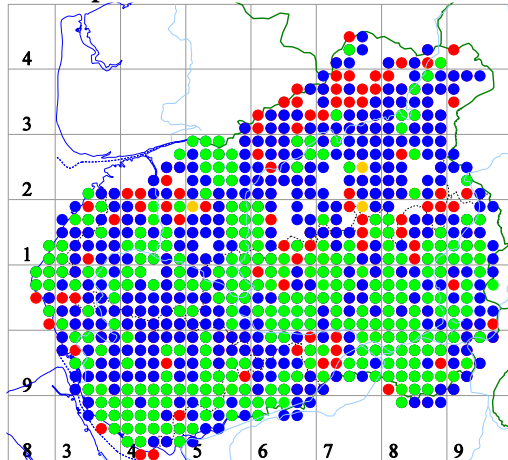


BETULACEAE

Birch family

***Betula pendula* Roth**

Silver Birch



Ainsdale DP Earl 2008

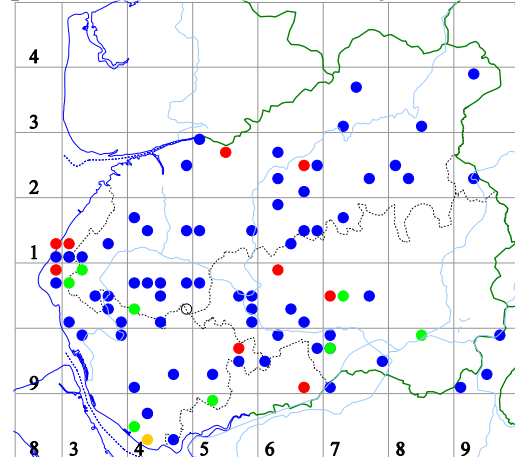
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); common throughout except on the higher waterlogged moorlands, reclaimed lower Ribble marshes and the adjacent saltmarshes.

Habitat: Woods, scrub, sand-dunes, heaths, dry peat mosses, railway ballast and waste ground.

Comments: Generally, the most common species on drier ground. Many populations may have originated from the wind-blown seeds of planted trees (EF Greenwood per. comm.).

Betula x aurata* Borkh. = *B. pendula* x *B. pubescens

Hybrid Birch

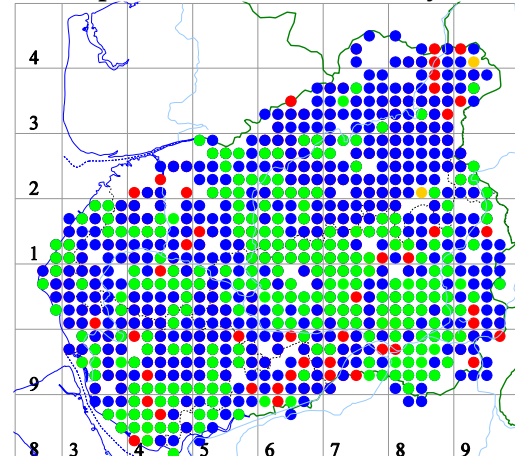


Status & distribution: Native; intermediate looking plants are common and widespread, but such plants are perhaps within the range of variation of the parental species.

Comments: First recorded from Holland Moss, Rainford (WG Travis, 1910 conf. ES Marshall). Marshall commented "On the whole nearer to *pubescens*, but there are good signs of the other".

