Flora and fauna calendar Q3

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



Black Bryony



Brvonv.



Blackthorn



and woodlands.







Bramble









(3m).

Giant Hogweed





fungi including: death cap,

destroying angel, funeral

bell, webcap, fools funnel

• There are thousands of

different fungi species.

grow in a wide variety of

• If unsure, please consult

• They take many forms and

and dapperling.

habitats

a specialist.

✓ Wash hands





- 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.
- Dense shrub of hedgerows
 - finely toothed, and fivepetalled. • White flowers in spring.

• Small, oval leaves that are

- Thorns are on the end of branches or on elongated
- side shoots. • Fruiting sloe berries.
- Uk's most common fern.

Bracken

- Large branched triangular fronds, divided into three, that can reach over 1.5m in
- In autumn the fronds turn reddish-brown and die back to ground level.
- New fronds unfurl from the base in spring.

- A thorny, fruiting shrub of the rose family.
- Common along roadside verges.
- Jagged-edged leaves with five to seven oval leaflets.
- · Long trailing, thick arching, thorny stems. • White or pinkish flowers in
- summer • Blackberry fruit July to
- October.

Deadly Nightshade



- A shrubby looking herb found on chalky, disturbed ground often on verges.
- Oval pointed leaves that are pale green and strongly ribbed
- The flowers vary in colour
- from light purple to brown. • Berries are green at first, turning to shiny black, and look a little like cherries.
- Other species of nightshade are also poisonous.

✓ If touched, avoid touching

✓ Avoid touching

mouth

✓ Wash hands

Adult growth

Adult growth

Adult growth

Rose

Sap may cause severe rash

fully grown.

and flower tops.

- ✔ Report presence to landowner as it is an invasive species
- Flowers harmful Flowers harmful

Ground Fungi





- 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

Deadly if ingested

✓ Avoid touching ✓ If touched, avoid touching mouth

Adult growth flowering

✓ Wash hands

July **August**

Adult growth flowering September Adult growth berries

Spines have toxins which can cause infection. swelling and joint pain

- ✓ Wear thorn protecting aloves
- ✓ Wear protective clothing

Thorns present Thorns present Thorns present

Can be carcinogenic if indested

- ✓ Avoid touching ✓ If touched, avoid touching
- mouth ✓ Wash hands
 - Young growth Young growth Young growth

Stinging Nettle

All parts of the plant are deadly if indested

✓ Wear thorn-protecting gloves

Thorn scratches may

become infected

✓ Wear protective clothing

Thorns present Thorns present Thorns present

Common Ragwort

• Found on wasteland and

• Mass of daisy-like yellow

flowers between 30cm-

Deeply lobed leaves lying

flat on the ground to start

with then rising to about

derelict areas.

1.5m tall.

mouth

and blisters

· Large, white clusters of

• Hollow ridge stem, purple-

native hogweed when not

• Over winter the stems die

back and leave old stalks

spotted, and leaves are

flowers (up to 80cm).

large and divided.

Can be confused with

- ✓ Do not touch
- Flowers harmful

May be deadly if ingested

- ✔ Don't touch even if following a guidebook
- ✓ If touched, avoid touching mouth
- Fruiting body may be present Fruiting body may be present Fruiting body may be present

Thorn scratches may become infected

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

Thorns present Thorns present Thorns present

Hemlock Water Dropwort



spotted stems.



Japanese Knotweed











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

Annual Tree Fungi



- Often found along roadside Ganoderma, Honey Fungus and Shaggy Bracket varieties are non-toxic to humans but · Large umbel clusters of can cause decay and decline
- Can be seen all year round on roots and trunks.
- Sulphur tuft and fly agaric, while not fatal, can be toxic to humans or induce health issues.

Wild Parsnip

verges.

September.

90-120cm.

toothed edges.





Yew

- A slow growing tree often found in churchvards 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

ID

deadly if ingested

✓ Do not touch

summer.

- ✓ If touched, avoid touching mouth
- ✓ Wash hands

July Augus Septen

Only a tiny amount can be

• Grows in damp, wet habitat,

common along roadsides.

• Tall upright plant, purple-

• Its leaves are somewhat

divided and large with

distinctive mousy smell.

umbrella-like clusters in

• Flowers are small and white

celery-like in form, finely



• Common on waste

- grounds, riverbanks and roadside verges. · A tall plant with large triangular leaves. Leaves are initially purple/red then
- changing to green. • Hollow zig-zag purple/ red stems growing in tight
- clusters. • White, tufty flowers in spring and autumn.

Extremely invasive,

can damage structures

presence as it is a fast-

✔ Prevent spread by using

✓ Report landowner of

growing invasive

Leaves and stem have an irritant chemical causing hives/rash

• Very common on roadside

catkin flowers, oval toothed

verges on disturbed

Hairy stem, drooping

- ✓ 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

Thorn scratches may become infected

- ✓ Wear thorn-resistant gloves
- ✓ Wear protective clothing

Some are poisonous, harmful to trees causing tree failure

- ✓ Avoid touching ✓ If touched, avoid touching mouth

Sap from the leaves causes blisters and burns

yellow flowers on a thick

• A mature plant can grow

• Leaves are oval, alternate,

branched and have saw-

• Flowers from June to

✓ 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

		bio cleaning method		✓ Wash hands		✓ Wash hands		
	Adult growth	Adult plants	Adult growth	Growth stage	Thorns present	Fruiting bodies may be present	Adult growth	Foliage present
ust	Adult growth	Adult plants	Adult growth	Growth stage	Thorns present	Fruiting bodies may be present	Adult growth	Foliage present
tember	Adult growth	Flowers	Adult growth	Growth stage	Thorns present	Fruiting bodies may be present		Foliage present

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Leech

Adder





Asian Hornet







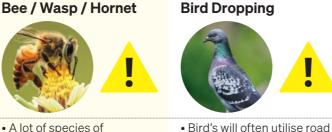


Hymenoptera occur within

• They are normally flying

insects with yellow and

black markings.







