



**Survey of the Grassland Fungi
of the Vice County of West Donegal
Addendum 2011**

David Mitchel

The original project in 2009 received support from the Heritage
Council under the Wildlife Grant Scheme
Grant Reference No. 16761

Contents

Contents	2
Aims of this project.....	3
Methodology	3
Results.....	3
Weather and Fungal Fruiting	3
Summary Results.....	3
Notable Finds.....	4
Other Interesting Species.....	5
New Vice County Records	8
10km square and Site Rankings.....	8
Comparisons to other areas	11
10km and Site Details	12
Acknowledgements	21
Bibliography	21

Aims of this project

In 2009, the Heritage Council gave a grant for a two week field survey “Survey of the Grassland Fungi of the Vice County of West Donegal”. The final report for this survey is available for download on the Northern Ireland Fungus Group website at www.nifg.org.uk/download.htm (Mitchel, 2009). This survey was a rapid survey of a vice county that has been very sparsely recorded looking for sites of high grassland fungal diversity. It involved a desktop study identifying possible sites within each 10km square in the vice county using maps, aerial photographs and GIS data layers. Then as many sites and 10km squares are visited in the available time as possible. There are 49 x 10km squares in West Donegal (although some of these have very small amounts of lands within them). In the 2009 survey, 64 sites in 36 x 10km squares were visited.

The aim of this privately funded three day trip to West Donegal between 27-29 October 2011 was to visit some sites and squares that were not originally visited due to bad weather or a lack of time and to visit some other sites that had been interesting and for which follow up survey had been recommended.

Methodology

The methodology was the same as the original survey and this is discussed in the original report.

Results

Weather and Fungal Fruiting

Strong winds were again a feature of this short visit but despite this, the boat did get out to Tory Island. In terms of fungal fruiting, fruiting was good and not affected by adverse weather (frosts or excessive rain). *Entolomas* were sparsely fruiting and *Geoglossaceae* were not in abundance indicating that this was in the “middle” of the waxcap fruiting period (see discussion in original report).

Summary Results

Five 10km squares were visited in the north of the vice county with two of these squares having had no previous mycological records at all. The 10km squares B84 (Tory Island) and B94 (Crockaclogher on the north west corner of the Horn Head peninsula) were visited for the first time with the sites, the site Pollaguill in B93 was visited for the first time and the sites Dooley Peninsula (B93 / B83), Rinardalliff Point on the Bloody Foreland (B83), Tramore Dunes (C03 / B93) and Marfagh Head (B93) were all revisited.

The notable site in this visit was Marfagh Head. In the original report this “site” was lumped in with Tramore Dunes which was not a good idea as, although adjacent, they are very different in character. Tramore Dunes is an enormous area of sand dune whilst the grassland of Marfagh Head extending to Cloghernagh is also a very significant area of acid grassland on thin mineral soils with significant rock outcrops. In 2009, fading light restricted the area surveyed and the area to the north (Cloghernagh) was not visited. 14 species of *Hygrocybe* were recorded here on this visit giving a total of 16 for both visits. This raises Marfagh Head to the second best site in West Donegal behind Arran More.

Tory Island was also good with 14 species of *Hygrocybe* recorded although in contrast to Marfagh Head, fruiting was never abundant except for one small area near West Town.

Fruiting was scattered over the island on the coastal cliffs, ditch edges, earth covered walls and occasional fields.

The other sites ranged from 10 species at Pollaguill, 8 at Crockaclogher, disappointingly only 8 at Rinardalliff Point and 3 in the Dooley Peninsula.

The 10km square B93 now becomes the second best 10km square in West Donegal with 18 species recorded. The sites surveyed in this square are Gortahork Church, Tramore Dunes, Marfagh Head and Pollaguill.

Notable Finds

Pluteus griseoluridus P.D. Orton

This species was recorded for the first time in Ireland on the original survey in embryo dunes at An Chloch Ghlas at B71531774 on 25/10/09. This was again recorded on the Dooley Peninsula on 28/10/11.



