

Spaunton Quarry, Appleton Le Moors Ryenats Trial Study 2014

Photos of flowers and insects [below](#)

Spaunton Quarry is a disused limestone quarry west of Appleton Le Moors, SE7187-SE7286. It measures approximately 1km × 1.5km. About half of the quarry is open access, predominantly the southern half. A public footpath crosses the area east-west. There are two clear excavated areas, the northern area is grassed over and not included in the open access. The southern area is bare ground, some of which is open access. Indeed, the open access runs south to the A170 allowing pedestrian access via here. Although this is the main access to the quarry for vehicles there is no access for public vehicles. Access is also gained via the footpath on the east and west sides and via a track off Gray Lane on the west side running along the south of Spring wood. On the west side of the quarry is a deciduous wooded strip running north-south. There is a dry river bed running north-south on the east of this wooded area. On the east of the quarry there is a conifer plantation as well as more recent deciduous planting. There are a number of spoil heaps. Quarrying stopped approximately 8 years ago.

As expected this area is rich in flora with eight species of orchid although not in great numbers. Key species include eight bee orchids, 17 fly orchids, three northern marsh orchids, nine pyramidal orchids and 11 fragrant orchids. Both adderstongue and common cudweed are two very welcome finds at this site and viper's bugloss, deadly nightshade and ploughmans spikenard are fairly well represented here.

Slightly surprising is the lack of birdlife although the list is by no means complete. The common buzzard is a frequent sighting with eight observed during one visit. Disappointingly, the sand martins failed to show this year. There has been a good-sized colony here in the last few years, including 2013.

Butterflies, 18 species in total, enjoy the rich flora at the quarry. Marbled white, dingy skipper and white-letter hairstreak were particularly interesting to see.

The study was undertaken by one member of Ryenats as a trial, focusing mainly on flora and butterflies during April-September with approximately two visits per month. It also included data collected on the Ryenats outdoor meeting here on 18 May. The study is by no means complete. Further visits by specialists in each field are likely to add to this data.

English Name	Latin Name
Adderstongue	<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>
Agrimony	<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>
Alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Avens water hybrid	<i>Geum rivale</i> x <i>urbanum</i>
Avens wood	<i>Geum urbanum</i>
Basil wild	<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>
Bedstraw heath	<i>Galium saxatile</i>
Bedstraw hedge	<i>Galium mollugo</i>
Bedstraw lady's	<i>Galium verum</i>

Bird's-foot- trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
Black meddick	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>
Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.
Bugle	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>
Burdock lesser	<i>Arctium minus</i>
Buttercup bulbous	<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>
Buttercup creeping	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Buttercup meadow	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>
Celandine lesser	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>
Centaury common	<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>
Centaury common white	<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>
Cinquefoil creeping	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>
Cleavers	<i>Galium aparine</i>
Colt's foot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
Common rock rose	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>
Common twayblade	<i>Listera ovata</i>
Cowslip	<i>Primula veris</i>
Crane's-bill cut-leaved	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>
Crane's-bill dove's-foot	<i>Geranium molle</i>
Crosswort	<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>
Cudweed common	<i>Filago vulgaris</i>
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum</i> agg.
Deadly nightshade	<i>Atropa belladonna</i>
Dock curled	<i>Rumex crispus</i>
Dock wood	<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>
Dogs mercury	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Elm wych	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>
Enchanter's nightshade	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>
Eyebright	<i>Euphrasia</i> agg.
Fairy flax	<i>Linum catharticum</i>
False oxlip	<i>Primula x polyantha</i>
Fern broad buckler	<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>
Fern lady	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>
Fern male	<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>
Field madder	<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>
Figwort common	<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>
Forget-me-not changing	<i>Myosotis discolor</i>

