

Wildflowers to look for in September



Bramble
Rubus fruticosus

Bristling with blackberries at this time of year and 2014 is set to provide us with a bumper crop. Happy foraging!

Where to find it:
Hedgerows



Devil's-bit Scabious
Succisa pratensis

A deeper pruple relative of Field Scabious, legend says it has stumpy roots because the Devil bit them off!

Where to find it:
Meadows, woodland rides



Eyebright
Euphrasia nemorosa

A tiny jewel amongst the grass. Its purple lines help guide pollinators to the bright yellow spot that serves as a landing pad.

Where to find it:
Short grass & heath



Fleabane
Pulicaria dysenterica

Fleabane by name, fleabane by nature: its scent drives the insect away. In the past it was kept in houses for that purpose.

Where to find it:
Ditches & damp places



Hawthorn
Crataegus monogyna

The home of fairies in folk lore. You might not see them this month but you will see its red 'haws' - a perfect snack for birds.

Where to find it:
Hedgerows



Herb-Robert
Geranium robertianum

Who was Robert? Its a mystery. Could it be from *ruber*, Latin for red? Or was it character assassination? Herb-Robert is quite stinky!

Where to find it:
Hedgerows & wasteground



Lords-and-Ladies
Arum maculatum

Also known as Cuckoo Pint. Pollinated by the cowpat-dwelling Owl Midge, it emits dung-like smell & heat to attract it.

Where to find it:
Woods & shaded places.



Toadflax
Linaria vulgaris

aka the Wild Snapdragon. Herbalists of yore named it thus as it was a "flax fit only for toads". Their loss, for it brightens many a road.

Where to find it:
Hedge banks & road verges.



Tormentil
Potentilla erecta

A four-petalled member of the Rose family, it was once used as a red dye & in a herbal cure for the "torment" of colic.

Where to find it:
Hedge banks & moorland.



Harebell
Campanula rotundifolia * **STAR FIND**

Known as the 'Bluebell of Scotland' this deceptively delicate bloom is actually quite tough & can be found growing across the UK.

Where to find it:
Hillsides, heaths & verges

Want to know more? Visit: www.plantlife.org.uk/wildplants