and this was still the position up until 2004.

RE-DISCOVERY OF THE “KENFIG EPIPACTIS”, *EPIPACTIS PHYLLANTHES*
VAR. *CAMBRENSIS* (C. A. THOMAS) P. D. SELL

Although up until 2004 no-one had been able to re-find or identify *cambrensis* with certainty, S Moon did find a small number of unusual *Epipactis* plants with whitish flowers in the dunes at Kenfig N.N.R. during the 1990s while he was Warden there (pers. comm., 2004). A photograph of one such plant with about 20 greenish white flowers, which he described as exceptionally robust (and may therefore be a hybrid), is included under the name *Epipactis phyllanthes*, var. *pendula* in a poster of Kenfig flora on show at the Kenfig N.N.R. Visitor Centre. On 26 July 2004, we searched the area of dunes where he had discovered these plants and found a single small, lax yellowish-green *Epipactis*, in bud but with one whitish flower beginning to emerge, growing on the north face of a steep sand heap. When the site was revisited on 6 August, the plant was fully in flower (Figure 1). Two similar plants, one gone over and the other immature, were found in a similar location on another sand heap close by. A fourth plant, just going over, was found on a later visit. The fact that this fourth plant was overlooked on 6 August, despite being 23 cm high, presumably in flower and growing just 60 cm from one of the other plants, shows how difficult these plants are to find in the dense vegetation.

The four newly-found plants were compared with C. Thomas’s description of *cambrensis* and the herbarium specimens he deposited at BM and NMW. As noted above, like *cambrensis*, these plants were growing on the steep sides of sand heaps, largely concealed by *Salix repens*. The three mature plants were respectively 16, 19 and 23 cm high, i.e. within the normal range of 10 to 24 cm (exceptionally up to 35 cm) reported by C. Thomas. The plants were lax with four to six flowers, consistent with C. Thomas’s description of *cambrensis* as few flowered with robust plants bearing about 10 flowers (the holotype appears to have 12 flowers and the paratype has six). As further described by C. Thomas, *cambrensis* is a lax yellowish-green plant with a purple tint at the base of the stem. The leaves, which are alternate and clasp opposite sides of the stem at their base; are simple, ciliate-edged and oblong-lanceolate; they appear very slender because they are sharply folded upwards on the midrib. The bracts are linear-lanceolate and upwardly pointing, the lowest being longer than the flowers but diminishing to shorter than the flowers at the top. The pedicel is a slightly curved down, but less so than is normal for *E. [phyllanthes var.] pendula* and *vectensis* so that the flowers do not appear to hang loosely but tend to give the whole plant a somewhat sinuous aspect. The ovary is long and narrow, smooth and flattened above and below. The sepals and petals are acuminate, 10.5 mm and 9 mm long, respectively and 5 mm wide; the sepals and petals of the paratype have noticeably out-turned tips. The rostellum is rudimentary. Flowers are yellowish white. The labellum is complete, about 7.5 mm long. The hypochile is small (about 3 mm long), well-formed and uncoloured. The epichile is white, not reflexed, 4.5 mm long and pointed. The epichiles of the two new plants found in flower were a yellow-greenish white rather than white (or yellowish white) and, in some cases, were not reflexed. However, in all other respects, the new plants accorded with C. Thomas’s description of *cambrensis* and the herbarium specimens he deposited.

Photographs and details of the four plants we found were submitted to A. J. Richards, the BSBI Referee for *Epipactis*. After further comparison with C. Thomas’s description and herbarium specimens, he confirmed that, in his view, the plants were indeed *cambrensis* (pers. comm., 2004)



