

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

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## Grassland Survey

TM26554 52499

<b>SITE NAME AND PARISH</b> BREDFIELD GLEBE LAND NORRIDGE ROAD	<b>DATE(S)</b> 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2011	<b>SURVEYORS NAME</b> SUSAN STONE
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<b>FLOWERING PLANTS</b>		
In first column tick for presence, second column indicate occurrence F=frequent, O= occasional, R=rare		
Achillea millefolium (Yarrow)	✓	R
Aegopodium podagraria (Ground elder)		
Ajuga reptans (Bugle)		
Alliaria petiolata (Hedge mustard)		
Anthriscus sylvestris (Cow parsley)	✓	R
Bellis perennis (Daisy)		
Bryonia dioica (White bryony)		
Capsella bursa-pastoris (Shepherd's purse)		
Cardamine hirsuta (Hairy bitter-cress)		
Centaurea nigra (Knapweed)	✓	R
Cerastium fontanum (Common mouse-ear)	✓	O
Cirsium arvense (Creeping thistle)	✓	O
Cirsium vulgare (Spear thistle)	✓	O
Convolvulus arvensis (Field bindweed)	✓	O
Crepis capillaris (Smooth hawk's-beard)		
Galium aparine (Goosegrass)		
Galium mollugo (Hedge bedstraw)		
Galium saxatile (Heath bedstraw)		
Galium verum (Lady's bedstraw)		
Geranium dissectum (Cut-leaved crane's-bill)	✓	O
Geranium molle (Dove's-foot crane's-bill)		
Geranium robertianum (Herb-Robert)		
Geum urbanum (Wood avens)		
Heracleum sphondylium (Hogweed)	✓	R
Hyacinthoides non-scripta (Bluebell)		
Hypericum perforatum (Perforate St John's-wort)	✓	R
Hypochaeris radicata (Cat's-ear)		
Lamium album (White dead-nettle)		
Lamium purpureum (Red dead-nettle)		
Lapsana communis (Nipplewort)		
Lathyrus pratensis (Meadow vetchling)		
Leucanthemum vulgare (Ox-eye daisy)		
Lotus corniculatus (Bird's-foot trefoil)		
Malva sylvestris (Common mallow)		
Medicago lupulina (Black medick)	✓	O
Mercurialis perennis (Dog's mercury)		
Myosotis arvensis (Field forget-me-not)		
Myosotis discolor (Changing forget-me-not)		
Pilosella officinarum (Mouse-ear hawkweed)		
Pimpinella saxifraga (Burnet saxifrage)		
Plantago lanceolata (Ribwort plantain)		
Plantago major (Great plantain)		
Plantago media (Hoary plantain)		
Potentilla reptans (Creeping cinquefoil)	✓	F
Potentilla sterilis (Barren strawberry)		
Primula veris (Cowslip)		
Primula vulgaris (Primrose)		
Prunella vulgaris (Self-heal)	✓	A
Ranunculus acris (Meadow buttercup)	✓	F
Ranunculus bulbosus (Bulbous buttercup)		
Ranunculus ficaria (Lesser celandine)		
Ranunculus repens (Creeping buttercup)	✓	A

PTO

<b>FLOWERING PLANTS CONTINUED</b>	A = ABUNDANT	Visit our website at: <a href="http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org">www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org</a>
In first column tick for presence, second column indicate occurrence F=frequent, O= occasional, R=rare		

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Rumex acetosa (Common sorrel)			Taraxacum officinale (Dandelion)		
Rumex acetosella (Sheep's sorrel)			Trifolium dubium (Lesser trefoil)	✓	0
Rumex crispus (Curled dock)	✓	R	Trifolium pratense (Red clover)		
Rumex obtusifolius (Broad-leaved dock)	✓	R	Trifolium repens (White clover)		
Senecio jacobaea (Ragwort)	✓	0	Urtica dioica (Nettle)	✓	R
Senecio vulgaris (Groundsel)			Veronica chamaedrys (Germander speedwell)	✓	0
Sonchus asper (Prickly sow-thistle)			Veronica hederifolia (Ivy-leaved speedwell)		
Sonchus oleraceus (Smooth sow-thistle)			Vicia sativa (Common vetch)	✓	R
Stachys sylvatica (Hedge woundwort)	✓	R	Viola odorata (Sweet violet)		
Stellaria media (Common chickweed)			Vicia hirsuta (Hairy vetch)	✓	0
Symphytum officinale (Common comfrey)			Vicia tetrasperma	✓	F

**GRASSES and RUSHES** **OTHER SPECIES OF INTEREST**

Agrostis stolonifera (Creeping bent)	✓	F	Brachypodium sylvaticum (Wood false brome) (coming in from edges)	✓	F
Alopecurus pratensis (Meadow foxtail)			Calystegia sepium (Hedge bindweed)	✓	R
Anisantha sterilis (Barren brome)			Rubus fruticosus agg (Bramble)	✓	F
Anthoxanthum odoratum (Sweet vernal grass)			Phleum pratense (Timothy)	✓	R
Arrhenatherum elatius (False oat-grass)	✓	0	Pulicaria dysenterica (Fleabane)	✓	A
Dactylis glomerata (Cock's-foot)	✓	0	Picris echinoides (Bristly Ox-tongue)	✓	A
Elytrigia repens (Common couch)	✓	0	Glechoma hederacea	✓	0
Festuca rubra (Red fescue)			Senecio emusifolius (Hoary Ragwort)	✓	F
Holcus lanatus (Yorkshire fog)	✓	A			
Lolium perenne (Perennial rye grass)	✓	R			
Luzula campestris (Field wood-rush)					
Poa annua (Annual meadow grass)					
Poa pratensis (Smooth meadow grass)					
Poa trivialis (Rough meadow grass)	✓	R			
Trisetum flavescens (Yellow oat-grass)					

**NOTES**

A field on heavy clay - likely to suffer seasonal waterlogging - flora typical of a heavy boulder clay with impeded drainage e.g. a lot of fleabane. Look of grass cover would suggest that the land has possibly been cultivated in part + plant community that has developed is v. typical of 'arable' recession v. heavy soils. Typical species being bristly ox-tongue, hoary ragwort, bee orchid + southern marsh.

Flora also influenced by rabbit grazing - with the plants most unpalatable being favoured - e.g. fleabane, bristly ox-tongue, ground ivy + brachypodium.

Dactylorhiza praetermissa	R
Southern marsh orchid	(see map)
Ophrys apifera	R (see map)
Bee orchid	
Mentha arvensis	R
Corn Mint	
Carex flacca	R
Glaucous sedge	
Festuca arundinacea	R
Tall fescue	

## Notes on the glebe land

This is an interesting field – the flora would suggest it has been cultivated at some point in the past, but may be only lightly and a long time ago. It would be useful to find out more about its history.

It does not look like ancient unimproved grassland, but none the less has an interesting flora and was alive with bees when I visited. If ground conditions are right both bee and southern marsh orchids can colonise suitable habitat quite quickly so are not reliable indicators of ancient grassland.

I imagine at the moment the only management is topping it as it would not make hay and is pretty poor grazing (except for rabbits). There is very little top growth so if it continues to be topped to prevent it scrubbing over this should be OK. The surrounding hedges are very good. The field is also very sheltered which improves its potential for invertebrates.