Omphalina subhepatica (Batsch) Murrill

In this suite of waxcap surveys, sand dunes are often poor in terms of fungal biodiversity with a very restricted range of species found. The visit to Dooley Peninsula on 28/10/11 was typical of sand dunes in these surveys. This could be because of the late October / early November survey dates but experience would suggest that they are generally not diverse in fungi. This is not to say that fungal biomass is not high as fruiting is often dense but with a restricted range of species. This small *Omphalina* appears to be a common constituent of the Irish dune mycota and was fruiting in large quantities in the northern part of the dune system.



Omphalina subhepatica

Other Interesting Species

All the sites visited are coastal sites exposed to high winds and storms. The growth form of a number of the species was noted as unusually clustered. Fruiting bodies were often also desiccated or damaged by the wind. Salt damage also led to the blackening of the fruiting bodies.



Lepista panaeola on Marfagh Head



Hygrocybe laeta var. *laeta* on Tory Island



Hygrocybe punicea on Marfagh Head



Agaricus urinescens on Marfagh Head



The slime mould, *Mucilago crustacea*

New Vice County Records

- *Galerina autumnalis* was found on Tory Island

10km square and Site Rankings

These tables and map have now been updated with these 2011 records as has the table of site rankings.

Site	H	GridRef
Arran More	19	B646146
Marfagh Head	16	B993373
Teelin Point	15	G59177508
Fanad: Pollet	14	C23894601
Lough Salt	14	C12022574
Melmore Head	14	C136447
Muckros	14	G62337435
Tory Island	14	B8646
Malin More	13	G49268297
Sheskinmore Dunes	13	G685955
Sruhangerrow	13	C03031462
Crohy Head: Tircreg	11	B726064
Glencolumbkille: Garbhros	11	G52498530
Glengesh: Common Mountain	11	G70268724
Maghera Strand	11	G658909
Scraigs Hill	11	B92880157
Glenoory: Doagh Bay	10	C09844239
Lough Ascardan	10	B85691477
Malin Beg: Silver Strand	10	G499799
Pollaguill (Horn Head)	10	B987392
Fanad: Saldarha Head	9	C258374
Glencolumbkille: Glen Head	9	G521861
Owenwee Valley	9	G64318950
St John's Point	9	G710695
Bloody Foreland: Rinardalliff Point	9	B81483353
Crockaclogher (Horn Head)	8	B988401
Derrybeg: Carrick Machair	8	B801285
Dungloe Church of Ireland	7	B76661157
Glenalla: St Colmkille Church of Ireland	7	C24012740
Kilcar: Umuskan	7	G62887814
Muckish: Meencoolasheskin	7	C00012672
Rathmullan: Fort Royal Hotel	7	C30232863
Kilmacrennan: Leiter Presbyterian Church	6	C16022042

