



Bugloss
Lycopsis arvensis
Upright hairy plant, 15-50 cm high. More common near

houses. May also be a garden escape. April onwards



Hyacinthoides non-scripta

A well-known spring flower. Linear leaves arising from the underground bulb. Prefers woodland where it can form a blue carpet. April-June







Common Ragwort Senecio Jacobaea

Plant 30-120 cm high, branched only at the top. Deeplylobed leaves. Prefers dry grassland. June onwards

Poisonous to animals, especially to horses.



Tansy

Chrysanthemum vulgare

A stout plant 30-90 cm high. Leaves finely divided. Flowers button-like. Found on grassy verges, river banks and waste places. July onwards



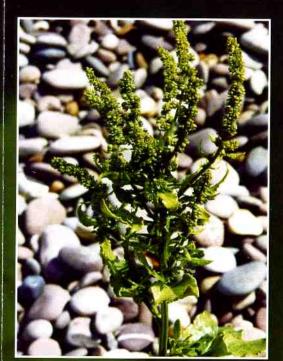
Yellow Horned Poppy Glaucium flavum

An unusual plant that grows on the shingle bank. Solitary, 30 – 60 cm high and at least that wide. Yellow juice. Flowers 5 – 8 cm across. Seed pods 15 – 30 cm long, sickle shaped. June – September



Sea Purslane Halimione portulacoides

Stems brown, 20-30 cm high. Grows in estuarine saltmarsh and plentiful near Otter mouth. July onwards



Sea Beet Beta vulgaris

Height 30-60 cm. Grows near the sea. Beetroot and sugar beet are cultivated forms. June-September



Glasswort (Marsh Samphire)

Salicornia europaea

Grows in the estuarine mud behind the shingle bank.

Appears out of the mud in early summer, flowers August

- September. Submerged at high tide. Flowers minute,

effectively invisible.



Greater Periwinkle Vinca major

An almost hairless, evergreen shrub, common near gardens. Leaves rather leathery. Flowers up to 5 cm across, 5 petals. March-June



Water Speedwell Veronica anagallisaquatica

Erect flower spikes, oval slightly pointed stalkless leaves. Flowers 5 - 6 mm across. Found in wet places. June – August



Birdseye or Germander Speedwell

Veronica chamaedrys

Plants weak, hairy 10-30 cm high. Leaves toothed, oval with little or no stalk. Hedge-banks and grassy places. April-June



Wild Teasel Dipsacus fullonum

Bluntly conical prickly flower heads, 5-7 cm high, which persist on the stems throughout the winter.



Musk Thistle Carduus nutans

Drooping flower-heads held on spine-free upper stalks. Height: 30-90 cm. Deeply lobed spiny leaves. Found in open grassland. June onwards



Himalayan Balsam Impatiens glandulifera

A tall imposing plant, first introduced to Britain in 1839. Forms dense stands along the banks of the River Otter, and very difficult to control. July onwards



Common Comfrey Symphytum officinale

A robust plant, 50-120 cm high forming large clumps. Flowers in clusters, tubular, 1-2 cm long. Commonly white or pink, but can be blue, cream or mauve. In ditches and on river banks. May onwards



Red Deadnettle Lamium purpurium

The only deadnettle with pinkishpurple flowers. Stems reddish and almost square in section. Top leaves in flower spike tinged purple. April onwards



Tufted Vetch Vicia cracca

A greyish plant, often festooning the hedges with its showy one-sided flower spikes. Leaves ending in a tendril.Found in hegerows and amongst bushes. June-August



Great Willow-herb Epilobium hirsutum

Height 1 - 2 m. Leaves long, largely opposite. Mature plants show numerous elongated seed capsules. Found in damp places and by streams. July-September



Common Mallow Malva sylvestris

A frequently sprawling plant, 30-60 cm high. Flowers 2.5 cm across. Found on waste ground near houses and by the sea. June onwards



Red Campion Silene dioica

Flowers have five deeply notched, bright rosy-pink petals. Pointed oval leaves. 20-80 cm high. Grows in woods and hedge-banks and by the sea. Flowers April onwards