***Betula pubescens* Ehrh.**

Downy Birch

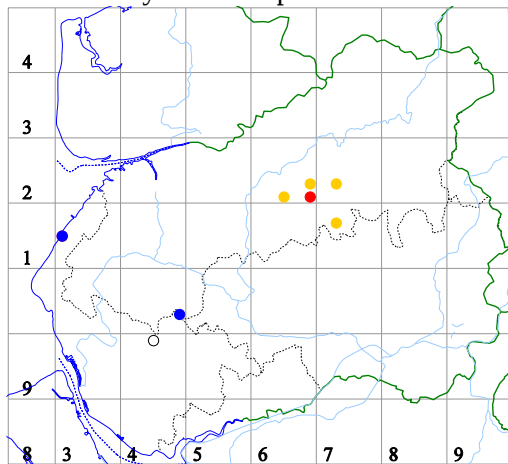


Sweetclough, Padiham DP Earl 2008

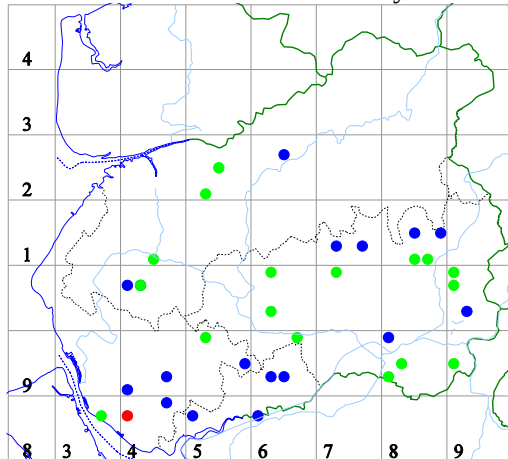
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); common and widespread, more common on the higher ground where it replaces *B. pendula*.

Habitat: Woods and scrub especially on wet and peaty soils, wet heaths, bogs, waterlogged railway scrub, wooded cloughs in the hill districts; scrub and developing woodland on sand-dunes and in dune-slacks.

Comments: Generally, on damper soils than *B. pendula*; P Jepson suggests that upland populations appear close or even conspecific with *B. pubescens* ssp. *tortuosa* (Ledeb.) Nyman; fragrant trees occurring amongst the sand-dunes at Hillside may also be ssp. *tortuosa*.



***Betula utilis* D. Don** Himalayan Birch



Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; widely planted.

Earliest record traced: Calderstones Park (SJ4087, A Mitchell & V Hallett, 1988).

Habitat: Amenity tree plantings.

Comments: Native to the Indian Subcontinent, China and Afghanistan.

This species is assumed to be under-recorded and likely to become more common as a planted tree in due course. It is thought that records of *Betula papyrifera* Marshall (Paper-bark Birch) may belong here.

***Betula nigra* L.** Red Birch; River Birch

Status & distribution: Neophyte-planted; Scutchers Acres (SD4510, J Watt, 2013). A tree at Worden Park (SD5320, DP & J Earl, 2020) has been labelled as this species but requires confirmation.

Habitat: Mixed plantation.

Comments: Native to North America.

***Betula nana* L.** Dwarf Birch

Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; planted at the head of Duckshaw Brook, Darwen Moors (SD62Q, P Jepson, 1978) and still present.

Habitat: Moorland heath.

Comments: A record for Martin Mere (SD41H, comm. PJ Wisniewski, 1990) is considered dubious or planted and further details are required.

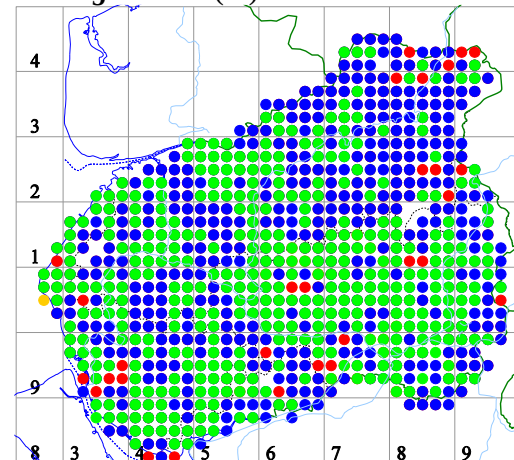
***Betula populifolia* Marshall** Grey Birch

Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; planted along the edge of Walmersley Golf Course, Birtle Edge (SD8213, DP & J Earl, 2024).

Habitat: Plantation strip.

Comments: Native to eastern-north America.

***Alnus glutinosa* (L.) Gaertner** Alder





Birkdale DP Earl 2008

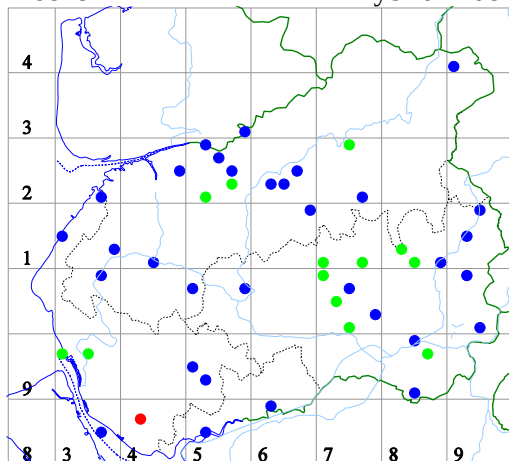
Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); common throughout except on the reclaimed marshes north of Banks and Tarleton and high moorland. Distribution much enhanced by recent planting schemes especially in urban areas.