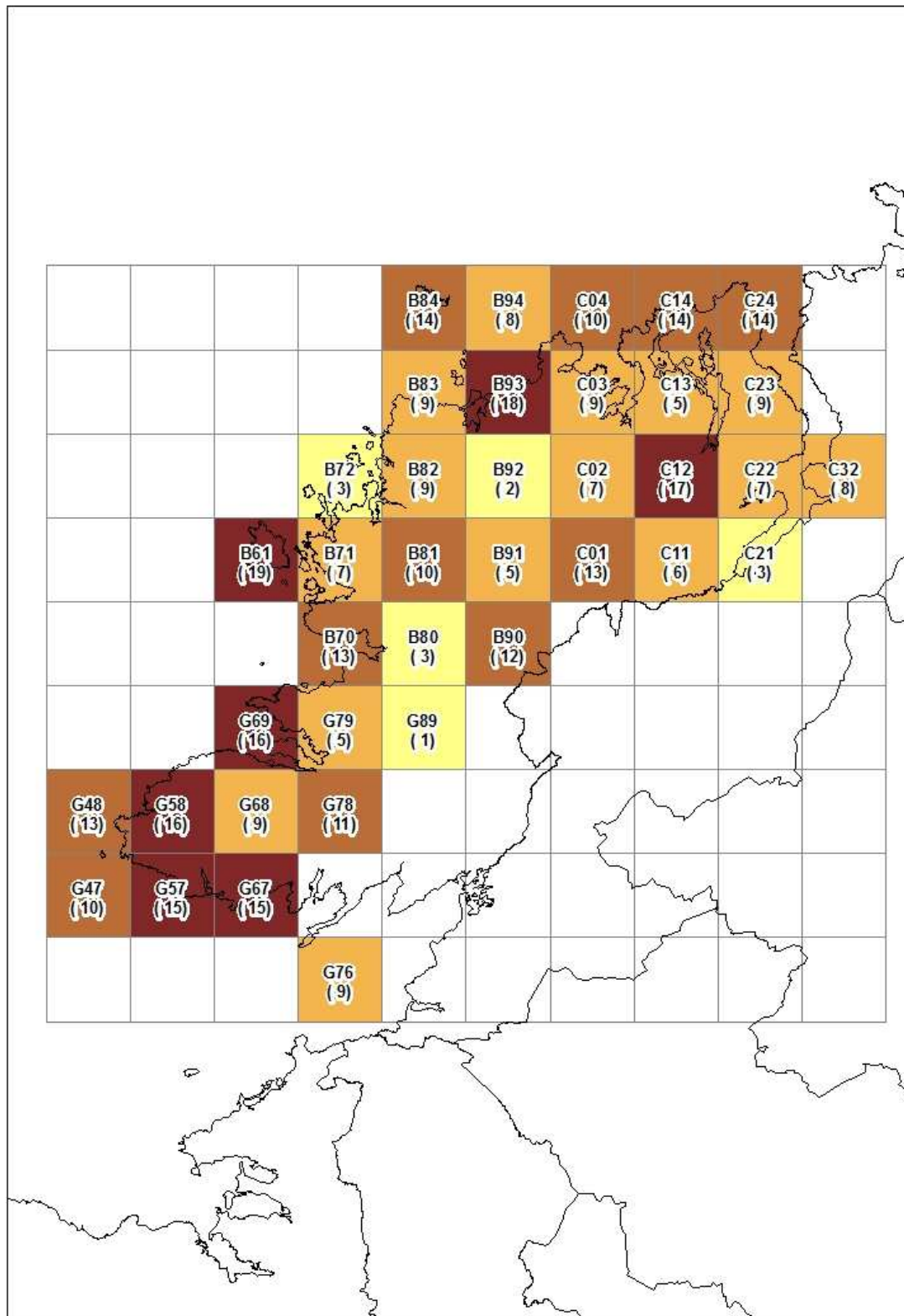
Table 1 – Sites ranked by number of *Hygrocybe*

10k	Site	H
B61	Arran More	19
B93	Gortahork RC Church; Tramore Dunes,Marfagh Head, Pollaguill	18
C12	Kilmacrennan: Church of Ireland; Kilmacrennan: Leiter Presbyterian Church; Lough Salt	17
G58	Glencolumbkille Church of Ireland; Glencolumbkille Strand; Glencolumbkille: Doonalt; Glencolumbkille: Glen Head; Glencolumbkille: Garbhros	16
G69	Maghera Strand; Sheskinmore Dunes	16
G57	Teelin Point	15
G67	Kilcar: Umuskan; Muckros	15
C14	Melmore Head	14
C24	Fanad: Pollet	14
B84	Tory Island	14
B70	Crohy Head: Tircreg; Dooley Dunes	13
C01	Lough Gartan: Glebe House; Sruhangularrow	13
G48	Malin More	13
B90	Fintown RC Church; Scraigs Hill	12
G78	Glengesh: Common Mountain	11
B81	Lough Ascardan	10
C04	Glennory: Doagh Bay; Horn Head: Coastguard Hill	10
G47	Malin Beg: Silver Strand	10
B82	Derrybeg: Carrick Machair; Derrybeg RC Church; Gweedore Hotel	9
B83	Bloody Foreland: Rinardalliff Point; Magheraroarty: Dooley Peninsula	9
C23	Ballymastocker Dunes; Fanad: Saldarha Head	9
G68	Owenwee Valley	9
G76	St John's Point	9

Table 2 – 10km squares ranked by number of *Hygrocybe*

Vesterholt et al (1999) estimated that sites with 22+ species of waxcap (which translates to sites with 15+ in one visit) are internationally important and Genney et al (2009) wrote in the guidelines for designating SSSIs in the UK that sites with 18+ species from multiple visits and 12+ in a single visit should be considered for SSSI status. Additionally sites with 5+ species of *Clavariaceae*, 12+ species of *Entolomataceae* or 3+ species of *Geoglossaceae* should be considered. My personal thought is that some of these thresholds are a bit low for the British Isles but this would mean that a significant number of sites in West Donegal could be considered for site protection with Arran More, Marfagh Head and Teelin Point (and the cliffs to Slieve League) could be of international importance. Muckros would be worth considering for *Clavariaceae* alone but would also qualify in terms of *Hygrocybe*.

