

Suffield Community Woodland Vegetation Survey
'The Mound area'
Amy Eycott, 23 January 2005

Species Lists

(Refer to map for locations)

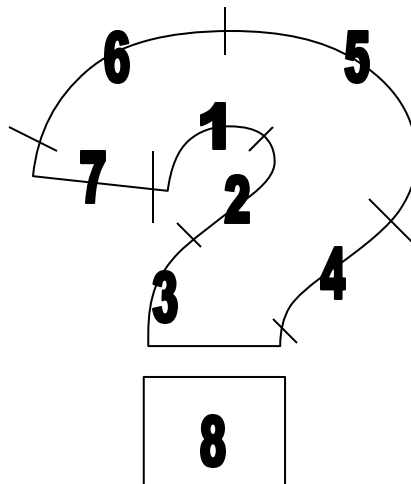
Area 1: Rubbley, sandy soil	
Mayweed species	<i>Matricaria sp.</i>
Grass clumps	<i>Holcus lanatus?</i>
Area 2: Loose sandy soil, some topsoil	
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum Officinale agg.</i>
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
Red Clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>
Mouse Ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Hedge Woundwort	<i>Stachys sp.</i>
White (Dutch) Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
Common Cat's-ear	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>
Creeping thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Perennial Sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Annual Meadow Grass	<i>Poa annua</i>
Small Sweet-grass	<i>Agrostis sp.</i>
Grass Clumps	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
Area 3: Loose rubblely soil especially at the very end	
Species as (2) but seedlings less abundant	
Area 4: More topsoil, still very sandy	
Species as (2) but seedlings less abundant	
Area 5: more topsoil, some clay	
Very grassy, grass is regenerating from soil or bits of root in the topsoil.	
Common nettle, presence suggests topsoil is very fertile	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Area 6: Sandy soil, some chalk	
Annual Meadow Grass	<i>Poa annua</i>
Common Chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>
(Both species very sparse)	
Area 7: Topsoil and builders spoil, sand with some clay	
Annual Meadow Grass	<i>Poa annua</i>
Grass Clumps	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
Cow Parsley (?)	<i>Anthriscus sp.</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Area 8 (the dot): Mixed rubble and topsoil	
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>

Grass Clumps	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Mouse Ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
White (Dutch) Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>

Surrounding area (en closed by current boundary to N and E, Path to S and maze site to W).
Species ranked on DAFOR scale (Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional, Rare)

D	Grass Clumps	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
A	Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
O	Cow Parsley (?)	<i>Anthriscus sp.</i>
O		<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>
R	Common Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>
F	Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
O	Mouse Ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
R	White (Dutch) Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
O	Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum Officinale agg.</i>
F	Red Fescue	<i>Festuca rubra</i>
O	Common nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>

Map



Management

The woodland site is almost certainly more fertile than the imported rubble, and so, without excessive soil disturbance occurring, eventually the local species could be expected to out compete any imported species, on flat ground. No 'nuisance' species were recorded on the mound, and the vegetation is regenerating in a promising fashion considering the poor, loose nature of the soil.

Initially, disturbed ground and the mound may suffer from undesirable growth of nettles, thistles and docks. These could be managed by cutting – the waste should not be in-situ, as the nutrients released through decomposition could exacerbate the problem. With time and appropriate cutting regimes (cut at haymaking time?). Grass should come to dominate, with some short herbaceous perennials such as dandelions and daisies.

Rabbits may pose a problem on site. There were a large number of dropping piles observed (~ 0.25 per m2). They may dig into the mound making it unstable. At the current rate of revegetation this may not be a problem. But people should be encouraged to stay off the mound until a

stronger grass sward is developed. This could be hastened by sowing *Poa annua* seeds, even at low densities, which would then form rapid cover until more permanent grass can establish.

Disclaimer

The author is not a botanist, not a landscape specialist. Any mistakes are entirely due to the author, but she cannot be held responsible if such mistakes lead to damage or mismanagement of the site.