FIGURE 1. *Epipactis phyllanthes* var. *cambrensis* (C. A. Thomas) P. D. Sell

He also confirmed that the plants were a form of *Epipactis phyllanthes* G. E. Smith. In addition, he observed that the leaves were extremely narrow giving the plants a distinctly unusual appearance. It is interesting to compare this with C. Thomas's observations that *cambrensis* differed from any *Epipactis* that he had previously encountered and that its leaves appeared very slender because they are folded sharply upwards on the midrib. According to P. Delforge (2001), the normal leaf size for *E. phyllanthes* is 15 to 35 mm wide x 35 to 75 mm long. The leaf measurements of the plant shown in Figure 1 are 7.5 mm x 15 mm, 12 mm x 42 mm, 9 mm x 48 mm and 7.5 mm x 42 mm. The widest leaf of the other three plants found was 16 mm. Although C. Thomas describes *cambrensis* in detail and comments on the narrow appearance of the leaves, he does not specify the range of leaf measurements. However, he does give the measurements for a single plant having leaves up to 35 mm wide, but it would appear that this must have been particularly robust since 35 mm is stated to be the maximum leaf width and the broadest leaves of the holotype (which was also a robust plant with 12 flowers, compared with the normal maximum of 10) and paratype are both about 20 mm wide.

It is apparent that since this *Epipactis* is a form of *E. phyllanthes* it cannot be accorded specific rank, as initially proposed by C. Thomas. However, in view of its noticeably different appearance from other forms of *E. phyllanthes*, in particular its narrow oblong-lanceolate leaves sharply folded about midrib, it may warrant the same rank as other British subsidiary taxa of *E. phyllanthes* (namely var. *pendula*, *degenera* and *vectensis*) consistent with the nomenclature *Epipactis phyllanthes* var. *cambrensis* (C. A. Thomas) P. D. Sell. However, since such rank is based on the morphology of only four contemporary plants and two herbarium specimens, it must be regarded as provisional. It is hoped that further plants can be found in future years to enable a more extensive comparison with the other subsidiary taxa of *E. phyllanthes* to be carried out.

EPIPACTIS HELLEBORINE AFF. NEERLANDICA

During the searches of Kenfig N.N.R. for *cambrensis* in the 1980s and 1990s by S. Moon (v. *supra*) and others, two other unusual *Epipactis* were found growing in open dunes with *Salix repens* (A. J. Richards pers.comm., 2002, D. M. Turner Ettliger, 1997 and 1998). We also found both of these forms in August 2002 and, in much smaller numbers, in 2004 (No search was made in 2003 because of the effects of the severe drought on the Kenfig dune flora in late July.).

The first form (Figure 2) grows in small numbers in open dunes at Kenfig. It has a characteristic deep green colour and dark, dull purplish-pink flowers. It is therefore presumably the same as the *E. helleborine* which C. Thomas (1950) reported as growing in open dunes at Kenfig. As reported by D. M. Turner Ettliger (1997, 1998), it also grows in other dune systems on the South Wales coast. C. Thomas states that the only concession to the exposed open situation in which these plants grow is "that all the flowers turn their back to the midday sun." However, as also reported by D. M. Turner Ettliger (1997), there is a more significant adaptation, namely the fact that the leaves are short and round, have irregular toothing at leaf margins and closely sheath the stem. In these respects, as well as in overall appearance, the plants closely resemble *E. helleborine* subsp. *neerlandica* (Vermeulen) Buttler which also grows with *Salix repens* in Continental dune slacks bordering the North Sea. In view of these similarities, D. M. Turner Ettliger (1997, 1998) and P. Delforge (2001) have presented this South Wales dune form of *E. helleborine* as subsp. *neerlandica*. Although this is a possibility, the precise rank of this *Epipactis* is still to be established since it was not included in the recent genetic studies of the genus *Epipactis* by J. Squirrell *et al.* (2002) and P. M. Hollingsworth (2003). It is therefore suggested that it should be referred to as *Epipactis helleborine* aff. *neerlandica* pending further study of its taxonomy.

