

seed from some of the plants and rescued a very few plants from being choked out by the bushes. The *S. oreophila* plants here occur in a strange, hard clay soil containing very fine silica sand. The area was void of apparent pine bogs or savannahs or habitats which seemed typical of CP. In fact, the majority of the trees in the area were deciduous.

In summary, we travelled about 2,550 miles in our car and a few more on foot. Although some plant collecting was done, we collected sparingly and concentrated more on acquiring seed and good photographs. Don't let the descriptions in this report mislead you into believing that *Sarracenia* occurs everywhere in the south in great abundance. They do not. Throughout the coastal states only highly specialized habitat areas allow these plants to exist at all and these habitat areas are quickly vanishing forever for one reason or another. Many of the even recently CP populated areas are now void of these plants. The larger stands of these plants took many years to spread and establish and unfortunately, new habitat areas do not usually replace the ones that are lost.

#### DROSERAS OF THE NEW FOREST

by David W. Taylor

The New Forest is unique in the world for its historical interest, its rare animals and plants and its living traditions. It was created by William I about AD 1079, and it lies in the county of Hampshire down in the south west corner of England. It is an area of outstanding beauty which is visited by millions of people every year.

There are three distinct types of vegetation in this vast area of land: heathland with self sown Scots pine and birch, heather, gorse, and grasses; woodland containing many thousands of trees such as beech, oak, and yew; and last of all, marshlands with large wild areas of peat and sphagnum bogs.

The bogs are many in number, and have magical names such as Bishops Dyke, Black Gutter Bottom, and Duck Hole Bog. The forest itself is situated about one hundred miles from the center of London, and is easily reached by the modern motorway.

It was in late August when I drove with my wife Diana and four children down to Everton, which is a small country village which lies just outside the forest area. We are very fortunate in the fact that my wife's parents own a retirement cottage in Everton, and that we are able to go there for the occasional week-end. From this vantage point, it is only a short car ride to many of the beautiful forest attractions. As it happened, this particular week-end turned out to be a bank holiday, and there were many tourists and campers that had made the trip down with us. A good number of them were at the local carnival that was held on the Saturday.

The following day after a good breakfast, I set off with my packed lunch on the long awaited field trip in search of the three *Droseras* native to this country, and known to be found in the New Forest area. Earlier in the summer, I had been lucky enough to borrow a very old book from a botanist friend of mine. This was on the flora of Hampshire. Every major county in England has at one time or other had a county flora book published. Unfortunately, many of them are old and very much out of date, and the Hampshire book was a prime example. However, the book had told me of the colonies of *Drosera* that were growing in the forest bogs. My main interest was to find *D. anglica*, as I had already found *rotundifolia* and *intermedia* on an earlier visit. I was informed by the book that this plant was to be found in great numbers in an area of the forest known as the Rhinefield, and particularly in bogs under the names of Holmsley, Wiverley, and Hinchelsea. It was stated that *D. anglica* could be found in abundance in Hinchelsea bog way back in 1899. This bit of information did not deter me too much, as I knew that these wild boggy lands had probably remained unchanged for hundreds of years. Although I did not expect to find the abundance of plants as described in the book, I felt that I would find at least a few scattered here and there. The Rhinefield area was only a matter of about four miles from the cottage, and I soon arrived at the small stoney car-park. In all parts of the New Forest, there are special walks that are purposely planned by the forest authorities for the public's convenience. The walks are planned to take you through the most interesting parts of any one particular area so that anything of specific interest can clearly be seen.



