

RARITIES

The following rare species consist of Red Data Book (Wiggington, 1999), Red Data Book (Cheffings, *et al.*, 2005), Nationally Scarce (Stewart, *et al.* 1994) and Plant & Animal Species in the Farm Environment Plan (Anon, 2005a).

Asplenium obovatum subsp. *lanceolatum* Lanceolate Spleenwort was found in a sunken lane near a surveyed field at SW94824112. This Nationally Scarce plant tends to grow on Cornish Hedges and rock outcrops near the coast and could occur elsewhere within the Caerhays Estate.

Briza minor Lesser Quaking-grass, a wildflower indicator species (Anon, 2005a), was found in a Barley field in 2002 at SW98454132. This field was not surveyed in 2010.

Chrysanthemum segetum Corn Marigold, a Red Data Book plant, was found in the Winter Barley field 9877 in 2002. It was not present during this survey when this field had a weed-less, young, root crop.

Crassula tillaea Mossy Stonecrop grows along the road verge between East and West Portholland. All the other sites in Cornwall for this Nationally Scarce plants are either car parks or caravan sites. It is likely that it will colonise the car park at Porthluney Cove - land parcel 3737.

Echium plantagineum Purple Viper's-bugloss, a Red Data Book plant, was recorded in 2002 as an arable weed. It was not found during this survey and probably arrived as a contaminant of a sown wild fowl mix.

Erodium moschatum Musk Stork's-bill was recorded at Caerhays in 1805 and at Porthluney in 1909. It is a Nationally Scarce plant.

Fumaria bastardii Tall Ramping-fumitory is wildflower indicator species (Anon, 2005a). A single plant was found in the along the junction of a root and cereal crop in field 2457.

Fumaria occidentalis Western Ramping-fumitory was found, in 2002, growing under winter barley in field 5243. None was found during this survey. Western Ramping-fumitory is endemic to Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly and Caerhays marks the eastern boundary of its world distribution.

Lotus subbiflorus Hairy Bird's-foot-trefoil grows on the floor of Tubbs Mill Quarry. This Nationally Scarce plant also grows on the cliffs between East and West Portholland and at Hemmick Beach, and is likely to occur on cliff slopes within the Caerhays Estate. These areas were not surveyed, however, a plant which looked very like *Lotus subbiflorus* was found in field 0897. Unfortunately it was too dried up to identify correctly.

Meconopsis cambrica Welsh Poppy, a Nationally Scarce plant, grows in the parkland woods on the estate. It is probably a garden escape here and was recorded in 2009 at SW97144204.

Misopates orontium Lesser Snapdragon, a Red Data Book plant, was found, in 2002, growing under winter barley in field 3444. None was found during this survey.

Orobancha alba Thyme Broomrape, a Red Data Book plant, was reported as very abundant between East and West Portholland in 1913. It was last reported from there in 1967. It is a parasitic plant on Thyme and could still be present on the cliff slopes. In Cornwall it is restricted to The Lizard coast and Kiberick Cove.

Poa infirma Early Meadow-grass grows along the road verge between East and West Portholland and along the coastal path near Hemmick Beach. It is probable that this Nationally Scarce plant occurs on the Caerhays Estate along the coast. It can only be identified in the spring.

Petroselinum segetum Corn Parsley is a wildflower indicator species (Anon, 2005a). A single plant was found in the maize field 6239. It was also found in field 3444 in 2002.

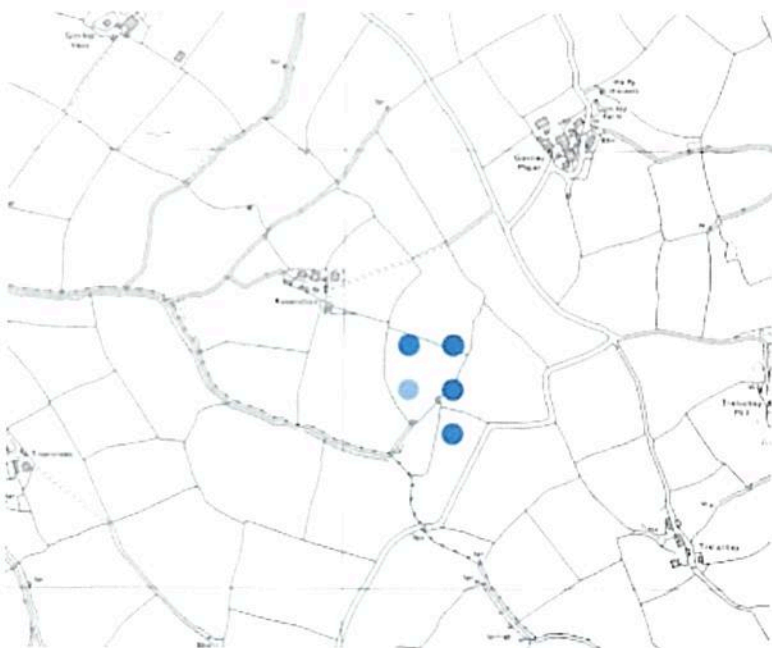
Sibthorpia europaea Cornish Moneywort was recorded in 1909 from St. Michael Caerhays. It is a Nationally Scarce plant and grows in a number of places on the Caerhays Estate, including two discovered during this survey (fields 4757 and 3114). The other sites are on the edge of Parnall's Hill Wood at SW95724180, on a grassy area by Caerhays Castle itself at SW97074158, and along the streams leading down to marsh 1924 at SW97494232, SW97424288, SW97614244 and SW97424233.

Silene gallica Small-flowered Catchfly, a Red Data Book plant, was recorded in 1986 at SW980409 which is at the junction of fields 9506 and 0897. The field where it grew was a corn field at that time. It is probable that it is still present in the seed bank of that field and may re-appear if it were planted with an arable crop again.

Scrophularia scorodonia Balm-leaved Figwort grows in Tubb's Mill quarry. It is a Nationally Scarce Plant.

Spergula arvensis Corn Spurrey, a Red Data Book plant, was not found in the surveyed fields in 2010. However, it grew in abundance in adjacent arable fields at Rosevallon (see map 2 below) and was found in 2002 in fields 3444 and 5243.

Stachys arvensis Field Woundwort is a Red Data Book plant. The arable fields of Caerhays support a strong population, especially amongst the root crops and along the margins of cereals. It was found in fields 0710, 1195A, 4104, 4490A, 5171A, 5456, 5533B, 7136 and 9877. Field Woundwort was not found in the surveyed fields at Rosevallon, but grew in abundance in two adjacent arable fields (see map 2 below).



Map 2: Weedy fields at Rosevallon