



Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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**The Dordogne
9 – 16 May 2013**

Holiday participants

Sue and Peter Burge
Sue (Susie in this report) and George Brownlee
Diana and David Melzack
Kate Dalziel
Helen and Malcolm Crowder

Leader: Chris Durdin

Report by Chris Durdin

Our hosts at Castang: Cathy, Keith and Olivia Parker www.castang.info

The photos in this report were all taken during the holiday week, those bordered in green by Chris Durdin, blue by Helen Crowder, yellow by David and Diana Melzack, orange by Kate Dalziel, and others where indicated.

The orchids were outstanding this year, with many species flowering at the same time. Those pictured on the cover are (left to right) man, pyramidal, military; burnt-tip, loose flowered, lady.

Below: the group, hosts and leader.



This holiday, as for every Honeyguide holiday, also puts something into conservation in our host country by way of a contribution to the wildlife that we enjoyed. The conservation contribution this year of £40 per person towards the 'Refuges LPO' project was supplemented by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, leading to a total of £530.

This year there were also donations for LPO through our holidays in the Camargue and French Pyrenees (and a fourth in Languedoc which was presented locally). The three have been combined and the total donation of £2,486 passed to our LPO friends in the French Pyrenees.

This gives a running total for donations to LPO of £19,876 since 1991. The total for all conservation contributions through Honeyguide since 1991 was £89,420 to June 2013.

DAILY DIARY

Thursday 9 May – Stansted to Castang

Five of us left a fairly dry Stansted and in next to no time were at a distinctly grey and wet Bergerac. It wasn't long before we were through the shed-like arrivals terminal where Gilles, our regular driver on this holiday, was there to meet us and load bags and people into his minibus displaying the Honeyguide magnetic sticker. There was a group of three black kites at the edge of the airport, but that apart it was a fairly birdless drive through the countryside, villages and along the Dordogne River. Gilles's English seems to improve every year so we heard a narrative about crops, the weather, traffic calming (*gendarme couché*) and the abbey at Cadouin – attended by men in crash helmets and motorbike leathers who perhaps weren't part of a holy order. An hour later and we were at Castang, to be settled into rooms by Keith and Cathy, enjoy a cup of tea and meet up with the five others who'd flown in earlier from Southampton. Some had gone for a walk in the rain and found a few orchids, but it wasn't much of an afternoon for natural history.

Aperitifs and the first of Cathy's legendary 5-course meals followed: vegetable soup, smoked salmon, guinea fowl with French beans, a choice of cheeses and pear tart. These came with an ample supply of wine and afterwards most chose *tilleuil* – lime flower – infusion to drink.

Friday 10 May – local walks around Castang

Nearly all of us met on the road at 7:45, from where we could hear the scratchy, sustained sound of a melodious warbler on the hedge across the field, though views were brief. A nightingale sang from the scrub patch. Moving down the road, we turned right along the wooded road where a golden oriole sang; nuthatch and short-toed treecreeper were in the same area. A black kite flew past us as we continued the circuit, and two cirl buntings briefly settled on a wire. Around the buildings that make up the rest of the hamlet of Castang were both black redstart and a singing common redstart that liked to perch atop a high conifer.



Tassel hyacinth and knapweed fritillaries.

After breakfast, we gathered on the drive by some wonderful clumps of rustyback fern and set off round a short block of country lanes. Tassel hyacinths in the roadside vegetation were robust and easy to see and the melodious warbler again sang long and loud and clear. In a grassy meadow, ascalaphids were beginning to emerge and two were mating. A swallowtail flew past and group members found Glanville and knapweed fritillaries. Several day-flying burnet companion moths were on the move. Further along there was a short stretch with more acidic-looking vegetation. We looked at several

cranesbill species, including long-stalked, and then a superb lady orchid by the junction of two lanes. A sooty copper was carefully examined, and grouping raptors in the distance were identified as a single common buzzard and eight black kites which were following a tractor cutting hay. Nightingale and cuckoo sang again. In Lagrave, there were a few pool frogs and many floating conkers in the pond behind the restored community bread oven. Further on, a few words to distinguish three buttercup species were sensibly interrupted as two short-toed eagles drifted past. The common redstart was on the TV aerial in much the same place as earlier and Kate saw a red squirrel scamper through the garden at Castang.

After a lunch of quiche and salad back at base, and a bit of break, we reconvened at 3 o'clock to walk to Le Coux. A shrub in the garden was alive with insects, including rose chafer and longhorn beetles. A firecrest sang and showed briefly, and somehow more sunshine made it easy to see more flowers, such as pale flax and star-of-Bethlehem. The right turn by the lady orchid took us into new territory and along a wooded road, then a woodland path. There were many narrow-leaved helleborines, more lady orchids and milkwort, among much else.

A serin sang in Le Coux village, where we paused at the corner where horses used to be shod, the sturdy old timbers of its structure studded with farrier's nails. By the school, some of us bought home-made cakes to support local students' studies. Taking the right turn signed La Plage led us to the fertile and generally wildlife-poor cultivations of the Dordogne's floodplain. Interesting plants included large dead-nettle, lilac-flowered dame's violet and a lot of ragged robin. A hobby dashed overhead as we approached the river, where Malcolm found a common sandpiper. A quick phone call and soon Keith and the car were with us to transport bags and three of the group back home, with the rest electing to walk on this fine but not too hot afternoon. On the arable edge opposite the cemetery we found one large Venus's looking-glass in flower and many more plants soon to bloom. Up the hill there was a road-kill western whip-snake a good metre long.



