

Draft Axiophyte List and Rare Plant Register for Greater London and Middlesex

General Rationale & Approach

1. Need to revise Greater London Authority's current Vascular Plants Priority Species List
2. Attempt to incorporate IUCN Threat statuses (LC, NT, VU, EN, CR, EX) as well as Rarity
3. Provide tools for local authorities, developers, land managers etc. for planting schemes and site designations (alongside a revised Invasive Species List)
4. Basis for writing the next London Flora
5. Potentially Identify Important Plant Areas within GL/vc21

Greater London and Middlesex Red-list [DRAFT NUMBERS]

1. Approx 170 species regionally extirpated/extinct (conservative estimate)
2. 17 species regionally extirpated/extinct in the wild
3. 156 species on GB/Eng NT & above (usually with higher risk status in GL/vc21)
4. Several hundred more that are GB/Eng LC have higher risk status in GL/vc21
5. 1050 taxa assessed (RPR & Axiophyte)

Developing the Axiophyte (Indicator species) List

1. Identify all vascular plants occurring in 25% of monads or less in Greater London to exclude very common taxa.
2. GiGL provided a list of 2114 plant species recorded in less than 25% of monads over the last 30 years.
3. Potential axiophyte species for priority habitats such as lowland dry acid grassland, lowland mixed deciduous woodland and eutrophic standing water as well as other habitats considered by the team to be of value in London (especially Brown Field).
4. Some species v. challenging to categorise for a range of reasons; e.g. , wild marsh marigold *Caltha palustris* is very much a scarce axiophyte in London but is also quite commonly planted.
5. The above process resulted in a draft list containing 484 species.