Flora and fauna calendar Q2

Detailing the different species you may encounter whilst working outside in the UK.



Black Bryony



Brvonv.



Blackthorn





Bracken





the rose family.

thorny stems.

summer

October.

verges.

• Common along roadside

• Jagged-edged leaves with

five to seven oval leaflets.

· Long trailing, thick arching,

• White or pinkish flowers in

• Blackberry fruit July to

Bramble





ribbed

Deadly Nightshade

found on chalky, disturbed

are pale green and strongly

• The flowers vary in colour

• Berries are green at first,

look a little like cherries.

are also poisonous.

deadly if indested

✔ Avoid touching

All parts of the plant are

✓ If touched, avoid touching

from light purple to brown.

turning to shiny black, and

• Other species of nightshade

ground often on verges.

• Oval pointed leaves that



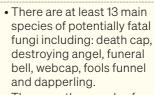


(3m).

Giant Hogweed



Ground Fungi



• There are thousands of different fungi species.

• They take many forms and grow in a wide variety of habitats

• If unsure, please consult a specialist.



• A hedgerow and woodland shrub.

• Shiny leaves, divided into three to seven pairs of lobes, and five-petalled.

• Sweet-smelling, creamywhite flowers.

· Red berries 'haws' during autumn and winter.

• Spines are shorter than on blackthorn and are along the stems and branches rather than on the end.

Impacts &

Prevention

April

May

June

- A climbing plant in hedgerows and woodlands. Lacks the tendrils of White
- Its leaves are heart-shaped. glossy and their veins form a net pattern.
- Yellow-green, six-petalled flowers in summer and red shiny berries in autumn.

✓ If touched, avoid touching

Deadly if ingested

✓ Avoid touching

mouth

✓ Wash hands

Adult growth

Adult growth flowering

Adult growth flowering

- Dense shrub of hedgerows and woodlands.
- Small, oval leaves that are finely toothed, and fivepetalled.
- White flowers in spring.
- Thorns are on the end of branches or on elongated side shoots.

Spines have toxins which

can cause infection.

aloves

Thorns present

Thorns present

Thorns present

swelling and joint pain

✓ Wear thorn-protecting

✓ Wear protective clothing

• Fruiting sloe berries.

Can be carcinogenic if indested

✓ Avoid touching

base in spring.

✓ If touched, avoid touching mouth

• Large branched triangular

fronds, divided into three,

• In autumn the fronds turn

• New fronds unfurl from the

reddish-brown and die

back to ground level.

that can reach over 1.5m in

- ✓ Wash hands
- Young growth Young growth Young growth

Stinging Nettle

Thorn scratches may become infected

✓ Wear thorn-protecting gloves

Common Ragwort

Thorns present

Thorns present

Thorns present

✓ Wear protective clothing

✓ Wash hands Adult growth Adult growth Adult growth

Rose

mouth

Sap may cause severe rash and blisters

• Hollow ridge stem, purple-

native hogweed when not

• Over winter the stems die

back and leave old stalks

spotted, and leaves are

large and divided.

Can be confused with

✓ Do not touch

and flower tops.

fully grown.

✓ Report presence to landowner as it is an invasive species

Growth harmful Growth harmful Flowers harmful

May be deadly if ingested

- ✔ Don't touch even if following a guidebook
- ✓ If touched, avoid touching mouth
- ✓ Wash hands

Fruiting body may be present Fruiting body may be present Fruiting body may be present

Thorn scratches may become infected

Thorns present

Thorns present

Thorns present

- ✓ Wear thorn-protecting gloves
- ✓ Wear protective clothing

Hemlock Water Dropwort







• Common on waste

roadside verges.

· A tall plant with large

changing to green.

clusters.

• Hollow zig-zag purple/

• White, tufty flowers in

can damage structures

spring and autumn.

Extremely invasive,

grounds, riverbanks and

triangular leaves. Leaves

are initially purple/red then

red stems growing in tight

















- Rose species are common on roadside verges.
- Thorns on the stems and colourful flowers.

Wild Parsnip



veraes.





Yew



ID • Grows in damp, wet habitat, common along roadsides.