Map 1 – 10km squares surveyed with number of species of *Hygrocybe* recorded



Comparisons to other areas

The following tables are the up to date site rankings for the whole of Ireland based on number of *Hygrocybe*.

Rank	Site	County	No of Species	No visits
1	The Curragh	Kildare	32	23
2	Clare Island	West Mayo	26	8
3	Slievenacloy ASSI	Antrim	25	14
4	Crossmurrin NNR	Fermanagh	23	7
5	Binevenagh NNR	Londonderry	22	10
5	Ballyprior	Laois	22	5
7	Kebble NNR	Antrim	22	6
8	Achill Island: Keem Bay	West Mayo	20	4
8	Inishshark	West Galway	20	1
8	Monawilkin ASSI	Fermanagh	20	6
11	Aghadachor	West Donegal	19	2
11	Arran More	West Donegal	19	1
13	Barnett's Park	Antrim	18	25
13	Dursey Island	West Cork	18	3
13	Hillsborough Parish Church	Down	18	7
13	Longmore Td., near The Sheddings	Antrim	18	1
13	Mount Stewart Estate	Down	18	10
18	Ballynacarriga	West Cork	17	1
18	Bantry House	West Cork	17	1
18	Inishbofin	West Galway	17	1
18	Murrevagh Maghera	West Mayo	17	4
22	Agnew's Hill	Antrim	16	3
22	Black Head	Clare	16	2
22	Foher: Killary Harbour	West Galway	16	1
22	Murfagh Point, Horn Head	West Donegal	16	2
22	Silent Valley, Mourne Mountains	Down	16	6
26	Slemish Mountain	Antrim	15	2
26	Clandeboyne Estate	Down	15	7
26	Cummer	West Galway	15	1
26	Drum Manor Forest Park	Tyrone	15	7
26	East Torr Td, nr Torr Head	Antrim	15	1
26	Great Heath of Maryborough	Laois	15	1
26	Inis Meáin	West Galway	15	1
26	Inishturk	West Mayo	15	1
26	John McSparran Memorial Hill Farm	Antrim	15	3
26	Knockninny ASSI	Fermanagh	15	3
26	Murlough NNR	Down	15	15
26	Teelin Point	West Donegal	15	1

Table 10: Top Irish Grassland sites as of 06/11/11
Sites marked in colour have been surveyed in the 5 recent Heritage Council surveys

10km and Site Details

Any species marked with an asterisk is a new record for the 10km square or site.

B83

Sites Searched: Bloody Foreland: Rinardalliff Point; Magheraroarty: Dooley Peninsula

Hygrocybe 9 **Clavariaceae** 2 **Entolomaceae** 3 **Geoglossaceae** 2 **Others:** 0

The mountain of Bloody Foreland itself is too acid and boggy to be of interest but the fields to the west and down to Rinardalliff Point are interesting and will yield more species. The best possible sites are the islands of Inishbofin and Inishdooley with the latter looking very interesting with abandoned farms and lazy beds but good weather and an organised boat is required to visit these islands.

