biodiversity RECORDING

Northern Ireland Orchids

Wild orchids are elegant plants, with very impressive delicate sculptured flowers, they are one of the world's most highly evolved flowering plants. If spotted, you will surely want to take a closer look. There are 37 different types of orchid and many hybrid species in Ireland.

Orchids are found in different types of habitat (woodland, wet or dry grassland, sand dunes, etc) and this can help with their identification. Each orchid has its own flowering season, which can be from April to as late as September.

A good orchid guide book is important and it will be very useful to take a picture and note the location to help identify the orchid. The Orchids of Ireland by Tom Curtis and Robert Thompson is a beautiful well illustrated book and a useful guide. For further information visit www.habitas.org.uk/orchidireland

COVER IMAGE: Common Spotted Orchid courtesy of Rose Cremin

Help your local biodiversityget recording!

Recording what species you see is an important way you can help your local biodiversity. To find out what you can do for local biodiversity, contact the Biodiversity Officer through your Council or on

www.biodiversityni.com

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