Wet heath and Mire

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the species recovery trust

Extract from 'A Field Guide to Grasses, Sedges and Rushes' © The Species Recovery Trust

Agrostis canina	Velvet Bent
Carex demissa	Common Yellow Sedge
Carex echinata	Star Sedge
Carex nigra	Common Sedge
Carex panicea	Carnation Sedge
Carex pulicaris	Flea Sedge
Eleocharis multicaulis	Many-stemmed Spike-rush
Eleogiton fluitans	Floating Club-rush
Eriophorum angustifoliu	m Common Cottongrass
Eriophorum vaginatum	Hare's-tail Cottongrass
Isolepis setacea	Bristle Club-rush
	Dilistie Ciub-i usii
Juncus acutiflorus	Sharp-flowered Rush
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Juncus acutiflorus	Sharp-flowered Rush
Juncus acutiflorus Juncus articulatus	Sharp-flowered Rush Jointed Rush
Juncus acutiflorus Juncus articulatus Juncus bulbosus	Sharp-flowered Rush Jointed Rush Bulbous Rush
Juncus acutiflorus Juncus articulatus Juncus bulbosus Juncus conglomeratus	Sharp-flowered Rush Jointed Rush Bulbous Rush Compact rush
Juncus acutiflorus Juncus articulatus Juncus bulbosus Juncus conglomeratus Juncus squarrosus	Sharp-flowered Rush Jointed Rush Bulbous Rush Compact rush Heath Rush

Damp heaths and mires support some of the most unusual and distinctive graminoids, many of which are adapted to almost continuous inundation, as well as low nutrient and acidic conditions.

Sedges (and their allies) become a much more dominant feature, with the dampest habitats supporting no true grasses at all.

Acidic habitats do tend to support a fairly predictable assemblage of these species. However in base-rich environments this becomes more complex, with several of the rare sedges occurring.

