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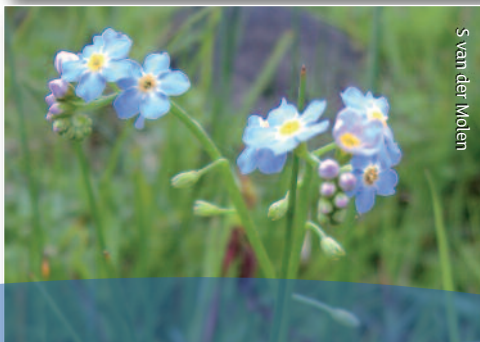
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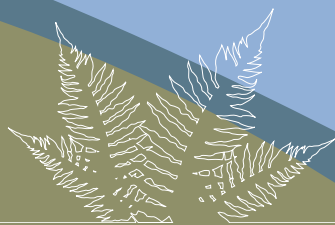


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S van der Molen

Marshes



Marshes

Marshes are areas of low-lying land that become waterlogged, having some standing water at some times of the year, but don't have wide areas of open water all year round. They are wet like bogs but differ in having more nutrients available to sustain a greater variety of plant life.

Marshes may develop as a fringe around lochs and ponds, or can spread over a wide area in shallow hollows in fields. There are seasonal fluctuations in the water levels of marshes due to rainfall patterns, so the plants living there need to be adaptable to live in both wet and dry conditions.

Flowering time: Marsh plants are best seen in late spring through summer, from May to September.



Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*) – A distinctive tall plant of wet ground, displaying a fragrant, frothy mass of small, creamy-white flowers.

Meadowsweet has red stems

and paired, toothed, oval leaves above and paler underneath.

Location: _____

Date: _____



Water Mint (*Mentha aquatica*) – An erect plant with a recognisable fresh mint scent. It has dense, rounded, clusters of small, pink flowers at stem tips, and toothed, oval, downy leaves in pairs along the stem.

Location: _____

Date: _____



Cuckoo-flower (*Cardamine pratensis*) – An early flowering plant of marshy ground with pale, lilac, four-petaled flowers. It has at its base a rosette of paired, rounded

leaves, the end leaf kidney-shaped. Stem leaves are also paired, but narrow.

Location: _____

Date: _____



Ragged Robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*) – A very distinctive wetland flower, with five deep-pink petals deeply cut into four segments, giving the 'ragged' look to the flower. Leaves are long and narrow, opposite each other along the stem.

Location: _____

Date: _____



Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*) – A robust, early-flowering plant with large, dark green, kidney-shaped leaves on long stalks, usually found sitting in shallow water. It has an

obvious large, yellow, 'buttercup' flower.

Location: _____

Date: _____



Water Forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpioides*) – Has stems creeping along wet ground rising to a curved flowering stem displaying very small flowers with five sky blue petals around a pale centre. It has hairs pressed close to the stem, and downy oval leaves.

Location: _____

Date: _____

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