The old forge in Le Coux village.

Dinner was mixed bean soup, omelette, beef with ratatouille, cheese and a pudding, today followed by infusion of vervain (verbena).

Saturday 11 May – woodland walk and Limeuil

Another nearly full turnout at 7:30 for a distinctly cool pre-breakfast walk, quickly rewarded by two turtle doves flying past and a hobby soon after in the opposite direction. In Langle, we found two ciril buntings foraging by the roadside, a male and female that stayed long enough to be looked at closely. Near the Chateau of Cazenac, orioles called but views were brief or distant. One of two hoopoes seemed to flip up while in flight, as if to show off its wing pattern.

Picnics safely loaded, Gilles took us on a short but scenic route to Bigaroque, over a hilly area with abundant broom and some big fields. He left us on a woodland corner to walk along a very quiet road, for traffic that is. But there was plenty of bird song, blackcap especially, and soon a Bonelli's warbler, the latter out of sight in the oaks. Flowers were running a little late this year, meaning we found last lingering blooms of two early species, tuberous comfrey and cowslip. A clump of twayblades caught the eye by the road, in contrast to the tricky-to-see parasitic purple toothwort at ground level below us, beyond clambering, near the tumbledown mill. Dry, calcareous slopes had patches of pale blue and pink chalk milkwort, globularia, Nottingham catchfly and the poisonous swallow-wort. Slim fly orchids could be tricky to spot; four violet birdsnest orchids were more obvious, as were many narrow-leaved helleborines and lady orchids. It was real spring weather: brief, light showers and enough sunshine to bring out some butterflies, especially wall browns.



Gilles, surreptitiously photographed by Malcolm.

We met Gilles and the bus at the appointed hour and corner by some recently felled trees, opening up the view to enormous white poplars that had escaped the chainsaw. Some ate lunch inside the bus, some outside, before we took time to potter round three meadows a stone's throw away. Man orchid was in the first. The second offered military orchids, a lady orchid in a distinctively pyramidal shape and any number of burnt-tip orchids. Slightly higher up the gentle slope were horseshoe vetch and slender bedstraw, then several woodcock orchids. The third meadow added tongue orchids in several loose patches. By the bus we had a go at calling up a black woodpecker, having heard one in the distance, but without success. However we did get lucky as a surprised pine marten scampers down the trunk of a poplar.



At Limeuil, Giles dropped us off in the extended car park at the top of the hill and we made our own way down through this picturesque village. Tree sparrows were in their regular spot in the garden at the bottom, along with a hummingbird hawk-moth and tall spikes of viper's bugloss growing from walls. Some had a drink or ice cream, overlooking the confluence of the rivers Dordogne and Vézère, before we returned to tea and checklists at Castang.

Four of us then descended into the lower and damper part of Castang's meadow. The search was on to find adder's-tongue fern, which was (as usual) both tricky to locate but in the end quite common in the right area, along with pepper saxifrage and three loose-flowered orchids.

Then time for dinner of pumpkin and carrot soup, goat's cheese with mixed beetroot salad, salmon with roast potatoes, cheese and strawberries.

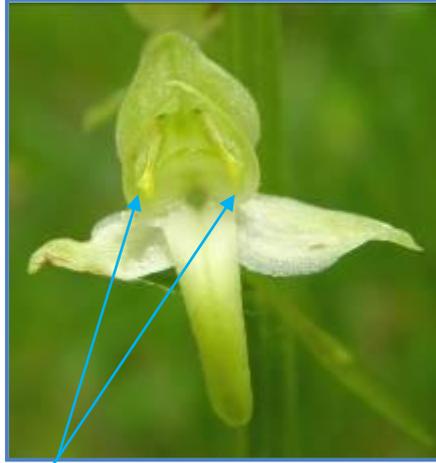
Sunday 12 May – the 'two views' walk at Berbiguières and Montalieu Haut

Another chilly pre-breakfast walk, which started with a hobby but was otherwise thin on bird sightings, with just song thrush added to the list. But we did hear close golden orioles for a long period of time, including a 'cat-calling' female.

Apart from a few spits the rain held off, and it was a cool day, with no butterflies but plenty of flowers and some good birds. If there is a centre to the world of wisteria it must be Berbiguières: in both white and purple forms it clad many of the stone buildings, adding an arresting visual impact to an already pretty village beneath the small chateau. We climbed the path through the trees, pausing to look at soft shield fern and rather longer where a golden oriole sang for several minutes in a false acacia tree, loud and clear but mostly out of sight. At the top of the path were emerging man orchids, the first of dozens seen here, all alongside or close to the track along the crest of the ridge. In a grazed field there were lizard orchids, not yet in flower, which had been avoided by the cattle. There were many more orchids, especially patches of violet birdsnest and burnt-tip orchids, and other nice flowers included lots of the brick-red brown vetch and rock-rose. A peregrine with prey flew past, being followed by a black kite, then that peregrine was joined by another in the distance. After reaching the path's end we about-turned. A cuckoo called loudly close to us for a long time. A woodlark perched on a dead tree-top, allowing excellent views, with some of the group remarking on the length of its claws.