Habitat Wet woodland, riverbanks and canal fringes, hedgerows on damp soils; locally abundant along the spring-tide watermarks at Birkdale Green Beach.

Comments: The var. *laciniata* has been recorded as a planted tree from the grounds of Little Crosby Hall (SJ39F) & Knowsley Park (SJ49M) by JD Massey in 1939 and has been planted at Worden Park arboretum (SD5320, DP & J Earl, 2020).

Alnus x hybrida A Braun ex Rchb. = *A. glutinosa* (L.) Gaertner x *A. incana* (L.) Moench

Hybrid Alder



Widnes DP Earl 2009

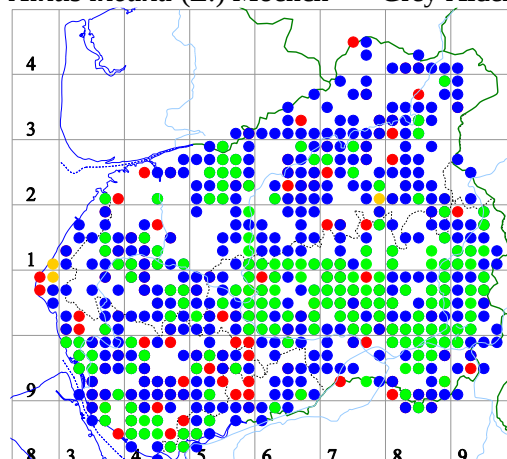
Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving.

Earliest record traced: Lea Park (SJ48I, V Gordon, 1998, LIV).

Habitat: Recent tree and shrub planting areas.

Comments: Although there are a limited number of records this taxon is probably more widely planted and under-recorded.

Alnus incana (L.) Moench Grey Alder



Churchtown DP Earl 2005

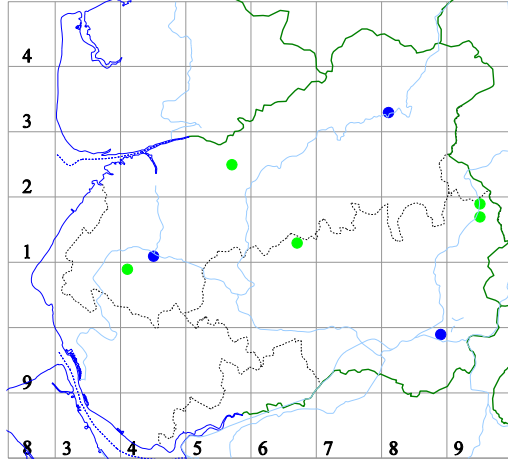
Status & distribution: Neophyte-established; now widely distributed because of tree planting schemes.

Earliest record traced: Known to be established in the Formby area (SD20) prior to 1950.

Habitat: Tree and shrub planting areas many of which have now developed to woodland.

Comments: Native to mainland Europe.

Alnus rubra Bong. Red Alder



Withy Grove Park DP Earl 2021

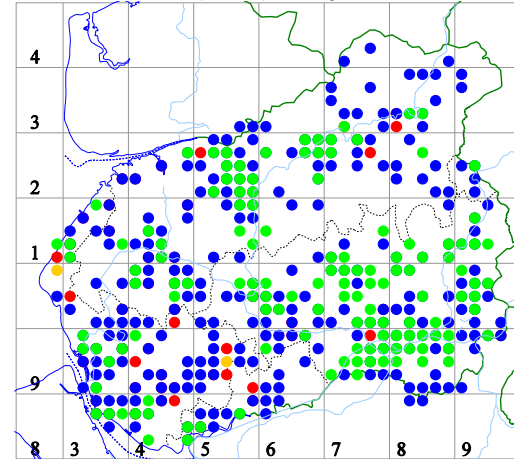
Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised-surviving; scarce but overlooked.