Having parked the car, I started my walk down the long and stoney foot-path that twisted its way straight through the middle of the Hinchelsea bog. The whole area was one big dip which rose up on the other side into woodland and pine forest. The black peaty bog was either side of the foot-path, and the occasional wild horse or pony could be seen plodding through the goo in search for green vegetation. I walked half way down the foot-path until I found a slightly drier part of the bog to walk on. This was on the left side of the path, and I was able to penetrate about ten yards into the bog. In my haste to start this venture, the one important thing that I forgot to bring with me was a pair of water-proof boots. All I had on my feet was a pair of sandals that I had worn all the way through the long hot summer and had become quite accustomed to. Eventually I was forced to take the sandals and my socks off, and with my trouser legs rolled up, I waded into the bog. I soon noticed that there were many plants of *rotundifolia* and even more of *intermedia* in the black peat of the bog. A vast number of the *intermedia* plants were of a deep crimson colour. This was obviously due the fierce heat of the sun that had been shining constantly for many days. The plants had no shelter from the sun as the whole area was very open. There was a small area of shallow water nearby, which was full of reeds and with hummocks of sphagnum around the edges. There seemed to be more *rotundifolia* plants in the moss, whereas the *intermedia* plants seemed to favour the wet peaty areas of the bog. I was a bit disappointed that there were no signs of the rarer *anglica* plants described as being abundant in this bog. However, I collected a few specimens of the *rotundifolia* and *intermedia* plants and trod my way carefully back to the foot-path, first collecting my sandals and socks. I made my way up the rest of the stoney foot-path and into the pine forest still feeling despondent at not finding *D. anglica*. I could have walked for miles, but as the sky was clouding over, I decided to walk back. When I eventually reached the perimeter of the bog, I thought perhaps I would explore the opposite side to the part I had walked in earlier on in the morning. This side of the bog was about half a mile long and when I finally reached the extreme end of it, I found myself on a new foot-path. This part of the bog was much wetter than the other side, and a small stream wound its way into the middle of it. The ground was a mixture of very wet peat intermixed with sphagnum, and it was not as flat as the other side of the bog. After studying it for a few minutes, I decided to cast aside my footwear once again and wade in. It was very boggy, but with the help of a broken off tree branch, I was able to walk in about seven yards. It would have been impossible to go any further. There was a lot of long grass about and because of this it was difficult to see much else. All of a sudden, my eyes fell on something dewy and shining in amongst the grasses. With much difficulty, I managed to squelch my way to the spot my eyes had rested on, and there it was, *Drosera anglica* in full splendour. There were quite a number of plants scattered around the area, and if I could have gone further into the bog, I think I would have found many more. After having collected a few of these plants which seemed to be the only *Droseras* there apart from a few spasmodic *intermedia* plants, I finally dragged myself from the bog. The time was one o'clock, and so I decided to sit down and eat my packed lunch. After about twenty minutes of sitting on the edge of the bog in complete quietness, and having seen only four people in the time I had spent in Hinchelsea bog, I got up and put on my foot-wear once more. A sudden clap of thunder heralded my time to depart, and I slowly made my way around the outer edge of this wild and lonely land, and back to the car. As I drove out of the Rhineland, it started to rain, but I could not care, for I had found what I had hoped to find all in the space of one morning, a morning spent with the *Droseras* of the New Forest.

## CONSERVATION AND CARNIVOROUS PLANTS

by Landon T. Ross

### Introduction

Almost everyone who is involved in the study or cultivation of carnivorous plants is aware, to some degree, of the urgent need for conservation efforts. A number of taxa are on the verge of extinction, many prime habitats have been destroyed, and numerous locations are in serious danger. This distressing situation has been discussed many times (for example, see Schwartz, 1974, p. 9; DeFilipps, 1976; Johnson, 1976; Mazrimas and Schnell, 1976; and Schnell, 1976, p. 9) and I will not belabor it here. Instead, I will try to offer some recommendations on how to be a CP enthusiast and, at the same time, a benefit to future scholars, hobbyists, and the plants themselves. These are, of course, my personal opinions which do not necessarily exactly reflect the views of the editors or the policies of CPN.



Taylor, David W. 1977. "Droseras of the New Forest." *Carnivorous plant newsletter* 6(2), 37–38.

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