British Ecological Society

Flora of Shetland

Notes on the Flora of Shetland. by W. West

Journal of Ecology, Vol. 1, No. 1 (Mar., 1913), p. 63

Published by: [British Ecological Society](#)

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2255471>

Accessed: 29/01/2015 22:44

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions of Use, available at
<http://www.jstor.org/page/info/about/policies/terms.jsp>

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

British Ecological Society is collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to *Journal of Ecology*.

<http://www.jstor.org>

SAND DUNES IN GLAMORGAN, WALES

Orr, M. Y. "Kenfig Burrows." *Scottish Bot. Review*, **1**, 1912, pp. 209—216.

An ecological study of sand dunes in Glamorgan, Wales. The area is two miles broad, and the sand is known to have been deposited comparatively recently; on the landward side there is a small lake. The chief plant-communities are those of (a) *Ammophila arenaria* on shifting and partially fixed dunes; (b) *Salix repens* on shifting dunes and in dune hollows; (c) *Pteris aquilina* occupying a large area of fixed dunes. In connexion with (a) it is noted that *Elymus arenarius*, which in Norfolk gives rise to low dunes, is entirely absent from this coast, while the "Agropyretum juncei" (sea couch-grass association) of the Somerset, Lancashire, and other dunes is also practically absent. The *Salix* forms a carpet of low-growing scrub in the sandy dune valleys, but in more exposed places it collects around it the blown sand and gives rise to hummocks and small dunes, while in the damp hollows it forms a fringe round the marshy ground and the dependent species vary accordingly; *Salix repens* represents the second stage in succession on the dunes (as *Ammophila* represents the first)—it occurs on the Lancashire dunes, but according to Moss is rare on the Somerset sand hills. The *Pteris*, which according to Massart is absent or rare on the Belgian dunes, has here adapted itself to life on the dunes and grows luxuriantly; its rhizomic habit makes it a successful sand binder, and it forms the last stage in succession observed in this locality. Mosses and lichens are common on the innermost margin of the fixed dunes and in the transitional associations, and play an important part in preparing the ground for the growth of flowering plants.

FLORA OF SHETLAND

West, W. "Notes on the Flora of Shetland." *Journal of Botany*, 1912, pp. 265—275, 297—306.

Parts of the islands Mainland and Unst were examined and about 230 species of vascular plants recorded. Moorland prevails, other considerable areas are grazing grounds, and there is little cultivated land. Ecological notes are given on the presence of arctic-alpine species at low altitudes, the scarcity of a number of common British plants, the nigrescence of many liverworts and lichens, etc. No native trees were seen, but two plantations, mainly of sycamore (*Acer Pseudoplatanus*), were examined. Some plant associations are described in considerable detail, with percentages of the species observed—these interesting notes include many liverworts, mosses, and lichens; the state of colonisation of the ground is indicated; and an annotated list of vascular plants is given, with a special section on the lichens.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND WOODLAND SUCCESSION

Woodruffe-Peacock, E. A. "Change of climate and woodland succession." *Journal of Botany*, 1912, pp. 247—253.

Historical records of a former occurrence of vineyards in southern England are indicative of a warmer climate. Other evidence is seen in the more open texture of timber of *Quercus* and *Pinus* of the older peats as compared with the closer texture of the more recent peat. The peat deposits of East Anglia are regarded as developed in relation to woodlands on adjoining higher lands, and the tree-remains represent phases of migration of woodland on to the peat. In an "impressionist" way, it is suggested that the tree-remains represent *periods*—*Quercus* being the older, *Fraxinus*, *Ilex*, and *Ulmus montana* the more recent. On certain historical, floristic, and faunistic grounds, *Pinus sylvestris* may have always been indigenous in parts of Lincolnshire, so also *Fagus* which comes in a later period with a warmer climate.