

## Common Hedgerow/Roadside and Urban Plants of Tralee

Our hedgerows and road sides are home to many beautiful and interesting species of flora and fauna.  
Using this species spotter sheet, see how many different species of flora you can find as you enjoy your walk around Tralee. Supported by Kerry County Council, the Community Environment Action Fund.



**Great Willowherb**  
*Epilobium hirsutum*  
**Lus na Tríonóide**

A large plant that is densely hairy with bright pink flowers that have four petals and a four-lobed stigma in the centre. Thrives in a variety of habitats and can put on an impressive display when in full bloom.  
*Flowers from: July-September.*



**Navelwort**  
*Umbilicus rupestris*  
**Cornán caisil**

The scientific name for this plant efficiently summarizes it in two words. *Umbilicus* meaning navels, (which the leaves are said to resemble), and *rupestris* which roughly means to grow on rock, which is the most common habitat where you will find Navelwort growing. The flowers are in a tall spike and are pale green/cream in colour.  
*Flowers from: May-August.*



**Ivy-leaved toadflax**  
*Cymbalaria muralis*  
**Buaflíon balla**

A common little wildflower that brightens up any wall on which it grows. Flowers are solitary and are lilac/mauve in colour, with a small yellow patch on the lower lip. Distinctive ivy-shaped leaves. In the UK it is also referred to as Aaron's Beard because of its long trailing roots!  
*Flowers from: February-November.*



**Coltsfoot**  
*Tussilago farfara*  
**Sponc**

One of the first species to flower in late winter, before the arrival of spring, the flowers of Coltsfoot are composed of numerous yellow flowers called florets. Unusually, the flowers appear before the leaves, which are roughly heart shaped. Historically the plant has been used as a cure and treatment for respiratory ailments (*Tussilago* coming from the Greek word, meaning cough).  
*Flowers from: February-April.*



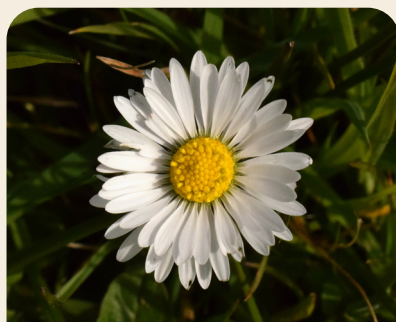
**Bramble**  
*Rubus fruticosus*  
**Dris**

A plant that is probably not as often associated with its flowers as much as it is for its fruits, (blackberries). The flowers range from cream to pale pink in colour. Although all bramble plants may look alike to the untrained eye, they are in fact an aggregate and over 80 different micro-species have been recorded in Ireland alone!  
*Flowers from: May-September.*



**Creeping Buttercup**  
*Ranunculus repens*  
**Fearbán (reatha)**

One of a handful of species of buttercup to be found across Ireland. Creeping buttercup is very much a generalist and can crop up in many habitats. Attractive shiny yellow flowers with 5 petals and leaves, which are three-lobed. Its ability to creep and put down roots so efficiently is one of the reasons it is not loved by gardeners.  
*Flowers from: May-September.*



**Common Daisy**  
*Bellis perennis*  
**Nóinín**

Who doesn't remember sitting on the grass making a daisy chain at some point in their lives? Like other members of the daisy family, the flower head is composed of tens of many mini flowers, known as 'florets'. Daisy flowers are diurnal, meaning they are open during the day, and close at night.  
*Flowers: March-October.*



**Dandelion**  
*Taraxacum*  
**Caisearbhán**

A common species that everyone is familiar with and one of the most important flowers for spring pollinators as they are one of the first flowers to bloom in spring. The large yellow flower head is composed of many tens of individual yellow flowers, called florets. Although they may all look the same, Dandelions are in fact an aggregate and there are over 200 species recognized across Britain and Ireland alone! *Flowers from: March-October.*



**Groundsel**  
*Senecio vulgaris*  
**Grúnlás**

This little plant can inhabit a wide range of habitats, including waste ground, roadsides, and where disturbance has occurred. The flower head is made up of lots of tiny yellow florets, and is surrounded by green bracts, which are modified leaves. According to folklore, groundsel was used to treat a bad headache!  
*Flowers from: All year round.*



**Black Medick**  
*Medicago lupulina*  
**Dúmheidic**

A somewhat variable member of the pea family with delicate globular flower heads made up of tens of tiny yellow pea flowers. The leaves are trefoil, (like a shamrock), and the end of each lobe has a minute point on its end, which distinguishes it from other similar species. Distinctive black seed pods.  
*Flowers from: April-October.*