The start of our uphill walk to the crest of the ridge.



Diverging pollinia identify this as a greater butterfly orchid.

After having our picnic in the protection of the bus, Gilles walked us into the adjacent woodland where he'd found some fine greater butterfly orchids. While we looked at these, plus bitter vetchling and pignut, he successfully sought out a birdsnest orchid near a big patch of butcher's broom.

The drive to Montalieu Haut took us past dry, steep slopes and a small truffle-oak plantation, beneath which was a purple haze of

a multitude of lady orchids. Now east of our local map, here we could get into this different habitat – albeit less steep than much of what we saw from the bus, and with protection by

trees from wind and sun (the latter not needed today). The more southerly or *causse*-style shrubs and trees included Mediterranean buckthorn, Montpellier maple, holm oak and Mediterranean coriaria. Some of us stepped over a fence for a close look at wild candytuft, an annual growing on bare patches. Open areas were yellow with hairy greenweed and Sue found the unusual pea *argyrobium*. Into the woodland edge or on path edges there were woodcock orchids, stinking hellebore and long-leaved lungwort, plus many plants of bastard balm, varying from deep pink to almost white. A group of fly orchids in one grassy field made a clump, and quite a visual impact compared with the usual thin individuals that are so easy to overlook. The meadows above the woodland were dense with man and pyramidal orchids, making it difficult to know where to tread. Dropping down to where the coach had moved to meet us there was more *argyrobium* on a sloped, gravelly area, then intensely-coloured blue gromwell under a hedge.

In Beynac we paused for some to take photos of the mediaeval fortified village, and for everyone to enjoy crag martins and the peregrine that flew from the village out and over the River Dordogne.

It's a tough job but someone has to do it: as usual, aperitifs were followed by five courses, today leek and potato soup, melon with port, pork with mustard sauce and courgettes, cheese and almond pudding.

Monday 13 May – Keith's walk



Digiscope nightingale.

Sunshine, at last, for a later start – eight o'clock – to pre-breakfast birdwatching, and the birds seemed to respond as we did. Best of these was the nightingale that had been singing, hidden, in the patch of scrub by the road: this time it perched out in the open, allowing first-class views through telescopes for all of us.

Keith took over as leader this morning, as is our tradition, with his local take and surveyor's eye on local life, buildings and structures. These included the beautiful *pigeonnier* (pigeon house), which Keith has permission to restore and by which we found our first bee orchid of the week; an *abreuvoir*, a combined sluice/cattle trough now overgrown on a watercourse in the woods above what would have been pasture, but is now a walnut plantation; and roof tiles, ancient and modern, in les Valades. The improved weather brought out butterflies and day-flying moths, which Sue was especially adept in finding. These included sooty copper, dingy skipper, small elephant hawk-moth, forester moth and Glanville fritillary, often

sitting quietly as the weather became more overcast. In the wood we struck lucky with a male golden oriole, perched and singing on a dead tree that extended above the tree-line. On two occasions a farmer in a tractor was turning hay, attracting black kites on the lookout for food.



Small elephant hawkmoth, and Five-spot burnet moth on field scabious.

After lunch at Castang, it was the free afternoon, which everyone spent in their own way. It was warm enough for several to look at butterflies and day-flying moths in the meadow, and I found a pair of fine military orchids.

Dinner was spinach soup, pork terrine with tomatoes, *confit de canard* with two whole cauliflowers (for the table, not each!), cheese and chocolate cake, and the general feeling afterwards was that it was too cold to

look for midwife toads. But George and I went anyway, Keith joining us up at Lagrave, where we heard a superb chorus of these tiny amphibians. Better still, we found a superb male, with eggs wrapped round its back legs, on the floor of the communal bread oven building (*photo on p10*).

Tuesday 14 May – Le Bugue and the cave walk

Two melodious warblers sang in view on the usual hedgerow before breakfast, and a hoopoe was feeding on the ground up a track near the woodland. A short circuit took us past a flowering medlar tree and then to the road junction below Castang's meadow where we looked at a short-toed treecreeper in the oaks.

On the hill above Le Bugue, we were treated to close views of a singing Bonelli's warbler, and further down, even better views of a firecrest, its crest glowing like a hot ember. White (or Pyrenean) flax was a new plant, and there were six or seven orchid species we'd seen previously. The biggest surprise on the descent was on a small bare bit of ground behind a chain, opposite the cemetery. Not only was there the tallest man orchid you could imagine, and some well-developed lizard orchids, albeit not quite out, but Susie pointed out something different. It was a single spike of yellow bee orchid *Ophrys lutea*, a common orchid in Mediterranean France but the first we'd seen in the Dordogne in more than a decade of this regular holiday.



Yellow bee orchid *Ophrys lutea* and an artisanal cheese-seller in the bustling Le Bugue market.