Grassland Target Species Recorded

<i>Clavulinopsis corniculata</i>	<i>Hygrocybe conica</i> var. <i>conica</i>
<i>Clavulinopsis helvola</i>	<i>Hygrocybe conica</i> var. <i>conicoides</i>
<i>Entoloma conferendum</i>	<i>Hygrocybe insipida</i>
<i>Entoloma jubatum</i>	<i>Hygrocybe punicea</i>
<i>Entoloma serrulatum</i>	<i>Hygrocybe pratensis</i> *
<i>Geoglossum cookeanum</i>	<i>Hygrocybe quieta</i>
<i>Geoglossum fallax</i>	<i>Hygrocybe russocoriacea</i>
<i>Hygrocybe chlorophana</i>	<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>ochraceopallida</i>
<i>Hygrocybe coccinea</i>	<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>virginea</i>

Site Details:

Site: Bloody Foreland: Rinardalliff Point

Date Visited: 28/11/11 **GridRef:** B81483353

H: 8 **C:** 1 **E:** 2 **G:** 0 **O:** 0

TOTAL

H: 9 **C:** 1 **E:** 3 **G:** 1 **O:** 0

An interesting area of acid grassland leading out to the point. Severe winds made foraging near the cliffs too dangerous in 2009 and they were no better on this visit, possibly even worse. The large area of grassland right down to Ranagharoe Point was searched this time but this grassland was very wet and of limited interest. The best area was the narrow cliff top grassland leading down to Rinardalliff Point searched in the original survey. One interesting thing was the similarity of species lists between the two visits. Only three new species were found this time and one waxcap, *Hygrocybe quieta* was not refound.

<i>Agaricus urinascens</i>	Macro Mushroom
<i>Clavulinopsis corniculata</i>	Meadow Coral
<i>Clavulinopsis helvola</i>	Yellow Club
<i>Clitocybe fragrans</i>	Fragrant Funnel
<i>Cystoderma amianthinum</i> *	Earthy Powdercap
<i>Entoloma conferendum</i>	Star Pinkgill
<i>Entoloma serrulatum</i>	Blue Edge Pinkgill
<i>Hygrocybe chlorophana</i>	Golden Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe coccinea</i>	Scarlet Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe conica</i> var. <i>conica</i>	Blackening Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe insipida</i>	Spangle Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe pratensis</i> *	Meadow Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe punicea</i>	Crimson Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe russocoriacea</i>	Cedarwood Waxcap

Hygrocybe virginea var. *virginea*
Lepista nuda
Lepista panaeola
Marasmius oreades
*Panaeolus acuminatus**

Snowy Waxcap
Wood Blewit

Fairy Ring Champignon
Dewdrop Mottlegill



Rinadarliff Point, Bloody Foreland

B84

Sites Searched: Tory Island

Hygrocybe 14 **Clavariaceae** 2 **Entolomaceae** 2 **Geoglossaceae** 1 **Others:** 0

There is very little land in this square with the small areas of acid grassland around the hill of Crockaclogher the only possible area of interest.

Site: *Tory Island*

Date Visited: 27/10/2011 **GridRef:** B860455

H: 14 **C:** 2 **E:** 2 **G:** 1 **O:** 0

Waxcap fruiting was only ever scattered on the island. The best areas were the northern coastal cliffs from B875455 to B855467. The eastern tip with Balor's Fort, the highest part of the island was not actually so good. The only place where fruiting was good was in one field with abandoned lazy beds at B855468. For the rest, it was scattered found on earth banks and ditch boundaries alongside the road from West Town out to the eastern tip of the island. Much of the rest of the island has fields which have become rank grassland or the large areas where the peat was removed all the way down to the rock.

Agaricus urinascens
Clavulinopsis corniculata
Clavulinopsis helvola

Macro Mushroom
Meadow Coral
Yellow Club

<i>Clitocybe fragrans</i>	Fragrant Funnel
<i>Clitocybe vibecina</i>	Mealy Funnel
<i>Collybia dryophila</i>	Russet Toughshank
<i>Entoloma conferendum</i>	Star Pinkgill
<i>Entoloma prunuloides</i>	Mealy Pinkgill
<i>Galerina autumnalis</i>	
<i>Handkea excipuliformis</i>	Pestle Puffball
<i>Hebeloma mesophaeum</i>	Veiled Poisonpie
<i>Hygrocybe chlorophana</i>	Golden Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe coccinea</i>	Scarlet Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe conica</i> var. <i>conica</i>	Blackening Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe flavipes</i>	Yellow Foot Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe insipida</i>	Spangle Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe laeta</i> var. <i>laeta</i>	Heath Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe persistens</i>	Persistent Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe pratensis</i> var. <i>pratensis</i>	Meadow Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe psittacina</i> var. <i>psittacina</i>	Parrot Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe punicea</i>	Crimson Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe quieta</i>	Oily Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe reidii</i>	Honey Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe russocoriacea</i>	Cedarwood Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>ochraceopallida</i>	Snowy Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>virginea</i>	Snowy Waxcap
<i>Lepista nuda</i>	Wood Blewit
<i>Lepista panaeola</i>	
<i>Marasmius oreades</i>	Fairy Ring Champignon
<i>Mucilago crustacea</i>	
<i>Panaeolina foenesecii</i>	Brown Mottlegill
<i>Panaeolus acuminatus</i>	Dewdrop Mottlegill
<i>Rhytisma salicinum</i>	
<i>Stropharia semiglobata</i>	Dung Roundhead



