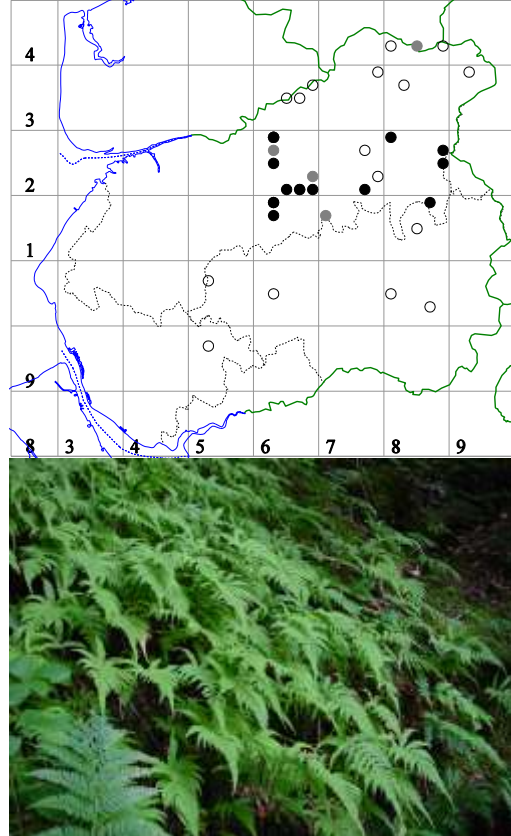


The South Lancashire Flora
(Vascular Plants Family 015 Thelypteridaceae)

LEPTOSPORANGIATE FERNS TRUE FERNS

THELYPTERIDACEAE Marsh Fern family

Phegopteris connectilis (Michaux) Watt Beech Fern



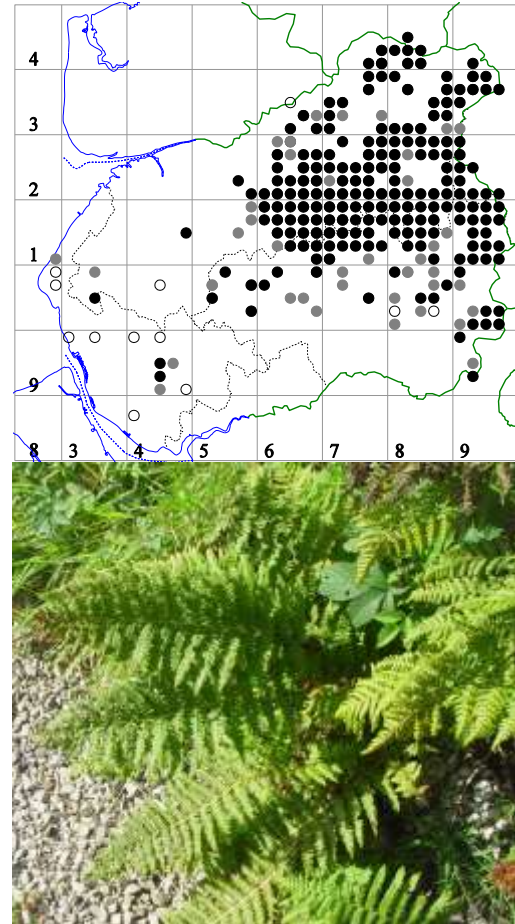
Pleasington DP Earl 2012

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England), SCINWE; Axiophyte, occasional to locally frequent in river valleys and cloughs from the Darwen Valley and West Pennine Moors eastwards.

Habitat: In old woodland cloughs on wooded banks by stream sides, under shady overhangs in upland cloughs.

Comments: Usually very localised where plants occur, however, in some woodlands the populations extend over a considerable area. The former populations to the south of the West Pennine Moors and South Pennines are considered extinct.

Oreopteris limbosperma (Bellardi ex All.) Holub
Lemon-scented Fern



Smithills Dean DP Earl 2020

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); Axiophyte. Common in the hill districts with localised populations in cloughs at lower altitudes, very local elsewhere.

Habitat: Cloughs, moorland streams and flushes, wet heaths and stream sides through acid grasslands, developing acidic marshes on former industrial sites, around the flashes on the coal measures, along railway embankments; rare in dune-slacks and in woodlands on the former mosslands.

Comments: A typical species of moorland cloughs in the Pennines; populations declined on the lowland heaths following drainage, peat extraction and reclamation for arable farming.