

CHAROPHYTES FROM THORNE MOORS

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The records of charophytes or stoneworts (Chlorophyta, Characeae) from Thorne Moors are relatively few, although at least six taxa have been noted during more than a century of recording. These are detailed below, taxonomic sequence and nomenclature following Moore (1986).

Chara vulgaris L.: Listed by Woodruffe-Peacock (1920-21), under "Ditches or Their Sides", with the additional comment "also pools and wells". It is not known which var. was encountered.

C. vulgaris L. var. *vulgaris*: Located in 1987 in a drain on the eastern edge of former wasteland associated with Thorne Colliery. This area, now extensively covered with Common Reed *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Steudel, lies between the colliery and Inkle Moor.

C. vulgaris var. *longibracteata* (Kütz.) J. Groves and Bullock-Webster: Documented by Woodruffe-Peacock (1920-21), who included the taxon under "Ditches or Their Sides", with the qualification "under warp influence in narrow drains". This record was quoted by Bunting *et al.* (1969).

C. hispida L.: Noted by Woodruffe-Peacock (1920-21), who placed it under "Ditches or Their Sides". The var. involved is not known.

C. globularis var. *virgata* (Kütz.) R. D. Wood: Occurs in one of the 'northern' canals (as defined by Smart *et al.* 1986). First detected in 1982, and still present in 1987.

Nitella flexilis (L.) Agardh var. *flexilis*: Noted by J. M. Taylor (annotated textbooks; Bunting *et al.* 1969), who died in 1947.

[*Tolypella intricata* (Trent. ex Roth) Leonh.: Recorded from Goole Fields, but close to the northern edge (7520), by Thos. Birks jnr in 1882 (Lees 1888, Sledge 1934, Bunting *et al.* 1969, Moore and Greene 1983)].

T. nidifica var. *glomerata* (Desv.) R. D. Wood: Woodruffe-Peacock (1920-21) logged this species under "Ditches or Their Sides", adding that it occurred in "pools too". This was apparently derived from fieldwork by Woodruffe-Peacock and W. T. Humphrey, probably during the 1870's. The details were repeated by Sledge (1934) and Bunting *et al.* (1969). The only subsequent record is of specimens found in 1987, in the drain from which *Chara vulgaris* var. *vulgaris* (q.v.) was also collected.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to B. C. Eversham for the 1982 details of *Chara globularis* var. *virgata*. Mrs. J. A. Moore has identified specimens of charophytes collected by the writer in 1987, and has kindly checked a draft of this paper prior to publication. J. M. Taylor's annotated textbooks are held at Doncaster Museum.

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