We dispersed to shop or simply look at the many and varied stalls on market day in Le Bugue, several of us convening for coffee at the Bar Menhir at the far end of the main street. Then, having walked along by the river, noting sand martins and the tiny bellflower *Campanula erinus*, we shared details of purchases, tubs of strawberries and bags of olives. Gilles took us to a quieter stretch of the river a few hundred metres away where we had picnics in the sun, overlooking the Vézère.

The weather remained at shirt-sleeve temperature all afternoon, ideal for the 'cave walk'. Again we heard Bonelli's warbler, and a hobby bisected the blue sky. Dropping down into a meadow off the main track, we found yellow rattle and a good range of orchids, including military and loose-flowered in damper areas. Butterflies were waking, including Adonis blue, Berger's clouded yellow, orange-tip, meadow fritillary and pearly heath.

Emerging from the uphill walk through the wood, we were immediately into an unusual meadow with several examples of long-lipped serapias, many tongue orchids and, once your eye was tuned to them, sombre bee orchids. On both sides of the fenced horse pasture were many more sombre bee orchids, some surprisingly tall (perhaps 8-10 inches) for a normally diminutive species.

Four of the group enjoyed the tour of the 'crystal cathedral' of the Gouffre de Proumeyssac and the others were equally happy with a small beer in the sunshine outside.

After dinner – of celery soup, scallop *feuilletés* (pastry parcels), lamb with flageolet beans, cheese and crème caramel – most of the group walked to Lagrave to listen and search for midwife toads. Peter had his bat detector and recorded one bat at 50kh, probably a pipistrelle, and another at about 25kh, consistent with noctule or possibly other bigger bats that call at that frequency. There were many calling midwife toads this warm evening and again one male inside the walk-in bread oven, hard up against the step and looking like it would like to get out. I concluded it has fallen down the step and was unable to climb out, and I gently lifted it with gloved hands onto the step, where it stayed looking still and lifeless. When I returned moments later, it had moved into vegetation.

Wednesday 15 May – Roque St-Christophe and Font de Gaume

A wet morning. Malcolm and I walked round the block before breakfast, returning to find Sue identifying moths attracted overnight to outside lights.



The Visitor Centre at Les Combarelles and the outline of some of the images by Cro-Magnon people, many of which they painted over.

Our annual visit to Les Eyzies was different to the usual group visit over many years as arrangements have changed: advance group bookings for Font de Gaume have stopped and the numbers allowed reduced. On Monday, Gilles had somehow got hold of four tickets for an English language tour of Font de Gaume for David, Diana, Susie and George, who hadn't visited before, and tickets for nearby Les Combarelles for the six of us who had. The Font de Gaume contingent confirmed the great experience of seeing the prehistoric polychrome paintings. Les Combarelles – capacity six in any one visit – was also fascinating: large numbers of etchings of bison, horses, mammoths, reindeer and others remain without colouration (save on a few outlines) which has been lost on account of higher humidity underground here.

The rain had stopped by the time we arrived via a scenic route at Roque St Christophe. Following a picnic under the covered (and cold) stone benches, we walked to the bridge and viewpoint over the troglodyte fort, past bloody cranesbill either side of the roadside ditch. We turned our attention to the tiniest of plants: basil thyme, bur medick and, obscurest of all, both thyme-leaved and fine-leaved sandwort growing side by side. In the meadow almost hidden in the woods, rampant bellflower was a new species, several plants among the grass which was wet but not long enough to be soaking. A mazarine blue butterfly clasped a grass stem in the cool afternoon, and close to it was a bright yellow crab spider and tiny Roesel's bush-crickets.

I'd given pessimistic messages about the likelihood of much new on the 'dry' limestone slopes farther up the hill, but we went there anyway and it proved to be good. As well as many pyramidal and fly orchids, we found several tiny bug orchids in bud, missing in the last two years. It seemed the wet winter had offset the late, cool spring. Yellow fumana grew with white rock-roses, and the unusual *Inula montana* – in none of the standard flower books – was not quite in flower but the densely hairy leaves were abundant. Sue noticed an unusual spurge which on careful study was dwarf spurge *Euphorbia exigua*. Descending through the lower meadow it was still too cool for butterflies, though a few day-flying moths such as latticed and common heaths were on the wing. Early purple orchid in the shade of the woodland and common spotted orchid in bud near the huge twayblades took us to 24 orchid species for the week.



Peregrine watching at Roque St Christophe.

After drinks at the café, it was time to get back in the bus for the shortest of journeys to seek out the local peregrines. Viewing from a track on the other side of the river didn't work out, though we did see a lot of purple toothwort. Returning closer to the cliff, looking up at people visiting the troglodyte city, at first two kestrels came to a nesting hole high to our right. Then a peregrine powered through, disappearing into a fissure close to the visitor walkway. She emerged and flew onto an oak branch among the cliff-top trees, where we watched her through the telescope. After noting the spread of meadow saxifrage on the rocks close to us, it was time to head back to Castang.

Our final dinner – tomato soup, seafood terrine and chicken in tarragon sauce – included collecting the group's holiday highlights, noted below.