Forget-me-not field	<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>
Forget-me-not wood	<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>
Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>
Grass brome false	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
Grass cocksfoot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
Grass crested dogstail	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>
Grass tufted hair	<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>
Grass Yorkshire fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
Great mullein	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>
Ground ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>
Guelder rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>
Hawkweed mouse-ear	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Cratargus monogyna</i>
Hedge woundwort	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>
Herb robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>
Knapweed common	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
Lady's mantle	<i>Alchemilla vestita</i>
Lesser trefoil	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>
Lord and ladies	<i>Arum maculatum</i>
Meadowsweet	<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>
Milkwort common	<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>
Moschatel	<i>Adoxa moschatellina</i>
Mouse-ear common	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
Mullein great	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>
Nettle stinging	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Orchid bee	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>
Orchid common spotted	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>
Orchid common twayblade	<i>Listera ovata</i>
Orchid early purple	<i>Orchis mascula</i>
Orchid fly	<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>
Orchid fragrant	<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>
Orchid northern marsh	<i>Dactylorhiza purpurella</i>
Orchid pyramidal	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>
Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>
Parsley piert	<i>Aphanes arvensis</i>
Pearlwort procumbent	<i>Sagina procumbens</i>
Pignut	<i>Conopodium majus</i>
Plantain ribwort	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>

Ploughman's spikenard	<i>Inula conyzae</i>
Poppy welsh	<i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>
Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Ramsons	<i>Allium ursinum</i>
Raspberry	<i>Rubus idaeus</i>
Red bartsia	<i>Odontites vernus</i>
Red campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>
Red clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>
Rosebay willowherb	<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>
Rush hard	<i>Juncus inflexus</i>
Sandwort three-nerved	<i>Moehringia trinervia</i>
Sandwort thyme-leaved	<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>
Scarlet pimpernel	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>
Sedge carnation	<i>Carex panicea</i>
Sedge glaucous	<i>Carex flacca</i>
Sedge pale	<i>Carex pallescens</i>
Sedge pill	<i>Carex pilulifera</i>
Sedge spring	<i>Carex caryophyllea</i>
Sedge star	<i>Carex echinata</i>
Sedge wood	<i>Carex sylvatica</i>
Selfheal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>
Sheep's sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>
Silverweed	<i>Potentilla anserina</i>
Sow thistle prickly	<i>Sonchus asper</i>
Speedwell germander	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Speedwell heath	<i>Veronica officinalis</i>
Speedwell thyme-leaved	<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>
Speedwell wall	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>
Speedwell wood	<i>Veronica montana</i>
St John's-wort hairy	<i>Hypericum hirsutum</i>
Stitchwort lesser	<i>Stellaria graminea</i>
Stork's-bill	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>
Strawberry barren	<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>
Strawberry wild	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>
Thistle creeping	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Thistle marsh	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>
Thistle musk	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
Thistle spear	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>
Thistle welted x1	<i>Carduus crispus</i>

Toadflax common	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>
Tormentil	<i>Potentilla erecta</i>
Vetch common	<i>Vicia sativa</i>
Vetch tufted	<i>Vicia cracca</i>
Vetchling meadow	<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>
Violet common dog	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
Violet early dog	<i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>
Violet hairy	<i>Viola hirta</i>
Violet sweet	<i>Viola odorata</i>
Vipers Bugloss	<i>Echium vulgare</i>
White clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
Whitlowgrass common	<i>Erophila verna</i> agg.
Wild thyme	<i>Thymus polytrichus</i>
Willowherb broadleaved	<i>Epilobium montanum</i>
Willowherb great	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>
Woodrush field	<i>Luzula campestris</i>
Wood sorrel	<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Yellow pimpernel	<i>Lysimachia nemorum</i>



Adderstongue



Common Cudweed



Viper's Bugloss



Viper's Bugloss (detail)



Common centaury (typical form)



Common centaury (white form)



Hedge bedstraw



Northern marsh orchid



Fly orchid



Bee orchid



Marbled white butterfly



Small skipper butterflies coupled



White letter hairstreak butterfly on elm



Dingy skipper butterfly



Clouded silver moth



Common blue butterfly



Mullein moth caterpillar



Cinnabar moth larvae on common ragwort



Narrow-bordered five spot burnet moth just on the wing

[Top](#)