Earliest record traced: Padiham old railway (SD82B, CS Crook, 2006),

Habitat: Amenity plantings and self sown along the Rochdale Canal north of Littleborough.

Comments: Native to America. Like *Alnus incana* but with thinly rolled back leaf margins.

Alnus cordata (Lois.) Duby Italian Alder



Sweetclough, Padiham DP Earl 2008

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised; now widely established.

Earliest record traced: Ainsdale NNR (SD2809, K Payne, 1982).

Habitat: Recently planted tree and shrub areas, waste ground, on railway ballast and along canal towpath margins.

Comments: Native to Italy and Corsica. Self-sown plants are now rapidly spreading to land adjacent to the planted areas and can form dense stands.

Alnus viridis (Chaix) DC. Green Alder

Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; planted and perhaps self-sown at Sunnybank Woodland Park (SJ5387, S McWilliam, 2007); Childwall Woods (SJ4188, H Harris, 2013); one mature tree planted near roadside, Mill Lane, Kirkby (SJ4099, J Handley, 2015).

Comments: Native to mainland Europe.

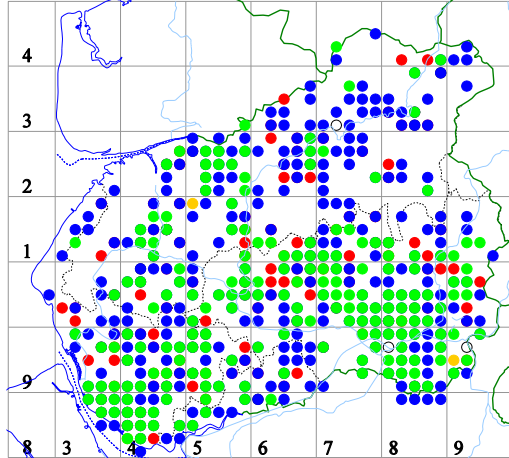
Alnus japonica (Thunb.) Steud.

Japanese Alder

Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; planted at Ightenhill Park, Burnley (SD8233, DP & J Earl, 2012).

Comments: Native to China, Japan and Eastern Russia. The tree at the above location is possibly this species. The leaves are long and cherry like.

Carpinus betulus L. Hornbeam



Parbold DP Earl 2009

Status & distribution: Neophyte-naturalised-surviving; now widespread at lower altitudes.

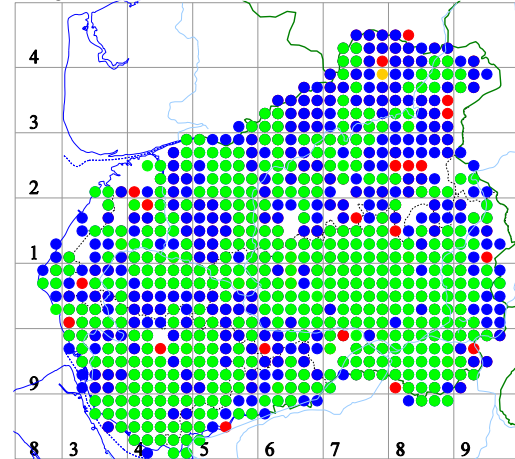
Earliest record traced: Known to have been planted since Victorian times, as at Hough End (SJ89G, no date) where original plantings are considered to survive (per. comm. AR Locksley

Habitat: Woods, parklands, hedgerows and municipal plantings.

Comments: Formerly a localised plant the distribution is now considerably increased due to recent urban and suburban planting schemes. Plants are regenerating at some locations.

Corylus avellana L.

Hazel



Rose Grove, Burnley DP Earl 2008





Ormskirk DP Earl 2010

Status & distribution: Native, Least Concern (Red List for England); widespread but not common at higher altitudes, the intensive arable farming areas and built-up areas where extensive planting has not been undertaken.

Habitat: Woodlands and hedgerows in rural districts and river valleys, in amenity areas about the industrial towns and cities.

Comments: A purple-leaved variant of Hazel which also has purple tinged catkins is widely planted.