Thursday 17 May – Bergerac and home

I heard a distant black woodpecker before breakfast, but with packing to be done I was on my own on another cool morning,

The contingent for the Flybe flight to Southampton set off at 10:30, leaving five of us to take a walk east of the road down to Le Coux. It was warming up as we walked through an avenue of irises. Shortly after this there was a mistle thrush, soon followed by a second new bird for the week: a honey buzzard, moving slowly north, showing all the key ID features on a well-marked individual. Moving fairly rapidly on, an orchid-rich meadow – limodors especially – held our 25th orchid species of the week, a white helleborine. We finished our walk by looking at Venus's looking glass in the arable field edge opposite the cemetery, from where Keith collected us. There was time for a sandwich, then safely to Bergerac with Gilles's youngest son at the wheel, and back to Stansted.

Group members' holiday highlights

Kate	The feisty firecrest; the orchid fest; blue columbines.
Malcolm	The meadows; golden oriole, hoopoe and melodious warbler in a run.
Helen	The abundance of orchids.
David	The view of the nightingale; two firecrests; Font de Gaume.
Diana	Seeing and hearing golden oriole; everyone sitting in the meadow on the 'cave walk'.
Sue	The firecrest; meadows; the blue of the meadow clary; small elephant hawk-moth.
Peter	The crest of the firecrest.
George	Learning that you hear birds, rather than watch them.
Susie	Sitting on a post by some waste ground (on the descent to Le Bugue) and there were all these orchids.
Chris	The yellow bee orchid (where Susie described); midwife toad; hearing Norwich City was safe from relegation!
By general acclaim	The company, the place, the food and Gilles.

WILDLIFE LISTS

Birds H = heard only

Cormorant	Great spotted woodpecker	Firecrest
Grey heron	Woodlark	Long-tailed tit
Mute swan	Skylark	Blue tit
Mallard	Sand martin	Great tit
Honey buzzard	Crag martin	Nuthatch
Black kite	Swallow	Short-toed treecreeper
Buzzard	House martin	Golden oriole
Kestrel	White wagtail	Jay
Hobby	Wren	Magpie
Peregrine	Dunnock	Jackdaw
Common sandpiper	Robin	Carrion crow
Feral pigeon	Nightingale	Starling
Wood pigeon	Black redstart	House sparrow
Collared dove	Common redstart	Tree sparrow
Turtle dove	Blackbird	Chaffinch
Cuckoo	Song thrush H	Serin
Tawny owl H	Mistle thrush	Greenfinch
Swift	Melodious warbler	Goldfinch
Hoopoe	Blackcap	Linnet
Green woodpecker	Bonelli's warbler	Chiffchaff
Black woodpecker H	Chiffchaff	

Mammals

Roe deer
Rabbit
Red squirrel
Pine marten
Hedgehog (road casualty)
Wild boar (rootings)

Reptiles and amphibians

Lesser horseshoe bat
Pipistrelle sp (50kz)
Grass snake (road casualty)
Wall lizard
Pool frog
Midwife toad (*right*)



Butterflies

Swallowtail	Adonis blue
Scarce swallowtail	Common blue
Large white	Peacock
Orange-tip	Red admiral
Pale clouded yellow	Painted lady
Clouded yellow	Glanville fritillary
Berger's clouded yellow	Knapweed fritillary
Brimstone	Meadow fritillary
Cleopatra	Weaver's (violet) fritillary
Wood white	Small heath
Small copper	Pearly heath
Sooty copper (<i>top right</i>)	Speckled wood
Small blue	Wall
Holly blue	Large wall
Mazarine blue (<i>right</i>)	Dingy skipper



Moths

British checklist numbers given from Waring & Townsend

170 Five-spot burnet	1937 Willow beauty	2059 Clouded buff
1738 Common carpet	1945 Brussels lace	2063 Muslin
1782 Fern	1952 Common heath	2441 Silver Y
1878 Drab looper	1968 Yellow belle	2463 Burnet companion
1894 Latticed heath	1984 Hummingbird hawkmoth	2480 Buttoned snout
1906 Brimstone (moth)	1992 Small elephant hawkmoth	Southern runic carpet
1909 Speckled yellow	2021 Pine processionary (tent)	<i>Scotopteryx coarctata</i>

Micro-moth

Spindle ermine (caterpillar/tent)



Day-flying moths

Top: Burnet companion
Below: Forester

Moths which came to a light source overnight

Top: Fern
Below: Southern runic carpet
(photos by Sue Burge)

Other invertebrates

Top: Longhorn beetles
Below: *Trichodes alvearius*
on green-winged orchid



Other invertebrates

Banded demoiselle
Ascalaphid *Libelluloides coccajus*
Paper wasp *Polistes gallicus*
Mammoth wasp, *Megascolia maculata flavifrons*
Great yellow bumblebee, *Bombus distinguendus*
Long-horned beetle, *Cerambyx scopolii*
Trichodes alvearius, a red & black soldier beetle
Small bloody-nosed beetle, *Timarcha goettingensis*
Dagger fly, possibly *Empis livida*, seen on fly honeysuckle during the crest walk at Berbiguières.
Rose chafer *Cetonia* sp
Oxythyrea funesta a chafer
Tropinota hirta a furry chafer
Firebug
Cercopis vulnerata, a red and black frogopper

Graphosoma italicum, a black and red shield bug
7-spot ladybird
Harlequin ladybird
Field cricket H
Roesel's bush-cricket
House centipede *Scutigera coleoptrata*
Millipede, probably *Tachypodoiulus niger*
Crab spider *Xysticus cristatus*
Roman (edible) snail
Garden snail
Leopard slug *Limax maximus*
Slug *Arion ater*

Plants

nif = seen but not in flower.