EPIPACTIS HELLEBORINE AFF. YOUNGIANA

The most immediately noticeable characteristics of the second *Epipactis* growing at Kenfig (Figure 3) are its distinct yellowish-green colour and pink bell-like flowers, often very densely clustered together. It would seem probable that it is the same as *Epipactis* "No. 4" described by C. Thomas (1950) as resembling *E. dunensis*, a specimen of which is preserved in the Spirit



FIGURE 2. *Epipactis helleborine* aff. *neerlandica*



FIGURE 3. *Epipactis helleborine* aff. *youngiana*

Collection at **K** labelled "...base of stem purplish-pink; leaves pale yellowish-green, midrib yellow; petals very pale pink, midrib yellowish, lip epichile pale pink, apex yellowish, hypochile deeper pink, column whitish, rostellum white, ovary yellowish-green." This second form grows in the open dunes with *E. helleborine* aff. *neerlandica*, but in even smaller numbers. We found only two plants in 2004, compared with 11 in 2002. However, further plants may well have been overlooked since, despite their bright yellowish colour, they can be difficult to find amongst the *Salix repens* and other dune vegetation. Unlike aff. *neerlandica*, there appears to be no record of it having been found elsewhere in South Wales.

Like *E. helleborine* aff. *neerlandica*, the rank of this *Epipactis* is still to be established since it also was not included in the recent genetic studies of the genus by J. Squirrell *et al.* (2002, 2003).

In fact, it resembles *E. youngiana* A. J. Richards and A. F. Porter even more closely than *E. dunensis* (T. & T. A. Stephenson) Godfrey. This resemblance has led to suggestions that it may actually be *E. youngiana* by D. M. Turner Ettliger (1997, 1998) (who recorded it as being from Porthcawl, the nearest town to Kenfig N.N.R.), P. Delforge (2001), and D. Lang (2004). If so, this has legal and conservation consequences since *E. youngiana* is classified as Endangered in Great Britain and fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Schedule 8, as well as being a UK Biodiversity priority species. However, since Kenfig is well separated from other *E. youngiana* sites (which are in Northumberland and Scotland), it would seem more likely that these plants are a form of *E. helleborine*. This would also be consistent with the view (P. M. Hollingsworth, 2003) that *E. youngiana* does not exist as a distinct species but, instead appears to be attributable to a series of morphologically complex and atypical populations of *E. helleborine*. As *E. youngiana* is only known from polluted sites, one of us (L. Lewis, 2003) has previously speculated that these Kenfig plants may be a similar adaptation to wind-blown pollution from Port Talbot steel works which lie just to the north-west. It is therefore suggested that this *Epipactis* should be referred to as *Epipactis helleborine* aff. *youngiana* pending further study of its taxonomy.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to thank Prof. A. J. Richards for his extensive advice on the identification of the plants we found and on the dune forms of *Epipactis* which had previously been found at Kenfig; Steve Moon, a former Warden at Kenfig N.N.R., for information on his earlier finds at Kenfig, and the Keepers of BM, K, and NMW for access to, scans of, and information on, herbarium specimens deposited by C. Thomas.

REFERENCES

- DELFORGE, P. (2001). *Guide des Orchidées d'Europe*, 2nd ed., pp. 63, 79, 106. Delachaux et Niestlé, Lausanne.
- ETTLINGER, D. M. TURNER (1997). *Notes on British and Irish Orchids*. pp. 26, 33, 121, 122. Published privately.
- ETTLINGER, D. M. TURNER. (1998). *Illustrations of British and Irish Orchids*. Plates VI, XIII. Published privately.
- HOLLINGSWORTH, P. M. (2003). Taxonomic Complexity, Population Genetics and Plant Conservation in Scotland. *Botanical Journal of Scotland* 55: 55–63.
- LANG, D. (2004). *Britain's Orchids*. pp. 58, 66. WildGuides Ltd, Old Basing.
- LEWIS, L. (2003). Dune forms of *Epipactis helleborine* at Kenfig. *The Hardy Society Newsletter* 28: 15–17.
- SELL, P. D. & MURRELL J. G. (1996). *The Flora of Great Britain and Ireland*, Vol. 5. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- SQUIRRELL, J., HOLLINGSWORTH, P. M., BATEMAN, R. M., TEBBITT, M. C. & HOLLINGSWORTH, M. L. (2002). Taxonomic complexity and breeding system transitions: conservation genetics of the *Epipactis leptochila* complex (Orchidaceae). *Molecular Ecology* 11: 1957–1964.
- THOMAS, C. (1950). The Kenfig *Epipactis*. *Watsonia* 1: 283–288.
- THOMAS, C. (1941). An addition to the Native British Orchidaceae. *Journal of Botany* 79: 200–205.
- UK Biodiversity, Species Action Plan (November 2001): <http://www.ukbap.org.uk>.
- YOUNG, D. P. (1952). Studies in the British *Epipactis*, III, *Epipactis phyllanthos* G. E. Sm., an overlooked species. *Watsonia* 2: 253–276.