Parbold DP Earl 2009

***Corylus avellana* L. x *C. maxima* Mill.**

Kentish Cobs

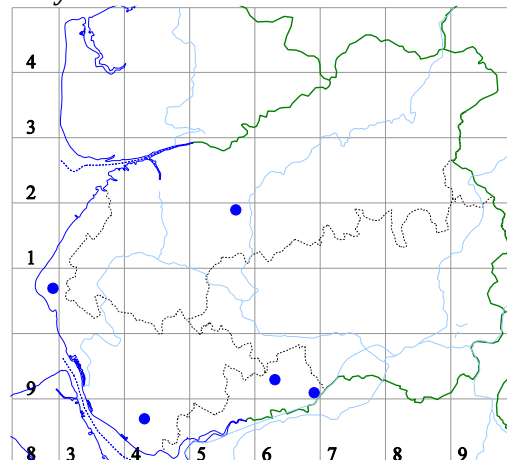
Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving; there are records from Gallow's Croft, Newton-le-Willows (SJ5994, Unknown, 1981); Clitheroe (SD7742, MP Wilcox, 2011); Scutchers Acres (SD4510, det.MP Wilcox).

Habitat: Amenity planting of trees and shrubs.

Comments: Possibly of horticultural-origin.

***Corylus maxima* Mill.**

Filbert



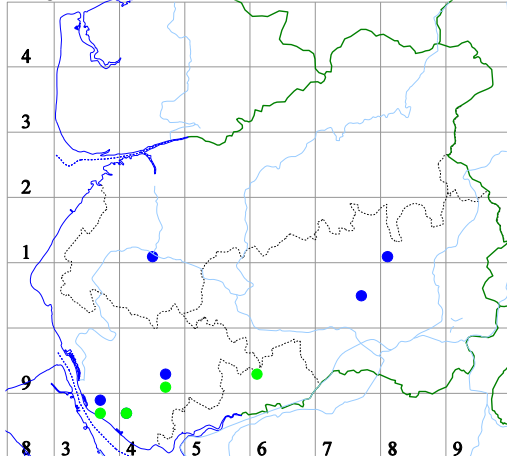
Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving.

Earliest record traced: The Evergreens, Formby (SD2807, JP Howson, 2001).

Habitat: In parks and amongst shrub plantings.

Comments: Native to the south-eastern Europe and south-west Asia. The records required confirmation and may be confused with Kentish Cobs, vigorous forms of Hazel or the purple-leaved form of Hazel.

***Corylus colurna* L.** Turkish Hazel



Calderstones Park SJ Marley 2021



Sefton Park SJ McWilliam 2023



Calderstones Park SJ McWilliam 2021

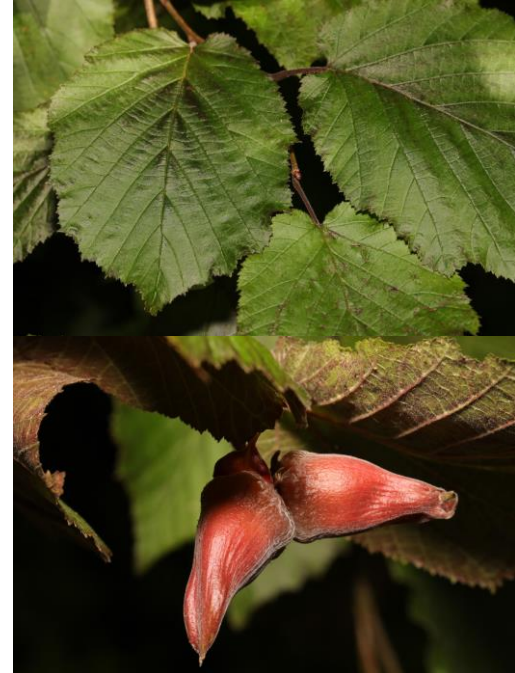
Status & distribution: Neophyte-surviving.

Earliest record traced: Scutcher's Acres (SD4510, J Watt, 2011).

Habitat: In plantations and arboreta as a feature of municipal parks and urban car parks.

Comments: Native to south-eastern Europe and south-western Asia. A letter from A Stevenson indicates this species occurred in South Lancashire prior to the above records. The spiny involucre is a most distinctive character.

***Corylus cornuta* Marshall** Beaked Hazel



Status & distribution: Neophyte-planted; Wavertree Botanical Gardens (SJ3790, SJ McWilliam & S Marley, 2020).

Comments: Native to North America.