

FLORA



Buckthorn
An Ramhdhraighean

Native to low-lying areas, buckthorn is rather scarce. It forms a thorny bush or small tree. Clusters of greenish yellow flowers appear in May. Autumn berries ripen from green to black. Buckthorn branches resemble roebucks’ antlers, which may be the origin of the name. Fásann an ramhdhraighean in áiteanna ísle agus tá sé cuibheasach gann. Toimín nó crann beag deilgneach atá ann. Bíonn bláthanna glasbhui ina gcnuasaigh air i mí na Bealtaine. Aibíonn na caora ó ghlas go dubh san fhómhar. Bíonn cuma beann ruaphoic ar chraobhacha an ramhdhraighean agus b’fhéidir gurb é sin an fáth a thugtar ‘Buckthorn’ orthu sa Bhéarla.



Spring Gentian
An Ceadharlach Bealtaine

A perennial of limestone grassland, spring gentian has solitary bright blue flowers with five petals that appear between May and June. It is quite common in the Burren but non-existent elsewhere in Ireland. In the rest of Europe, it is found in alpine conditions. Planda ilbhliantúil é an ceadharlach Bealtaine a fhásann ar thailte féaraigh. Bíonn bláthanna geala gorma aonaracha le cúig pheiteal orthu le feiceáil idir mhí na Bealtaine agus mí an Mheithimh. Tá siad flúirseach go leor sa Bhoirinn ach níl siad le fáil aon áit eile in Éirinn. Is in áiteanna alpacha a fhaightear iad sa chuid eile den Eoraip.



Bee Orchid
An Magairlín Beachach

Each flower of this plant seems to have a bee nesting on its outer rim. The purpose is to lure a real bee into mating with the false one, so that pollen that attaches to the bee’s head may be transferred to the stigma of the next orchid it visits. Cheapfadh duine go raibh beach ina luí ar imeall amuigh gach bláth den phlanda seo. Cur i gcéill é seo a bhfuil sé d’aoidhm aige beach fíor a mhealladh le dul ag cúpláil leis an mbeach bréige agus an phailín a ghreamaíonn ar a ceann a aistriú go stiogma an chéad mhagairlín eile a thugann sé cuairt air.



Bloody Crane’s-bill
An Crobh Dearg

Bloody crane’s-bill is quite common in the Burren and parts of Galway. It is very rare in the rest of Ireland. It is a big plant with deeply divided leaves and hairy stems. The reddish purple flower with five petals appears between June and August. Tá an crobh dearg coitianta go leor sa Bhoirinn agus in áiteanna i gContae na Gaillimhe. Is annamh a fhaightear é in áiteanna eile in Éirinn. Planda mór is ea é a bhfuil gearrthacha doimhne ina dhuilleoga agus gais chlúmhacha fúthu. Cúig pheiteal agus dath corcardhearg orthu a bhíonn ar na bláthanna agus iad le feiceáil idir mhí an Mheithimh agus mí Lúnasa.



Mountain Avens
Féasóg na Lao

Mountain avens has a small white rose-like flower with, typically, eight white-creamy petals, a mass of golden stamens and a green stem. The leaves are distinctive too, being dark green and oak-like with a silvery underside. Mountain avens flowers between April and July. Plandaí beaga le bláthanna cosúil leis an rós is ea Féasóg na lao. Bíonn ocht bpeiteal ar dhath an uachtair orthu de gnáth, meall mór staiminí órga ina lár agus gais ghlasa fúthu. Bíonn duilleoga sainiúla orthu freisin a bhfuil cuma duilleoige darach orthu. Dath dorcha glas a bhíonn ar a mbarr agus dath an airgid ar an taobh thíos. Bíonn bláthanna ar Fhéasóg na lao ó mhí Aibreán go mí Iúil.



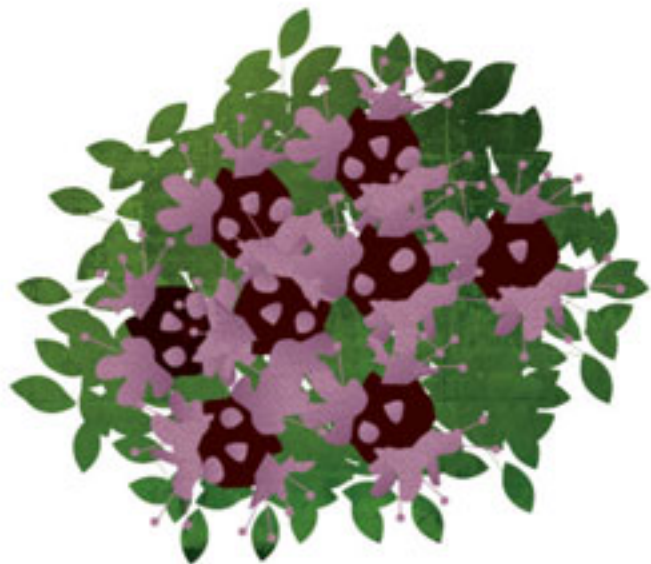
Maidenhair Fern
An Dúchosach

This is a charming and distinctive fern, with 30 to 40 fronds arising from the central rosette of the maidenhair. Each frond has a distinctive black mid-rib. It is found in grikes or crevasses on the limestone pavement, often nestling under the old growth. Raithneach sainiúil álainn í seo a mbíonn idir 30 agus 40 scothach ag fás aníos ó róiséad lárnach. Tá easna sainiúil dubh lárnach ag gach scothach díobh. Faightear é i gríoga agus i scoilteanna sa phábháil aolchloiche agus is minic a bhíonn sé neadaithe faoi sheanfhársa.



Irish Eyebright
An Glanrosc Gaelach

With its striking purple-streaked flowers, sturdy-branched stem and leaves with many points, Irish eyebright is the rarest, prettiest parasite on limestone pavement in Ireland. It exists by attaching itself to the roots of plants such as clover and plantain. Bíonn stríocaí corcra ar na bláthanna, gas craobhach teann faoi agus bioranna iomadúla ar a duilleoga agus is é an Glanrosc Gaelach an paraisít is áille agus is teirce atá ar fáil ar phábháil aolchloiche in Éirinn. Maireann sé beo trí é féin a ghreamú le fréamhacha plandaí ar nós na seimre nó an tslánlusa.



Wild Thyme
Lus na mBrat

This is an aromatic, creeping perennial of limestone pavements, dry grasslands and heaths. It has pink and purple flowers that appear from June to September, attracting insects, especially the honey bee. It can form a dense carpet that can push out or exclude other plants. Planda aramatach reatha ilbhliantúil é seo a fhásann ar phábháil aolchloiche, ar thailte féaraigh agus ar fraochmhánna. Bláthanna bándearga agus corcra a bhíonn air agus iad le feiceáil ó mhí an Mheithimh go Meán Fómhair. Meallann siad feithidí go mór mór beacha meala. Bíonn sé ina bhrat dlúth uaireanta agus is féidir leis plandaí eile a choinneáil amach nó a bhrú amach.