- Tall upright plant, purple spotted stems.
- Its leaves are somewhat celery-like in form, finely divided and large with distinctive mousy smell.
- Flowers are small and white umbrella-like clusters in summer.

Japanese Knotweed





- Very common on roadside verges on disturbed
- · Hairy stem, drooping catkin flowers, oval toothed

• Found on wasteland and derelict areas.

- Mass of daisy-like yellow flowers between 30cm-1.5m tall.
- Deeply lobed leaves lying flat on the ground to start with then rising to about

• Often found along roadside

- · Large umbel clusters of yellow flowers on a thick stem
- Flowers from June to September.
- A mature plant can grow 90-120cm. · Leaves are oval, alternate,
- branched and have sawtoothed edges.



- A slow growing tree often found in churchyards and on roadside verges as part of a planting scheme.
- Evergreen with dense, glossy, dark green needles arranged in two distinct rows along the branches.
- Often made up of more than one stem.
- Fruit is red, fleshy in texture, with a single dark seed.

Impacts & Prevention

Only a tiny amount can be deadly if ingested

- ✓ Do not touch
- ✓ If touched, avoid touching mouth

✓ Wash hands

- ✓ Inform landowner of presence as it is a fastgrowing invasive
- ✔ Prevent spread by using bio cleaning method

Leaves and stem have an irritant chemical causing hives/rash

- ✓ Avoid touching
- ✓ Wear gloves and clothing to cover skin

Poisonous to animals. A mild poison to humans through ingestion

- ✓ Avoid touching ✓ If touched, avoid touching mouth
- ✓ Wash hands Rosette stage Rosette stage

Thorn scratches may become infected

✓ Wear thorn-resistant gloves

Thorns present

Thorns present

✓ Wear protective clothing

Sap from the leaves causes blisters and burns

✔ Avoid skin contact by covering skin and wearing aloves

All parts of the tree are poisonous

- ✓ Avoid touching
- ✓ If touched, avoid touching mouth and wash hands

April Adult growth May Adult growth June Adult growth

Young growth

Young growth

Young growth

Young growth Young growth Young growth Rosette stage

- Thorns present
- Young growth Young growth Young growth
- - Foliage present Foliage present Foliage present

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Adder



















Bird Dropping





Brown Tail Moth

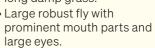




False Black Widow







meal before they are able to reproduce effectively and to aid in their egg development.







- UK's only venomous snake.
- Often found in woodland glades and on heathlands.
- Small, stocky snake, 60-80cm long.
- Greyish, with a dark zigzag pattern on the back.
- Females are brownpatterned, males are blackpatterned.
- Since 2016, few confirmed sightings.
- Smaller than native hornets. Orange head (from front), abdomen almost entirely dark, with fine yellow stripes and a yellow or orange band
- near the base. • Black or brown thorax.
- Legs with yellow tips.
- All Asian hornet sightings should be reported.
- A lot of species of Hymenoptera occur within the UK.

Bee / Wasp / Hornet

- They are normally flying insects with yellow and black markings.
- · Birds will often utilise road structures to roost in.
- Bridges and underpasses are especially susceptible
- In buildings, on tree trunks, 25mm long with 2 red dots
- on the back. • Moths have white wings with brown bodies and tail.
- Caterpillars only seen in the winter inside the silk woven white tents in hedges and trees.
- Caterpillars feed on hawthorn, bramble, blackthorn and fruit trees.

Hairs are toxic, irritate

human skin and cause

breathing difficulties

in cracks on the ground, under stones. • Webs are criss-cross and

- dense in the centre. • Bulbous abdomen.
- Varying colourations but usually dark brown with lighter brown marbling colours.
- 6 species in the UK.

horse stables and cattle and are frequently found in long damp grass. · Large robust fly with

- Female flies require a blood
- largest leech in the UK growing to 20cm. • Dark brown / black, with

• 37 species of leech in the

• Commonly found in ponds

• Medicinal leeches are the

and ditches

thin green, yellow and red stripes down the side.

