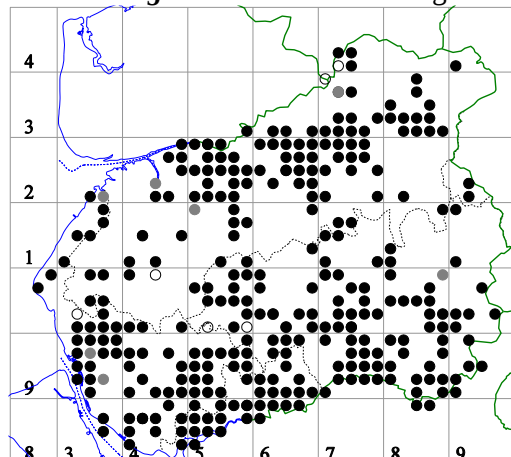


## CORNACEAE

### Dogwood family

#### *Cornus sanguinea* L.

#### Dogwood



Widnes DP Earl 2009

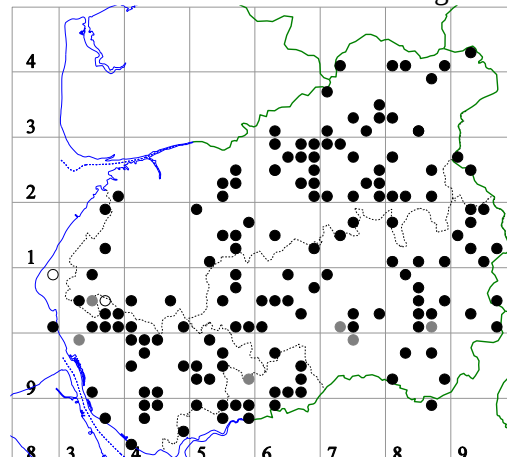
**Status & distribution:** Native & Neophyte-surviving, Axiophyte as a native plant; localised as a native plant in the Ribble catchment, widely established elsewhere as an introduction.

**Habitat:** Hedgerows and woods in the limestone district and on clay soils; planted and regenerating in country parks, urban amenity areas and spreading to nearby habitats such as disused railways.

**Comments:** The planted populations are likely to be *ssp. australis* (C.A. Mey.) Jáv. The *ssp. sanguinea* is probably scarce as native bushes in old hedgerows or earlier plantings.

#### *Cornus sericea* L.

#### Red-osier Dogwood



Cuerden Valley Country Park DP Earl 2020

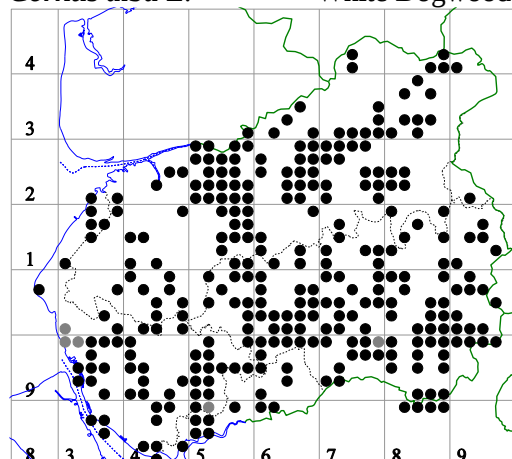
**Status & distribution:** Neophyte-naturalised; once a localised feature of plantations and hedges, now considered widespread in urban areas as a planted shrub.

**Earliest records traced:** Probably from Thornley Holme (SD83K, H Robinson, n.d.). The first dated record is from Lydiate (SD30S, JD Massey, 1940).

**Habitat:** Woods, hedges, roadsides, canal towpaths, amenity plantings particularly in country parks.

**Comments:** Native to North America. Records of older plantings are almost certainly this species, but records of more recent plantings may be errors as this plant is easily confused with the now extensively planted *Cornus alba*. Note that additional varieties are commonly planted including the yellow stemmed 'flava'

*Cornus alba* L. White Dogwood



Cuerden Valley Country Park DP Earl 2008

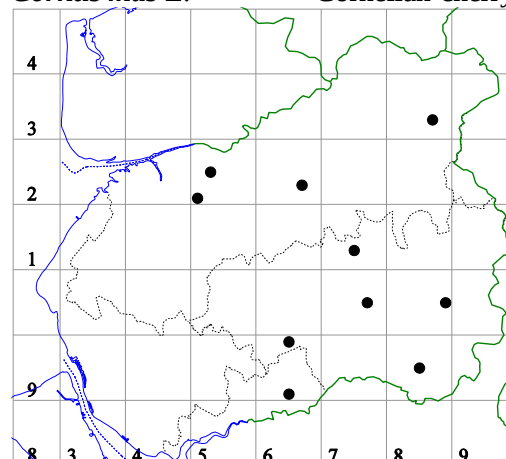
**Status & distribution:** Neophyte-naturalised; widespread in urban areas.

**Habitat:** Planted along roadsides, canals and in amenity areas particularly in country parks.

**Earliest record traced:** Ladywell, Eccles (SJ79Z, DP Earl, 1991) but the species was almost certainly widely planted prior to that date.

