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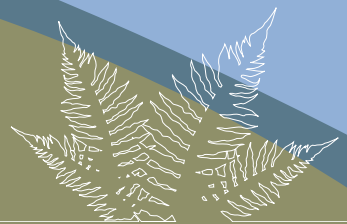
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Conifer woodland

First Steps: get to know your wild flowers



Conifer woodland

The trees of conifer woodlands, unlike broadleaf woodlands, are mostly evergreen, keeping their cover of thin, green needle-like leaves all year round. There are two types of conifer woodland; fairly dense stands of recently planted spruce or fir trees, and natural woodlands of Scots Pine.

Plantation woodlands usually have a more limited range of wild plants than natural pinewood, due to dense shade and the fall of pine needles making the ground acidic and inhospitable. It is the woodland edges or paths through the wood that are more likely to support a greater range of wildflowers. Natural pinewood is more commonly found in the Highlands.

Flowering time: Flowers of coniferous woodlands are best seen throughout spring and summer.



Tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*)

– A common flower of the uplands, Tormentil has flowers with four small, heart-shaped, yellow petals on a long stalk. Leaves are dark green with

three deeply-toothed leaflets.

Location: _____
Date: _____



Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*)

– The flowerhead is a distinctive tall spike of large, nodding pink or purple bells, purple-spotted inside. At the base of the flower spike is a

rosette of large, downy, wrinkled leaves.

Location: _____
Date: _____



Heath Bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*)

– A small, slender, creeping plant with whorls of six to eight narrow, oval leaves along a thin, square stem. The leaves have small prickles

along the edges. The flowers are tiny, white with four petals, forming clusters on the stem tip.

Location: _____
Date: _____



Juniper (*Juniperus communis*)

– Evergreen shrub or small tree with short, grey-green, sharp-pointed leaves in whorls of 3 along the twigs. Female bushes often have green “berries”, which turn blue-black with a whitish bloom.

Location: _____
Date: _____



Chickweed Wintergreen (*Trientalis europaea*)

– A slender, upright plant with a whorl of five or six hairless, oval, green leaves of unequal size. One or two white, seven-

petalled flowers arise on long slender stalks from this whorl of leaves. Found in native pinewoods.

Location: _____
Date: _____



Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*)

– A tall, spreading, evergreen tree with reddish, fissured bark. Leaves are bluish-green needles, long and wavy, arranged in pairs in upright tufts.

Location: _____
Date: _____

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If you enjoyed this and are interested in learning more about our wild plants then join in with **Wildflowers Count** – contact us at the Plantlife Scotland office or through our website for more details.

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