

Fauna Bumblebee Surveys 2019

Survey 1: 24 May 17.20 p.m. Temp: 15° Wind speed 4

Location	Species	Number	Main forage plants
Hay Meadow [as last year]	B. lucorum/terrestris	5	Yellow Rattle
	B. terrestris	3	Meadow Buttercup
	B. pascuorum	1	
	B. unidentified flying	2	
Carr House Meadow	B. lucorum/terrestris	1	Yellow Rattle
	B. lapidarius	1	
	B. unidentified flying	2	

Survey 2: 30 May 16.55 p.m. Temp: 16° Wind 5 (Hay Meadow) 3 (CHM)

Location	Species	Number	Main forage plants
Hay Meadow [extended]	B. lucorum/terrestris	11	Yellow Rattle
	B. pascuorum	3	
	B. lapidarius	3	Meadow Buttercup
	B. hypnorum	3	
	B. unidentified flying	1	
Carr House Meadow	B. lucorum/terrestris	13	Yellow Rattle
	B. pascuorum	5	
	B. hypnorum	3	Meadow Buttercup
	B. lapidarius	7	

Survey 3: 10 June 12.00 p.m. Temp: 17° Wind speed 2

Location	Species	Number	Main forage plants
Hay Meadow [extended]	B. terrestris/lucorum	8	Yellow Rattle
	B. lapidarius	19	Meadow Buttercup
	B. hypnorum	16	
	B. pascuorum	11	Red Clover
	B. unidentified flying	1	
Carr House Meadow	B. terrestris/lucorum	10	Yellow Rattle
	B. lapidarius	12	Meadow Buttercup
	B. pascuorum	2	
	B. hypnorum	3	
	B. unidentified flying	4	

Survey 4: 22 June 16.30 p.m. Temp: 20° Wind speed 2

Location	Species	Number	Main forage plants
Hay Meadow [extended]	B. hypnorum	10	Yellow Rattle
	B. terrestris/lucorum	2	Red Clover
	B. pascuorum	5	White Clover
	B. unidentified flying	11	
Carr House Meadow	B. terrestris/lucorum	1	Yellow Rattle
	B. hypnorum	4	Red Clover
	B. pascuorum	2	
	B. unidentified flying	3	

Survey 5: 4 July 13.00 p.m. Temp: 20° Wind speed 3

Location	Species	Number	Main forage plants
Hay Meadow [extended]	B. terrestris/lucorum	1	Red Clover
	B. hypnorum	6	
	B. lapidarius	1	
	B. unidentified flying	5	
Carr House Meadow	B. unidentified flying	1	

B. lucorum White-tailed bumblebee
 B. terrestris Buff-tailed bumblebee
 B. lapidarius Red-tailed bumblebee
 B. pascuorum Common carder bee
 B. hypnorum Tree bumblebee

Comment: I have the impression (regional data will be available later) that across the N of England bumblebee numbers have been down on last year, so it's quite encouraging to see that average numbers in our hay meadows have held up well and even improved during the peak flowering season of late May-early July, compared with 2018. There has also been a good variety of species.

I didn't have a chance to repeat last year's survey of the bee-friendly margin of Flora Field while its crop of Red-tailed-bumblebee-friendly Black Knapweed was in flower. I'll try to get there next summer. It would probably also be good to add in a transect of the wildflower margin, at least along the new Flora path, which on a casual inspection was hosting quite a number of bumblebees in June this year.

Oliver Fulton
 16.8.19