The narrow gap leading up to Balor's Fort



The northern cliffs looking back to Balor's Fort



The best area for fruiting looking back to West Town

B93

Sites Searched: Gortahork RC Church; Tramore Dunes; Marfagh Head; Pollaguill

Hygrocybe 18 **Clavariaceae** 5 **Entolomaceae** 3 **Geoglossaceae** 3 **Others:** 0

The dunes of Dooley Peninsula and Falcarragh are possible areas not searched but the coastal grassland at Marfagh Head and to the north of this should be revisited and searched much more intensively as it is good.

Grassland Target Species Recorded

<i>Clavaria acuta</i>	<i>Hygrocybe conica</i> var. <i>conicoides</i>
<i>Clavulinopsis corniculata</i>	<i>Hygrocybe fornicata</i>
<i>Clavulinopsis helvola</i>	<i>Hygrocybe irrigata</i> *
<i>Clavulinopsis laeticolor</i>	<i>Hygrocybe insipida</i>
<i>Clavulinopsis luteoalba</i>	<i>Hygrocybe mucronella</i>
<i>Entoloma conferendum</i>	<i>Hygrocybe persistens</i> *
<i>Entoloma prunuloides</i>	<i>Hygrocybe pratensis</i> var. <i>pallida</i>
<i>Entoloma serrulatum</i> *	<i>Hygrocybe pratensis</i> var. <i>pratensis</i>
<i>Geoglossum atropurpureum</i>	<i>Hygrocybe psittacina</i> var. <i>psittacina</i>
<i>Geoglossum cookeanum</i>	<i>Hygrocybe punicea</i>
<i>Geoglossum fallax</i>	<i>Hygrocybe quieta</i>
<i>Hygrocybe ceracea</i>	<i>Hygrocybe reidii</i> *
<i>Hygrocybe chlorophana</i>	<i>Hygrocybe russocoriacea</i>
<i>Hygrocybe coccinea</i>	<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>virginea</i>
<i>Hygrocybe colemanniana</i>	<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>ochraceopallida</i>
<i>Hygrocybe conica</i> var. <i>conica</i>	

Site Details:

Site: Magheraroarty: Dooley Peninsula

Date Visited: 28/10/10 **GridRef:** B895330

H: 3 **C:** 0 **E:** 0 **G:** 1 **O:** 0

TOTAL

H: 3 **C:** 0 **E:** 0 **G:** 1 **O:** 0

A very large dune system with machair behind the dunes. The site is in both B83 and B93 but is mostly within B93. Large areas of the dunes consist of dense marram and other grasses and with such a thick thatch, fungi are not going to be able to fruit. The best areas were the short grassland by the track at the start of the dune system and the good moss rich dune grassland at the northern part of the dune system say around B911351.

<i>Agaricus campestris</i> *	Field Mushroom
<i>Bolbitius vitellinus</i>	Yellow Fieldcap
<i>Clitocybe dealbata</i> *	Ivory Funnel
<i>Geoglossum cookeanum</i>	
<i>Hygrocybe conica</i> var. <i>conicoides</i>	Dune Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe acutoconica</i> (= <i>persistens</i>)*	Persistent Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>ochraceopallida</i>	
<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>virginea</i>	Snowy Waxcap
<i>Mucilago crustacea</i> *	
<i>Lepista nuda</i> *	Wood Blewit
<i>Panaeolina foenesecii</i> *	Brown Mottlegill
<i>Pluteus griseoluridus</i> *	
<i>Psathyrella ammophila</i> *	Dune Brittlestem



The Dooley Peninsula

Site: *Tramore Dunes*

Date Visited: 29/10/2011 **GridRef:** B993373

H: 3 **C:** 0 **E:** 0 **G:** 1 **O:** 0

TOTAL

H: 3 **C:** 0 **E:** 0 **G:** 1 **O:** 0

Another gigantic dune system that with its varied topology with sand blown up the hill. The flatter areas towards the lake have large areas of *Salix repens* but there were no associated species found – it was maybe too late in the year for these mycorrhizal species. For the rest, this was a typical dune site dominated by a small number of species.