Flowers not in northern European floras are in bold and marked as follows:

M: Mediterranean flora **A**: Alpine flora *Inula montana* is in neither!

Family	Scientific name	Common name	
ACERACEAE (Maple)	<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field maple	
	<i>Acer monspessulanus</i>	Montpelier maple	
	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	
ARACEAE (Arum)	<i>Arum italicum</i>	Large (or Italian) lords & ladies	
ARALIACEAE (Ivy)	<i>Hedera helix (hibernica)</i>	Ivy	
ASCLEPIADACEAE (Milkweed)	<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Swallow-wort	
BETULACEAE (Birch)	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder	
BORAGINACEAE (Borage)	<i>Anchusa arvensis</i>	Bugloss	
	<i>Buglossoides purpureocaerulea</i>	Blue (or purple) gromwell	
	<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's bugloss	
	<i>Myosotis discolor</i>	Changing forget-me-not	
	<i>Pulmonaria longifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved lungwort	nif
	<i>Symphytum officianale</i>	Tuberous comfrey	
CAMPANULACEAE (Bellflower)	<i>Campanula erinus</i>	M	
	<i>Campanula rapunculoides</i>	Rampion bellflower	
	<i>Legousia speculum-veneris</i>	Large Venus's looking-glass	
CAPRIFOLIACEAE (Honeysuckle)	<i>Lonicera caprifolium</i>	Perfoliate honeysuckle	
	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	
	<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i>	Fly honeysuckle	
	<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf elder	nif
	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	
CARYOPHYLLACEAE (Pink)	<i>Viburnum lanata</i>	Wayfaring tree	
	<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved sandwort	
	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common mouse-ear	
	<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged robin	
	<i>Minuartia hybrida</i>	Fine-leaved sandwort	
	<i>Moehringia trinervia</i>	Three-veined sandwort	
	<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	Procumbent pearlwort	
	<i>Silene alba</i>	White campion	
	<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham catchfly	
	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder campion	
	<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater stitchwort	
	<i>Stellaria media</i>	Chickweed	
CELASTRACEAE (Spindle)	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	
CHENOPODIACEAE (Goosefoot)	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Fat hen	
CISTACEAE (Cistus)	<i>Fumana procumbens</i>	Common fumana	
	<i>Helianthemum appenninum</i>	White rockrose	
	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common rockrose	
COMPOSITAE (Daisy)	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	nif
	<i>Arctium minus</i>	Lesser burdock	nif
	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort	
	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Perennial daisy	
	<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	Slender thistle	
	<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	Carline thistle	
	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black knapweed	
	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping thistle	nif
	<i>Cirsium eriophorum</i>	Woolly thistle	nif
	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear thistle	nif
	<i>Doronicum pardalianches</i>	Leopardsbane	
	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp agrimony	nif

	<i>Hieracium maculatum</i>	Spotted hawkweed	
	<i>Inula montana</i>		nif
	<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly lettuce	nif
	<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nippewort	
	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye daisy	
	<i>Matricaria perforata</i>	Scentless mayweed	
	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear hawkweed	
	<i>Senecio jacobea</i>	Ragwort	
	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	
	<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly sow-thistle	
	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth sow-thistle	
	<i>Taraxacum (group)</i>	Dandelion	
	<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Goatsbeard=Jack-go-to-bed-at-noon	
CONVOLVULACEAE	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field bindweed	
CORIARIACEAE (Coriaria)	<i>Coriaria myrtifolia</i>	Mediterranean coriaria M	
CORNACEAE (Cornus)	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	
CORYLACEAE (Hazel)	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	
CORYLACEAE (Hornbeam)	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam	
CRASSULACEAE (Stonecrop)	<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting stonecrop	
	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort/wall pennywort	
CRUCIFERAE (Cress)	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic mustard	
	<i>Arabis glabra</i>	Tower mustard	
	<i>Barbarea sp</i>	A wintercress	
	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse	
	<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>	Narrow-leaved bittercress	
	<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	Wavy bittercress	
	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's violet	
	<i>Iberis amara</i>	Wild candytuft	
	<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	Charlock	
	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge mustard	
	<i>Thlaspi perfoliatum</i>	Perfoliate pennycress	
	<i>Bryonia cretica</i>	White bryony	
CUCURBITACEAE (Gourd)	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Juniper	
CUPRESSACEAE (Cypress)	<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black bryony	
DIOSCOREACEAE (Yam)	<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field scabious	
DIPSACACEAE (Scabious)	<i>Knautia dipsacifolia</i>	Wood scabious	
	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Teasel	
EUPHORBIACEAE (Spurge)	<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood spurge	
	<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress spurge	
	<i>Euphorbia exigua</i>	Dwarf spurge	
	<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun spurge	
	<i>Euphorbia hyberna</i>	Irish spurge	
	<i>Euphorbia lathyris</i>	Caper spurge	
	<i>Euphorbia peplus</i>	Petty spurge	
	<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Annual mercury	
	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's mercury	
FAGACEAE	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse chestnut (planted)	
	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet chestnut	
	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Evergreen/holm oak	
	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile oak	
	<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy oak	
GENTIANACEAE (Gentian)	<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort	
GERANIACEAE (Geranium)	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common storksbill	
	<i>Geranium columbinum</i>	Long-stalked cranesbill	
	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved cranesbill	
	<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dovesfoot cranesbill	
	<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little robin	