White Dead-nettle

Dead-nettles do not sting, but the leaves are similar in appearance to Stinging Nettles. Common in waste land and hedge-banks. Flowers March onwards



Garlic Mustard (Jack-by-the-Hedge)
Alliaria petiolata

A common spring hedgerow plant smelling of garlic when bruised. Leaves, heart-shaped and stalked. Flowers April-June

Fox Glove Digitalis purpurea

Unbranched, 60-150 cm high. Flowers normally pinkish-purple but colour variable, paler inside with dark spots. Widespread. June-September



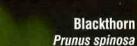
Fox Glove close-up courtesy English Nature. Other circular close-ups in this leallet by kind permission of David Fenwick (www.aphotoflora.com).



Greater Stitchwort Stellaria holostea

A conspicuous spring, hedgerow flower. Plants straggly climbing.

Flowers profuse, white with five petals, each deeply cleft. Yellow centres. April-May



A common thorny deciduous shrub. Flowers in numerous short spikes against bare, dark twigs. Fruit known as sloes. Found in hedgerows. April-May



Wild Cherry Prunus avium

A deciduous tree, sometimes quite tall, with smooth shiny reddish-brown bark. The flowers hang down and appear at the same time as the young foliage, which can show a reddish tinge. April-May



Meadowsweet
Spiraea ulmaria
Plant 60-120 cm high, with
foamy, upright clusters of
fragrant cream-coloured
flowers. Leaves silver-green
below. Often abundant by fresh
water. June-September
(detailed view of flower - semi
inset)



Cow Parsley
Anthriscus sylvestris
A robust plant with erect,
branching stems, up to 120cm
high. Large shiny green leaves,
highly dissected. Leaves appear
early in spring. April-June



Ramsons (Wild Garlic) Allium ursinum

The only broad-leaved garlic, growing in masses. Leaves a paler green than Lily-of-the-Valley and smell strongly of garlic. Grows in damp, shady positions. Inset shows flower detail. April-June



River Crowfoot Ranunculus fluitans

A variant of the Water Crowfoot group modified to suit conditions in fast flowing streams. Leaves submerged, flowers above the surface. Found in the Otter at Dotton.

June - August









Hogweed Heraclium sphondilium

Tall, about 2 m, flowers forming umbels (umbrellalike heads), leaves less divided than other parsley family members. Near river (leaf outline inset)



Alexanders

Smyrnium olusatrum

Stout bushy plant 60-120 cm high, with yellowish flowers forming umbels (umbrella-like heads). Very early flowering, April onwards. Common near the sea and in seaside towns.



Hemlock Conium maculatum

Identified by hollow, purple spotted stem - see inset - and unpleasant smell when bruised. Height up to 2 m. Leaves finely cut. River banks. June-July



Lesser Celandine Ranunculus ficaria

An early spring plant; low, 5-15 cm high. Heart shaped, dark green leaves; flowers solitary, very glossy yellow, may fade to white. In dampish, shady places. March – May







Dandelion Taraxacum officionale

Flowers single stemmed. Stems have milky juice. Leaves, forming a basal rosette, deeply toothed. Abundant in waste land and grassland. Flowers mainly in April-May.

Marsh Marigold (Kingcup) Caltha palustris

Bright yellow flowers in thick clumps, larger than buttercups. Leaves glossy, dark green, kidney shaped. Grows in marshes, wet places or shallow streams. March-June





Creeping Cinquefoil Potentilla reptans

Trails along the ground rooting again at intervals. Found by paths and on other waste ground.



Meadow Buttercup Rununculus acris

Plants 30-90 cm, our tallest common yellow buttercup. Leaves deeply cut. Common in grassland. May onwards



Greater Yellow Cress
Rorippa amphibia
A substantial plant 60-120 cm
high. Found on shingle banks
beside the river. Stems
branching; flowers numerous.

June-September



Smooth Hawksbeard
Crepis capillaries
Dandelion-like, but with branched flower stems, and with toothed shiny leaves.



Hedge Mustard Sisymbrium officinale

Flowers tiny, formed at the ends of wide-angled branched stems. Found on bare or waste ground. May onwards