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| <i>Geoglossum cookeanum</i> | |
| <i>Hygrocybe conica</i> var. <i>conicoides</i> | Dune Waxcap |
| <i>Hygrocybe mucronella</i> | Bitter Waxcap |
| <i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>ochraceopallida</i> * | Snowy Waxcap |
| <i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>virginea</i> | Snowy Waxcap |
| <i>Lepista nuda</i> | Wood Blewit |
| <i>Mucilago crustacea</i> * | |
| <i>Panaeolus acuminatus</i> | Dewdrop Mottlegill |

Site: *Marfagh Head*

Date Visited: 29/10/2011 **GridRef:** B987380

H: 13 **C:** 1 **E:** 0 **G:** 1 **O:** 0

TOTAL

H: 16 **C:** 4 **E:** 1 **G:** 3 **O:** 0

This is an enormous area of acid grassland on thin soils with numerous rock outcrops. The "site" is continuous from the north end of Tramore strand, out to Marfagh Head and north to Cloghernagh. The dunes at Pollnaguill Bay mark the northern edge. Quite where the inland "boundary" of the site lies is difficult to say. The area searched was not too far from the coast

and the whole site demands a lot more attention. *Hygrocybe irrigata*, *H.reidii* and *H.insipida* are new for the site and *H.pratensis* var. *pallida*, *H.colemanniana* and *H.ceracea* were not refound.

<i>Agaricus urinascens</i>	Macro Mushroom
<i>Hygrocybe chlorophana</i>	Golden Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe coccinea</i>	Scarlet Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe conica</i> var. <i>conica</i>	Blackening Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe fornicata</i>	Earthy Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe insipida</i> *	Spangle Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe irrigata</i> *	Slimy Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe pratensis</i> var. <i>pratensis</i>	Meadow Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe psittacina</i> var. <i>psittacina</i>	Parrot Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe punicea</i>	Crimson Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe quieta</i>	Oily Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe reidii</i> *	Honey Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe russocoriacea</i>	Cedarwood Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>virginea</i>	Snowy Waxcap
<i>Lepista nuda</i>	Wood Blewit
<i>Lepista panaeola</i>	
<i>Lycoperdon nigrescens</i> *	Dusky Puffball
<i>Marasmius oreades</i> *	Fairy Ring Champignon



Marfagh Head from Tramore Strand

Site: *Pollaguill*

Date Visited: 29/10/2011

GridRef: B996394

H: 10 **C:** 4 **E:** 0 **G:** 1 **O:** 0

This site consists of the headland to the north side of Pollaguill Bay round to the river to the south of White Vein at B988399. These headlands are more acid, heathy and in places wetter than those around Marfagh Head to the south and will not be as good with waxcap interest confined to smaller localities.

<i>Agaricus urinascens</i>	Macro Mushroom
<i>Clavaria acuta</i>	Pointed Club
<i>Clavulinopsis corniculata</i>	Meadow Coral
<i>Clavulinopsis helvola</i>	Yellow Club
<i>Clavulinopsis laeticolor</i>	Handsome Club
<i>Geoglossum cookeanum</i>	
<i>Hygrocybe chlorophana</i>	Golden Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe coccinea</i>	Scarlet Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe conica</i> var. <i>conica</i>	Blackening Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe fornicata</i>	Earthy Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe insipida</i>	Spangle Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe pratensis</i> var. <i>pratensis</i>	Meadow Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe psittacina</i> var. <i>psittacina</i>	Parrot Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe punicea</i>	Crimson Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe russocoriacea</i>	Cedarwood Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var. <i>virginea</i>	Snowy Waxcap
<i>Lepista nuda</i>	Wood Blewit
<i>Lepista panaeola</i>	
<i>Stropharia semiglobata</i>	Dung Roundhead



Pollaguill Head

B94

Sites Searched: Crockaclogher

Hygrocybe 8 **Clavariaceae** 0 **Entolomaceae** 0 **Geoglossaceae** 0 **Others:** 0

There is very little land in this square with the small areas of acid grassland around the hill of Crockaclogher the only possible area of interest.