L. LEWIS

4 Orchid Meadow, Pwllmeyric, Chepstow NP16 6HP

E. J. SPENCER

4A Orchard Close, Longford, Gloucester GL2 9BB

PLANTS FOUND IN IRELAND BUT NOT IN BRITAIN

During the final editing of *Vice-county Census Catalogue of the Vascular Plants of Great Britain* (Stace *et al.* 2003) the taxa for which no records had been received were investigated. Many of these were listed under two categories on pp. xv–xvi, but a third category of “almost 40 taxa”, those found in Ireland but not in Britain, was not detailed. The following lists analyse in more detail those non-British taxa, as it is thought that they might be of use and interest to botanists. The “almost 40” taxa (actually 41) are those in the first two lists below not bearing an asterisk or dagger. The following symbols apply:

*** taxon formerly native in Britain but now extinct; now naturalised in Britain

** taxa formerly native in Britain but now extinct

* taxa naturalised in Britain

††† taxon formerly naturalised in Britain but no longer so

†† taxa not in Britain but native in Isle of Man

† taxa recorded as casual in Britain

Irish endemics in boldface

TAXA OCCURRING AS NATIVES IN IRELAND BUT NOT NOW OCCURRING AS NATIVES IN BRITAIN

Equisetum hyemale × *ramosissimum* = *E.* × *moorei*†

Asplenium onopteris

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum × *onopteris* = *A.* × *ticinense*

Polystichum setiferum × *lonchitis* = *P.* × *lonchitiforme*

Arenaria ciliata* subsp. *hibernica

Minuartia recurva

Limonium recurvum* subsp. *pseudotranswallianum

Helianthemum oelandicum subsp. *piloselloides*

*Daboecia cantabrica**

*Arbutus unedo**

Erica mackaiana†

Erica mackaiana* × *tetralix* = *E.* × *stuartii

*Erica erigena**

*Saxifraga spathularis**

Saxifraga spathularis × *hirsuta* = *S.* × *polita**

*Saxifraga hirsuta**

Saxifraga hypnoides × *S. rosacea*

Saxifraga rosacea subsp. *rosacea****

Saxifraga rosacea* subsp. *hartii

Rubus hesperius

Rubus lettii††

Rosa spinosissima* × *rugosa

Rosa spinosissima × *agrestis* = *R.* × *caviniacensis*

Rosa tomentosa × *agrestis*

Rosa sherardii × *agrestis*

Sorbus hibernica

Gentianella amarella* subsp. *hibernica

Euphrasia salisburgensis

Euphrasia arctica × *salisburgensis*

Euphrasia nemorosa × *salisburgensis*

Euphrasia micrantha × *salisburgensis*

*Pinguicula grandiflora**

Pinguicula grandiflora × *vulgaris* = *P.* × *scullyi*

Taraxacum webbii

Taraxacum amarellum

Hieracium scullyi
Hieracium hibernicum
Hieracium sparsifrons
Hieracium basalticola
Hieracium hartii