Incorrect removal or stress

to the leech may cause

✓ Avoid having bare skin

protected species under

✓ Medicinal leech is a

bacterial infection

UK law

Actively feeding

Actively feeding

Impacts & Prevention

Venomous bite can be painful and cause inflammation

- ✓ If seen, keep your distance
- ✓ Do not touch
- ✓ Wear suitable footwear
- ✓ Stick to established paths Active

Active

Active

•••••			
A	pri	ı	

June

Stings contain neurotoxin that can kill if allergic reaction occurs

- ✓ If seen, keep your distance
- ✔ Report sightings as it is an invasive species

Sting using different chemicals. Allergic reactions may occur

- ✓ Keep your distance
- ✔ Avoid disturbance to hives
- ✓ Listen for buzzing noise
- Active

Ingestion causes over 60 different diseases

- ✓ Wash hands and clean anv exposed skin
- ✔ Avoid putting hands in mouth

Present

Present

Present

✔ Don't touch, cover skin with gloves and clothing ✓ Keep your distance

- ✓ Be aware in summer
- Tents visible/caterpillars harmful

Caterpillars harmful Caterpillars harmful

Mildly venomous bite causes localised pain. Similar to a wasp sting

✓ Only bite when threatened, keep your distance

Presen	t	
Presen	t	
Presen	t	

Bite causes redness, itching and swelling. May cause an allergic reaction or transfer disease

- ✔ Avoid walking in long grass ✓ Cover your skin
- ✓ Don't wear perfume Active

Active

Active

Actively feeding

Midge





Non-Native Reptile





Oak Processionary Moth

Caterpillar stage, toxic hairs

Caterpillar stage, toxic hairs



Active

Active



Rat (Weil's Disease)







- Weil's disease is the development of leptospirosis.
- cattle, deer, pigs, sheep, horses, dogs and rodents.
- bacteria.

Tick (Lyme disease)





ID

- A general term for very small (about 3mm) flies.
- 40 midge species in the UK but very few which bite humans
- The most common of biting midges is the highland midge.
- may swell. May cause an allergic reaction
- days in summer
- ✓ Avoid bare skin

Active

Active

Active

Species present within the UK are introduced and

Active

Active

Active

- and terrapins.
- often unwanted pets. • Commonly lizards, snakes
- Caterpillars have long, white hairs which contrast markedly with the much shorter, almost undetectable, irritating hairs.
- Grey body and dark head. Older larvae have a central dark stripe with paler lines down each side.
- Tents are white, silken webbing, accompanied by white, silken trails on the trunks and branches of trees.
- Leptospirosis is a waterborne bacterial infection.
- Bacteria harboured in the kidneys of a variety of animals -
- Urine from animals, carried into water, could carry the

• Small arachnids, found within dense vegetation - often woodland and moorland.

- Flat, round bodies which vary from black, brown to red.
- Normally recognised when crawling on host.
- Feed on blood.
- A small proportion carry Borrelia burgdorferi which causes Lyme disease

Impacts & Prevention

April

May

June

Painful itchy bites which

- ✔ Avoid grasslands on damp
- ✓ Insect repellent

Reptiles may be venomous

- ✓ Listen for hissing, rattling or spitting ✓ Keep your distance do not
- ✓ Report any sightings

Active

Active

Active

Toxic irritant hairs can cause rashes, sore throat and eyes, and pulmonary effects

- ✓ Do not go near tents, caterpillars or known infestations
- ✓ Keep your distance hairs can travel long distances in the wind

Fever, severe joint pain headache and chills, much like flu. Less common are nausea and vomiting

- ✔ Be aware of animals near water
- ✓ Avoid water edge activities
- ✔ Carry and follow a leptospirosis card
- ✓ Cover open cuts and grazes ✓ Do not touch mouth and eyes
- ✓ Wash hands or shower

Leptospirosis present	
Leptospirosis present	
Leptospirosis present	

Circular 'bullseye' rash, flu like symptoms, if untreated can

- ✔ Regularly check clothes and skin
- ✓ Clean the bite area

Active	
Active	
Active	

develop to Lyme Disease ✓ Avoid bare skin, wear clothing and gloves in grassy or wooded areas

✓ Use tick removal tool