

## POLLEN ANALYSIS — A Brief Note

During the 1966 archaeological expedition a series of soil samples was taken, by our member Miss Rhoma Simpson, through the soil of the apparently Iron Age field plots south of halfway wall.

The hope was that minute grains of pollen, 2000 years old perhaps, would still be preserved in the soil and would reflect the ecological changes brought about by man.

The method was to dig through the field surface revealing a vertical section from which one inch cores were extracted, numbered and sealed in polythene bags.

Analysis was carried out by Professor G. W. Dimbleby of the London University Institute of Archaeology, and it was shown that the soil conditions on Lundy were indeed suitable for pollen preservation.

The old agricultural surface was encountered 4 inches down, reflected in the pollen by the occurrence of cereals, clover etc., and by the appearance after agriculture ceased of such plants as Calluna, Erica and Potentilla.

Further samples were taken in 1969 from soils sealed beneath old field and hut walls and it is hoped to be able to provide a full report in the next Proceedings.

K.S.G.

## SOME NOTES ON LUNDY FLORA

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These notes are the result of observations made in August 1968 and August 1969. I have not observed Trees, Rushes, Grasses or Ferns and I have not (obviously) observed the spring flowers.

Blackberries and Wild Roses I have not observed, the latter because of their June/July flowering; the former because they are a study on their own, needing more time than I have at the moment.

Within strict limits then, and using the list of Flora in chapter 18 of A. F. Langham's *Lundy* as a basis from which to work, I have noted the following plants. If a plant is not on my list I did not see it; or did not look for it and where I have seriously doubted a plant as growing on Lundy I have said so.

If a reader has seen a plant that I have said I believe may not grow on Lundy, will that reader please write to me saying when and where it was seen so that I may look this year.

L.=In Langham's *Lundy*.

NL=Not in Langham's *Lundy*.

KM=Keble Martin's *Concise British Flora in Colour*.

CTW=Clapham, Tutin and Warburg's *Flora of the British Isles* (C.U.P.).

- Moorland Crowfoot *Ranunculus omiophyllus* (NL)  
Lesser Spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, var. *tenuifolius* (NL)  
Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens*  
Common Watercress *Nasturtium officinale* (L). Watercress *Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum* and *Nasturtium officinale* (KM)  
Hairy Bitter Cress *Cardamine hirsuta*  
Stalked (KM) Danish (L) Scurvy grass *Cochlearia danica*  
Common Hedge Mustard (L) Hedge Mustard (KM) *Sisymbrium officinale*  
Lundy Cabbage *Rhynchosinapis wrightii* (L) *R. wrightii*/*Brassicella wrightii* (KM)  
Shepherd's Purse *Capsella bursa-pastoris*  
Lesser Wartcress *Coronopus didymus* (L) Wartcress *C. squamatus* (KM)  
Swinecress *Coronopus squamatus* (L) *C. didymus* (KM)  
Hoary Rock Rose *Helianthemum canum* (NL)  
Dog 1 (L) Common (KM) Violet *Viola riviniana*  
Common Milkwort *Polygala vulgaris*  
Evening or White Campian *Melandrium alba* (L) White Campian *Silene*