**Comments:** Native to Eurasia. This species has very characteristic red stems as a young shrub, the re-growth of which can be encouraged by harsh pruning in cultivation. When permitted to grow to maturity shrubs can appear very similar to *C. sericea* and there is probably a considerably amount of confusion of the records for *C. alba* and *C. sericea* which are very similar in appearance and are often planted together. It may be the case that the two species are "one and the same" and merely geographical derivatives of a common ancestor. Note that additional varieties are commonly planted including the variegated leaved form.

*Cornus mas* L. Cornelian-cherry



Farington DP Earl 2008

**Status & distribution:** Neophyte-surviving; localised plantings across the vice-county.

**Earliest record traced:** Longbarn, east of Warrington (SJ6490, D Nash & MPG Tolfree, 1998).

**Habitat:** Shrub plantings in woodlands, arboreta, country parks and along roadsides.

**Comments:** Native to central and south-eastern Europe.

*Cornus suecica* L. Dwarf Cornel

**Status & distribution:** Native, [Near Threatened \(Red List for England\)](#).

Formerly extinct but now re-established; very local at what was the southernmost limit for the British Isles on Turton Moor (SD61Z); last recorded by P Jepson c.1977 but two populations are being established.

**Habitat:** Moist peat moorland.



**Additional comments:** The following extensive account has kindly been provided by P Jepson. Plants were discovered on Turton Moor (WH Western, c. 1900). There were believed to be three populations, these

populations may have been lost to the burning, drying out of the moors and over collecting. WH Western letter dated 1931 to the assistant keeper Miss Wigglesworth (MANCH) states “enclosing a few plants from its only Lancashire station” there being 21 specimens on one sheet and 7 on another!

Dwarf Cornel was first found by W.H. Western in 1900 (Western 1910; Savidge 1963) at two localities on Turton Moor, the first at 340m and a second larger at 370m. A further colony was found in 1953 about a mile away by A. Hazlewood, although the location of this third locality never became generally known. In 1961 well over 100 plants were seen on Turton Moor (Savidge 1963). It appears that the population was formerly sizeable as anecdotal information (J Ainsworth pers.com. former Hon. Sec. Blackburn Naturalists' Field Club) told that children from local farms were in the habit of collecting the fruits to eat. Herbarium specimens from Turton Moor are housed at The Manchester Museum (three specimens), Bolton Museum (one specimen) and Fleetwood Museum (one specimen).

Around the late 1960s part of the population at the second locality was fenced against grazing; however, the vegetation within the enclosure became overgrown by Wavy Hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*) by 1970 (P Jepson, unpublished). Also in 1970 a devastating fire swept across Turton Moor and burnt deep into the peat. The first locality was completely destroyed whilst the second was significantly affected. The following year (1971) the population at the second locality was monitored (P Jepson, unpublished) and found to comprise 32 non-flowering shoots. From 1972 to 1976 no flowers were produced and the number of shoots recorded were 22, 11, 9, 3, and 2 respectively. In 1977 no shoots were found and none have been observed during periodic inspections since. These plants grew in very closely grazed *Vaccinium myrtillus* (Bilberry); it is suggested that the density of the Bilberry growth, due to the intensive sheep grazing, was the chief cause of the extinction.

The third locality has remained a mystery. However, in spring 2003 a former locality was shown to S Martin and P Jepson and others on Darwen Moor by Jim Ingham, a former gamekeeper. As this locality is approximately one mile from those on Turton Moor, it is assumed that the third and the Darwen Moor localities are one and the same.

***Cornus kousa*** Hance. Kousa Dogwood

**Status & distribution:** Neophyte-surviving; locations include Ashton Canal (West) SBI (SJ8698, D Wallace, 2016); Calderstones Park (SJ4087, Merseyside Biobank, 2017) and Fletcher Moss Gardens.

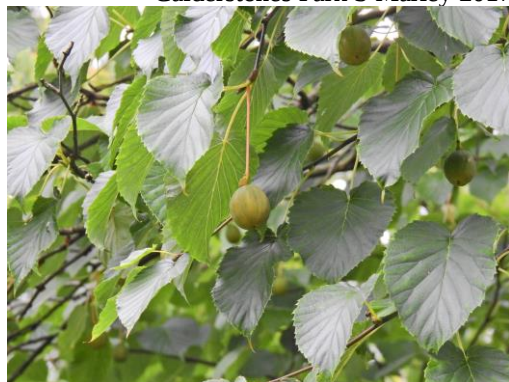
**Comments:** Native to Japan & Korea.

***Davidia involucrata*** Baill

Handkerchief-tree; Dove Tree



Calderstones Park S Marley 2017



Calderstones Park S Marley 2021

**Status & distribution:** Neophyte-surviving; Calderstones Park (SJ4087, A Mitchell & V Hallett, 1988) and still present; also planted at Parrs Wood Environmental Centre (SJ8590, H Bickley, 2013).

**Comments:** Native to China.