



S Cooper/Plantlife



Dominic Habron



Bas Keirs



P Hanegraf



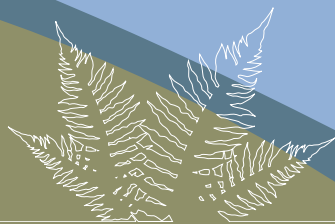
John Crellin www.florainages.co.uk



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Lochs and ponds

First Steps: get to know your wild flowers



Lochs and ponds

Lochs and ponds are areas of open water of varying shapes, sizes and depths. Shallow, sloping edges support a wider range of plants than steep-sides; some plants take root under water and flower on the surface, while others only like to keep their roots damp.

Water levels can fluctuate and most plant-life around the margins of water are adapted to survive this. Plants slowly build up debris around them and, over time, the damp margins become drier, allowing a range of plants that prefer drier ground to take root.

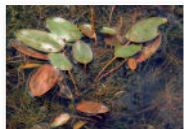
Flowering time: Pond plants are best seen in summer, from June to September.



Yellow Flag (*Iris pseudacorus*) – Recognised by its distinctive bright yellow flowers with three downturned tongues. It is a tall, thick-stemmed plant with long

sword-shaped, bluish-green leaves. Found also on very wet ground.

Location: _____
Date: _____



Broad-leaved Pondweed (*Potamogeton natans*) – This plant has a cylindrical spike of tiny, inconspicuous greenish flowers rising from the water.

However, it is more obviously

recognised by its floating, ribbed, oval leaves.

Location: _____
Date: _____



Lesser Spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*) – This plant with lance-shaped leaves has small yellow buttercup flowers with five petals, on grooved stalks.

Found in water or very wet ground, the stems creep along the ground before rising upward.

Location: _____
Date: _____



White Water Lily (*Nymphaeas alba*) – A plant of shallow water with large, round, floating leaves. It has large, white flowers each with a cluster of about twenty petals.

Yellow water lilies have oval leaves.

Location: _____
Date: _____



Amphibious Bistort (*Persicaria amphibia*) – The flowerhead is a dense cluster of very small pink flowers at the end of a slender spike. Leaves are oblong. This plant can be

found both in water and on land.

Location: _____
Date: _____



Bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliatum*) – recognised by its spike of distinctive white flowers rising out of the water, which are star-shaped with five shaggy petals. Three

smooth, oval, grey-green leaves also arise out the water on a long stalk.

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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