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The EYE Project (Exploring Your Environment)
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Who put this survey together?

This survey has been put together by the EYE Project and the North East Biodiversity Forum.

The EYE Project aims to get everyone involved in learning more about the natural environment of the region and helping to protect it for the future. Visit www.eyeproject.org.uk to find out how to record your wildlife sightings online.

You can visit the North East Biodiversity Forum website, www.nebiodiversity.org.uk, to find out more about Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs), which identify local priorities for biodiversity conservation. There are six LBAPs in the North East, working together to protect and improve our local wildlife.

Why record wild flowers?

The wild flowers shown in this leaflet grow on special kinds of grassland which are often threatened by new building, road developments or grass cutting. Telling us where you have seen wild flowers helps us to protect them and manage them in the right way.

How should we look after our wild flower grasslands?

Areas where wild flowers grow need to be carefully managed. Grass should be cut after flowers have bloomed and seeded and grass cuttings removed to stop the soil from changing too much.

Where am I likely to find wild flowers?

Anywhere! Wild flowers can be found in the town or countryside. Parks, gardens, roadside verges, fields and woodland are all examples of wild flower habitats.

What should I be careful about when looking for wild flowers?

Always be aware of possible dangers. Avoid slippery slopes, areas of deep water and watch out for trip hazards. Roadside verges can be rich in wild flowers but good sense should be used if visiting them. Ensure that you can see approaching traffic and it can see you.

If I see some wild flowers included in this leaflet, how do I record them?

There are two ways to record your flower sightings.

1. Go to the EYE Project website at www.eyeproject.org.uk Search the map to find the area in which you have seen your flowers and record your sightings.
2. Fill in the tear-off slip with the information about the flowers that you have seen and post it to us.

Try to give as much detail as possible about where you saw the flowers. It doesn't matter if you only spot a few flowers on this leaflet as every sighting is helpful.

The Northumbrian Water Wild Flowers on your Doorstep survey

the eye project: exploring your environment
www.eyeproject.org.uk



1 Betony (*Stachys officinalis*)
What does it look like? Dark red flowers which can be seen from June to September.
Where is it often found? Grassland and the edges of woodland.



7 Meadow Vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*)
What does it look like? Climbing plant with yellow flowers, which can be seen from May to August.
Where is it often found? Grassland and hedges.



2 Cowslip (*Primula veris*)
What does it look like? Yellow flowers which are on stalks and droop downwards, and can be seen from April to May.
Where is it often found? Grassland and open woodland.



8 Red Clover (*Trifolium pratense*)
What does it look like? Circular pink or purple flower heads, which can be seen from May to November.
Where is it often found? Meadows, roadside verges and hedges.



3 Meadow Cranesbill (*Geranium pratense*)
What does it look like? Violet-blue flowers with five petals, which can be seen from June to September.
Where is it often found? Meadows, roadsides and grassland. We would also be interested to hear about your sightings of other Cranesbill plants, including Wood Cranesbill and Bloody Cranesbill.



9 Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*)
What does it look like? Tall plant with clusters of cream-coloured flowers, which can be seen from June to September.
Where is it often found? In damp or wet places such as marshes, damp meadows and woods.



4 Eyebright (*Euphrasia*)
What does it look like? Tiny white flowers, often with a purple tinge and a yellow centre, which can be seen from July to August.
Where is it often found? Grassland and woodland.



10 Common Spotted Orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*)
What does it look like? The flower spike is pale pink, pale purple or white with dark spotted leaves, and can be seen from June to August.
Where is it often found? Woodland and grassland. We would also be interested to hear about your sightings of other Orchids, including Early Purple, Bee and Northern Marsh Orchid.



5 Common Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*)
What does it look like? Flower looks a bit like a purple thistle and can be seen from August to September.
Where is it often found? Grassland and wasteland. We would also be interested to hear about your sightings of other Knapweed plants, including Greater Knapweed which looks similar to Common Knapweed but is larger.



11 Common Dog-Violet (*Viola riviniana*)
What does it look like? Blue or violet flowers and heart-shaped leaves, which can be seen from March to May and sometimes June to September.
Where is it often found? Grassland, hedges and woods.



6 Lady's Bedstraw (*Galium verum*)
What does it look like? Small, yellow, cross-shaped flowers, which can be seen from June to September.
Where is it often found? Grassland, hedges and sand dunes.



12 Devil's-bit Scabious (*Succisa pratensis*)
What does it look like? Dark blue or purple flowers in a circular head, which can be seen from June to October.
Where is it often found? Grassland and damp woods. We would also be interested to hear about your sightings of Field Scabious.

Wherever you go during the spring and summer months, wild flowers are all around you. We would like YOU to record the wild flowers you see when you are out and about in the North East.

We have a rich variety of wild flowers in the region. However, changing use of the land means that many wild flower havens are being destroyed. By telling us where you see them, whether you find them in woods, fields, parks, riverbanks, roadside verges or waste ground, we can take steps to ensure their protection for future generations to enjoy.

For more information about how to identify wild flowers visit www.botanicalkeys.co.uk/flora



Fill in this slip with the information about the flowers that you have seen and post it to us, or go to the EYE Project website at www.eyeproject.org.uk to record your sightings online.

1 Betony Where:	Date seen:
2 Cowslip Where:	Date seen:
3 Meadow Cranesbill Where:	Date seen:
4 Eyebright Where:	Date seen:
5 Common Knapweed Where:	Date seen:
6 Lady's Bedstraw Where:	Date seen:
7 Meadow Vetchling Where:	Date seen:
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