Brown Tail Moth

25mm long with 2 red dots

• Moths have white wings with

• Caterpillars only seen in the

winter inside the silk woven

white tents in hedges and

blackthorn and fruit trees.

brown bodies and tail.

on the back.

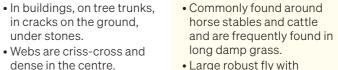
trees.





False Black Widow





· Large robust fly with prominent mouth parts and large eyes.

development.

- Varying colourations but usually dark brown with lighter brown marbling
- 6 species in the UK.

colours.

Present

Present

Present

• Bulbous abdomen.



Horsefly





- Commonly found in ponds and ditches
- Medicinal leeches are the largest leech in the UK growing to 20cm.
- Dark brown / black, with thin green, yellow and red stripes down the side.

Impacts &

July

ID

August

September

Prevention

- 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.

Venomous bite can

inflammation

✓ Do not touch

be painful and cause

✓ If seen, keep your distance

✓ Wear suitable footwear

✓ Stick to established paths

• Females are brownpatterned, black in male.

- 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.

Stings contain neurotoxin

✓ If seen, keep your distance

✓ Report sightings as it is an

• Legs with yellow tips.

that can kill if allergic

invasive species

reaction occurs

Active

Peak activity

Peak activity

 All Asian hornet sightings should be reported.

Active

Active

Active

the UK.

Sting using different chemicals, Allergic

- reactions may occur ✓ Keep your distance
- ✓ Avoid disturbance to hives
- ✓ Listen for buzzing noise

Oak Processionary Moth

Ingestion causes over 60 different diseases ✓ Wash hands and clean anv

structures to roost in.

• Bridges and underpasses

are especially susceptible

exposed skin ✓ Avoid putting hands in

mouth

Hairs are toxic, irritate human skin and cause breathing difficulties

• Caterpillars feed on

hawthorn, bramble,

- ✔ Don't touch, cover skin with gloves and clothing
- ✓ Keep your distance
- ✓ Be aware in summer

Adult moths Adult moths

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

✓ Only bite when threatened, keep your distance

✓ AVOIC
✓ Cove
✓ Don't

Active

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

• Female flies require a blood

meal before they are able

to reproduce effectively

and to aid in their egg

- Avoid walking in long grass
- er your skin 't wear perfume

Active Active

Incorrect removal or stress to the leech may cause bacterial infection

- ✓ Avoid having bare skin
- ✓ Medicinal leech is a protected species under **UK law**

Actively feeding Actively feeding Actively feeding

Midge

Active

Active

Active



humans.

midge





and terrapins.

Non-Native Reptile

• Species present within

often unwanted pets.

the UK are introduced and

• Commonly lizards, snakes





• Caterpillars have long, white hairs which contrast markedly

Present

Present

Present

- 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

Rat (Weil's Disease)



Adult moths





• Leptospirosis is a waterborne bacterial infection.

- Weil's disease is the development of leptospirosis.
- Bacteria harboured in the kidneys of a variety of animals cattle, deer, pigs, sheep, horses, dogs and rodents.
- Urine from animals, carried into water, could carry the bacteria.

Tick (Lyme disease)



- 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.

Prevention

July

August

September

may swell. May cause an

midges is the highland

- ✔ Avoid grasslands on damp davs in summer
- ✓ Insect repellent
- ✔ Avoid bare skin

Active

Active

Active

- or spitting

up to 200m from infestation

up to 200m from infestation

✔ Do not go near tents, caterpillars or known infestations

Tented nests, silk trails can be seen, hairs present

Adult moths, hairs present in nests, trees and surrounding area

Adult moths, hairs present in nests, trees and surrounding area

Less common are nausea and vomiting

- ✓ Carry and follow a leptospirosis card
- ✓ Cover open cuts and grazes
- ✓ Do not touch mouth and eyes
- ✓ Wash hands or shower

Circular 'bullseye' rash, flu like symptoms, if untreated can develop to Lyme Disease

- ✓ Avoid bare skin, wear clothing and gloves in grassy or wooded areas
- ✔ Regularly check clothes and skin
- ✓ Use tick removal tool

Active

Active

Active

Impacts &

Painful itchy bites which allergic reaction

small (about 3mm) flies.

• 40 midge species in the

UK but very few which bite

• The most common of biting

Reptiles may be venomous ✓ Listen for hissing, rattling

- ✓ Keep your distance do not
- ✔ Report any sightings

Active

Active

Active

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

- ✓ Keep your distance hairs can travel long distances in the

Fever, severe joint pain headache and chills, much like flu.

- ✓ Be aware of animals near water
- ✓ Avoid water edge activities

Leptospirosis present Leptospirosis present

Leptospirosis present

- ✓ Clean the bite area