Site: *Crockaclogher*

Date Visited: 29/10/2011

GridRef: B988401

H: 10 **C:** 4 **E:** 0 **G:** 1 **O:** 0

This site consists of the headland around the headland of White Vein. There is only a small area of interest but it is short turf acid grassland on thin mineral soils. As the land rises to the hill of Crockaclogher, the soils become more acid and wetter. The higher ground up towards Inishnonaan was not searched.

Hygrocybe coccinea

Hygrocybe insipida

Hygrocybe laeta var. *laeta*

Hygrocybe pratensis var. *pratensis*

Hygrocybe psittacina var. *psittacina*

Hygrocybe punicea

Hygrocybe reidii

Hygrocybe russocoriacea

Lepista nuda

Lepista panaeola

Panaeolus acuminatus

Stropharia semiglobata

Scarlet Waxcap

Spangle Waxcap

Heath Waxcap

Meadow Waxcap

Parrot Waxcap

Crimson Waxcap

Honey Waxcap

Cedarwood Waxcap

Wood Blewit

Dung Roundhead



The headland of White Vein, Crockaclogher, Horn Head

C03

Sites Searched: Dunfanaghy: Holy Cross Church; Marble Hill Strand; Tramore Dunes; Ards Forest Park

Hygrocybe 9 **Clavariaceae** 1 **Entolomaceae** 1 **Geoglossaceae** 1 **Others:** 0

Waxcaps were found in the grassland leading to Tramore Dunes which are in this square. Other species added to the list for the square were provided by Stuart Dunlop from Ards Forest Park and thank you to him for this. This will still be a better square as Clonmass Point at Marble Strand was not accessible and looked a good possibility. Breaghy Head and Dundonnell Head could be possible sites as could the golf course and dunes at Dunfanaghy. Much of Horn Head is too acid and wet.

Grassland Target Species Recorded

Clavaria straminea
Entoloma jubatum
*Entoloma serrulatum**
Geoglossum cookeanum
Hygrocybe chlorophana
Hygrocybe citrinovirens
Hygrocybe coccinea
Hygrocybe conica var. conica

Hygrocybe conica var. conicoides
*Hygrocybe mucronella**
Hygrocybe pratensis var. pratensis
Hygrocybe punicea
*Hygrocybe russocoriacea**
*Hygrocybe virginea var. ochraceopallida**
Hygrocybe virginea var. virginea

Acknowledgements

Thanks must go to my wife Jolanda for helping with the survey work as the more eyes there are, the more fungi are found. Also to Stuart Dunlop for his records from Ards Forest Park.

Bibliography

- Boertmann D. (1995) The Genus *Hygrocybe* The Danish Mycological society, Copenhagen.
- Genney, D. R., Hale, A.D., Woods R.G. & Wright, M. (2009) Guidelines for Selection of Biological SSSIs - Chapter 20 Grassland fungi. JNCC
- McHugh R., Mitchel D., Wright M., Anderson R. (2001) The fungi of Irish Grasslands and their value for nature conservation. *Biology & Environment* 101B:225-242.
- Mitchel D. (2006) Survey of the Grassland Fungi of County Clare, Heritage Council.
- Mitchel D. (2007) Survey of the Grassland Fungi of the Vice County of West Cork, Heritage Council.
- Mitchel D. (2008) Survey of the Grassland Fungi of the Vice County of West Mayo Heritage Council.
- Mitchel D. (2009) Survey of the Grassland Fungi of the Vice County of West Donegal : Heritage Council.
- Mitchel D. (2010) Survey of the Grassland Fungi of the Vice County of West Galway and the Aran Islands. Heritage Council.
- Vesterholt J., Boertmann D., Tranberg H. (1999) 1998 - et usaedvanlig godt ar for overdrevssvampe. *Svampe*:36-44.