	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb robert	
	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved cranesbill	
	<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody cranesbill	
GLOBULARIACEAE (Globularia)	<i>Globularia vulgaris</i>	Globularia	
GRAMINEAE (Grasses - very incomplete)	<i>Briza media</i>	Common quaking-grass	
	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot	
	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog	
	<i>Melica uniflora</i>	Wood melick	
	<i>Milium effusum</i>	Wood millet	
HYPERICACEAE (Hypericum)	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St. John's wort	nif
IRIDACEAE (Iris)	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow flag iris	
JUGLANDACEAE	<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	
LABIATAE (Mint)	<i>Acinos arvensis</i>	Basil thyme	
	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Common bugle	
	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground ivy	
	<i>Lamiaeum galeobdolon</i>	Yellow archangel	
	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit dead-nettle	
	<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	Spotted dead-nettle	
	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Red dead-nettle	
	<i>Lavandula angustifolia</i>	Lavender M	nif
	<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>	Bastard balm	
	<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water mint	
	<i>Mentha suaveolens</i>	Apple (round-leaved) mint	
	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram	nif
	<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	Meadow clary	
	<i>Salvia verbeneca</i>	Wild clary	
	<i>Stachys recta</i>	Yellow woundwort	nif
	<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall germander (leaves)	
	<i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	Wild thyme	
LEMNACEAE (Duckweed)	<i>Lemna minor</i>	Common/Lesser duckweed	
LILIACEAE (Lily)	<i>Asphodelus albus</i>	Asphodel A, M	nif
	<i>Muscari atlanticum</i>	Grape hyacinth	
	<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel hyacinth	
	<i>Ornithogalum pyrenaicum</i>	Bath asparagus/spiked star-of-Bethlehem (bud)	
	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	Common star-of-Bethlehem	
	<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's broom	
LINACEAE (Flax)	<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale flax	
	<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy (=purging) flax	
	<i>Linum perenne</i>	Perennial flax	
	<i>Linum suffruticosum</i>	Pyrenean or white flax	
MALVACEAE (Mallow)	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common mallow	
OLEACEAE (Olive)	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	
	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild privet	
ORCHIDACEAE	<i>Aceras anthropophorum</i>	Man orchid	
	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal orchid	
	<i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i>	White helleborine	
	<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved helleborine	
	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common spotted orchid	
	<i>Epipactis atrorubens</i>	Dark red helleborine	nif
	<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Broad-leaved helleborine (leaves)	
	<i>Himantoglossum hircinum</i>	Lizard orchid	nif
	<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	Violet birdsnest orchid (= limodor)	
	<i>Listera ovata</i>	Common twayblade	
	<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>	Birdsnest orchid	
	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Bee orchid	

	<i>Ophrys coriofora</i>	Bug orchid	
	<i>Ophrys fusca</i>	Sombre bee orchid M	
	<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>	Fly orchid	
	<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	Yellow bee orchid	
	<i>Ophrys scolopax</i>	Woodcock orchid M	
	<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i>	Early spider orchid	
	<i>Orchis laxiflora</i>	Loose-flowered orchid	
	<i>Orchis masculata</i>	Early purple orchid	
	<i>Orchis militaris</i>	Military orchid	
	<i>Orchis morio</i>	Green-winged orchid	
	<i>Orchis purpurea</i>	Lady orchid	
	<i>Orchis ustulata</i>	Burnt-tip orchid	
	<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>	Greater butterfly orchid	
	<i>Serapias lingua</i>	Tongue orchid M	
	<i>Serapias vomeracea</i>	Long-lipped serapias A M	
OROBANCHACEAE	<i>Lathraea clandestina</i>	Purple toothwort	
(Broomrape)	<i>Orobanche alba</i>	Thyme broomrape	
	<i>Orobanche hederæ</i>	Ivy broomrape	
OXALIDACEAE (wood-sorrels)	<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Yellow oxalis	
	<i>Oxalis fontana</i>	Upright yellow oxalis	
PAPAVERACEAE (Poppy)	<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater celandine	
	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common poppy	
PAPILIONACEAE (Pea)	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney vetch	
	<i>Argyrobium sanonii</i>	Argyrobium M	
	<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	Judas tree (planted) M	
	<i>Coronilla scorpioides</i>	Annual scorpion vetch M	
	<i>Genista pilosa</i>	Hairy greenweed	
	<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	Horseshoe vetch	
	<i>Hippocrepis emerus</i>	Scorpion senna	
	<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Yellow vetchling	
	<i>Lathyrus montanus</i> (=L. <i>linifolius</i>)	Bitter vetchling	
	<i>Lathyrus nissolia</i>	Grass vetchling	
	<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling	
	<i>Lathyrus setifolius</i>	Brown vetch A, M	
	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Birdsfoot trefoil	
	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	Spotted medick	
	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black medick	
	<i>Medicago minima</i>	Bur medick	
	<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Lucerne (= alfalfa)	
	<i>Onobrychis vicifolia</i>	Sainfoin	
	<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	False acacia or Locust tree	
	- ditto - (planted)	False acacia - 'Purple Robe'	
	<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish broom (introduced)	nif
	<i>Sarothamnus</i> (=Cytisus)	Broom	
	<i>scoparius</i>		
	<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop trefoil	
	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser trefoil	
	<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i>	Crimson clover (crop)	
	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red clover	
	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White clover	
	<i>Trifolium ochroleum</i>	Sulphur clover	
	<i>Ulex europæus</i>	Gorse	
	<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	Hairy tare	
	<i>Vicia lutea</i>	Yellow vetch	
	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch	
	<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush vetch	
PLANTAGINACEAE (Plantain)	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort plantain	
	<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater plantain	
	<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary plantain	