Inula salicina†

*Otanthus maritimus***

Potamogeton natans × *berchtoldii* = *P.* × *variifolius*

Potamogeton coloratus × *berchtoldii* = *P.* × *lanceolatus***

Potamogeton lucens × *alpinus* = *P.* × *nerviger*

Potamogeton praelongus × *crispus* = *P.* × *undulatus***

Luzula multiflora* subsp. *hibernica

Carex muricata* × *divulsa

Carex divulsa × *remota* = *C.* × *emmae***

Carex hirta × *vesicaria* = *C.* × *grossii*

Simethis planifolia†††

*Sisyrinchium bermudiana**

Neotinea maculata††

The two Scottish records of *Equisetum x moorei* in the 1962 *Atlas* (Perring & Walters 1962) have never been confirmed and are presumed to be errors.

TAXA NATURALISED IN IRELAND BUT NEVER SO IN BRITAIN

Hypericum pseudohenryi

Hypericum canadense†

Hydrangea sargentiana

Haloragis micrantha

Eucalyptus urnigera

Eucalyptus johnstonii

Carlina acaulis†

Juncus planifolius

Libertia caeruleascens

All but *Hypericum canadense*, *Haloragis micrantha* and *Juncus planifolius* are only rather marginally naturalised in neglected gardens or forestry plantations, but they have not been recorded even in this state in Britain. The *Libertia* needs careful vetting. Records of *Hebe elliptica* (Webb *et al.* 1996) might be well-founded but need expert confirmation; plants so recorded from Britain have proved to be variants of *H.* × *franciscana*.

TAXA FORMERLY NATURALISED IN IRELAND BUT NEVER SO IN BRITAIN

Persicaria sagittata†

Margyricarpus pinnatus

Aetheorhiza bulbosa†

“Formerly” naturalised implies either now known to be extinct, or not recorded since 1970. The *Aethiorhiza* was only rather marginally naturalised in neglected gardens.

TAXA RECORDED AS CASUAL OR marginally NATURALISED IN IRELAND BUT NOT SO IN BRITAIN

Cyathea dealbata

Sidalcea neomexicana

Rubus linkianus

Acacia dealbata

Acer macrophyllum

Onosma taurica

None of these six represents a very convincing member of the Irish wild flora and they have been listed here simply because they are included in Reynolds (2002) but not in Clement & Foster (1994). The *Onosma* was a casual in 1905, the *Sidalcea* a garden relic in 1986, the *Rubus* possibly a misdetermination of the frequent *R. armeniacus* (fide D. E. Allen, S. Reynolds pers. comm.), and the other three have only been recorded as self-sowing in parks or 'wild gardens'. In addition to the *Rubus*, the *Sidalcea* and *Acacia* need careful vetting. *Echium wildpretii* ("wildpretii") was also listed by Reynolds (2002) but this (fide Patrick Forde per Charles Nelson) was a misidentification of *E. pininana*.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am grateful to David Allen, Eric Clement, Paul Hackney, Clive Jermy, Naomi Kingston, Alex Lockton, David McCosh, Charles Nelson, David Pearman, Sylvia Reynolds, John Richards and Rosalind Smith for helpful comment and information.

REFERENCES

- CLEMENT, E. J. & FOSTER, M. C. (1994). *Alien plants of the British Isles*. BSBI, London.
PERRING, F. H. & WALTERS, S. M., eds. (1962). *Atlas of the British flora*. Thomas Nelson, London.
REYNOLDS, S. C. P. (2002). *A catalogue of alien plants in Ireland*. National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin.
STACE, C. A., ELLIS, R. G., KENT, D. H. & MCCOSH, D. J., eds. (2003). *Vice-county Census Catalogue of the Vascular Plants of Great Britain*. BSBI, London.
WEBB, D. A., PARNELL, J. & DOOGUE, D. (1996). *An Irish Flora*, 7th ed. Dundalgan Press, Dundalk.

C. A. STACE
Cringlee, Claybrooke Road, Ullesthorpe, Leicestershire LE17 5AB