PLATANACEAE (plane tree)	<i>Platanus hybrida</i>	London plane	
POLYGALACEAE (Milkwort)	<i>Polygala calcarea</i>	Chalk milkwort	
	<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common milkwort	
POLYGONACEAE (Dock)	<i>Polygonum persicaria</i>	Redshank	
	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common sorrel	
	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's sorrel	
	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled dock	
	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Knotgrass	
PRIMULACEAE (Primrose)	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet pimpernel	
	<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip	
PTERIDOPHYTA (Fern)	<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair fern	
	<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black spleenwort	
	<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall rue	
	<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair spleenwort	
	<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rusty-back fern	
	<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male fern	
	<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>	Adderstongue	
	<i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue fern	
	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	
	<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft shield fern	
	<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common polypody	
	RANUNCULACEAE (Buttercup)	<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Common columbine
		<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's joy
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>		Stinking hellebore	
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>		Meadow buttercup	
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>		Bulbous buttercup	
<i>Ranunculus penicillatus</i>		Stream water-crowfoot	
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>		Creeping buttercup	
<i>Thalictrum minus</i>		Lesser meadow rue	
RESEDAEAE (Mignonette)		<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Wild mignonette
		<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
ROSACEAE (Rose)	<i>Fragaria moschata</i>	Hautbois strawberry	
	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild strawberry	
	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Herb Bennet	
	<i>Mespilus germanica</i>	Medlar (planted)	
	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping cinquefoil	
	<i>Prunus mahaleb</i>	St Lucie's cherry	
	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	
	<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog rose	
	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	Sweet briar	
	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	Bramble	
	<i>Sanguisorbia minor</i>	Salad burnet	
	<i>Sorbus domestica</i>	True service tree (planted)	
	<i>Sorbus torminalis</i>	Wild service tree	
	RUBIACEAE (Bedstraw)	<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort
		<i>Galium album (G. mollugo ssp. erectum)</i>	Upright hedge bedstraw
<i>Galium aparine</i>		Cleavers	
<i>G. mollugo subsp. erectum (= G. album)</i>		Hedge bedstraw	
<i>Galium pumilum</i>		Slender bedstraw	
<i>Galium verum</i>		Lady's bedstraw	
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>		Field madder	
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>		Wild madder	
SALICACEAE (Willow)		<i>Populus alba</i>	White poplar
		<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen
SAXIFRAGACEA (Saxifrage)	<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>	Meadow saxifrage	
	<i>Saxifraga tridactylites</i>	Rue-leaved saxifrage	

SCROPHULARIACEAE (Figwort)	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved toadflax	
	<i>Digitalis lutea</i>	Small yellow foxglove	nif
	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow rattle	
	<i>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</i>	Blue water speedwell	
	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	Wall speedwell	
	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander speedwell	
	<i>Veronica persica</i>	Common field speedwell	
SOLANACEAE (Nightshade)	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Woody nightshade (Bittersweet)	
TILIACEAE (Lime)	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small-leaved lime	
	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	Large-leaved lime	
ULMACEAE (Elm)	<i>Ulmus minor</i>	Small-leaved elm	
UMBELLIFERAE (Carrot) (= Apiaceae)	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow parsley	
	<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut	
	<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field eryngo	nif
	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	nif
	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	
	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> <i>var. sibiricum</i>	Hogweed (greenish flowered)	
	<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	Corky-fruited water dropwort	
	<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle	
	<i>Silaum silaus</i>	Pepper saxifrage	
URTICACEAE (Nettle)	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall	
	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging nettle	
VALERIANACEAE (Valerian)	<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red valerian	
	<i>Valerianella locusta</i>	Cornsalad	
VIOLACEAE (Violet)	<i>Viola arvensis</i>	Field pansy/heartsease	

