

**Discovery of *Dactylorhiza praetermissa* × *Gymnadenia densiflora*
at Kenfig National Nature Reserve
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As we are aware, members of the group called *Dactylorhiza*, the marsh-orchid family, tend to hybridise more than any other orchid group. But intergenetic hybridization, where a hybrid has two parents from two different genera, is less common. On finding three plants in 2009 with an unusual appearance I made a study of the plants in the area and came up with the strong possibility that they were Southern Marsh × Fragrant Orchid – *Dactylorhiza praetermissa* (Druce) Soó × *Gymnadenia densiflora* (Wahlenberg). I think it is worth noting that I found all three plants contained the fragrance of *Gymnadenia*. The identity of the 2009 plant, shown in the figures, was confirmed by Richard Bateman.



×*Dactylodenia ettlingerana* - the hybrid of Southern Marsh Orchid with Fragrant Orchid at Kenfig National Nature Reserve, Glamorgan, Wales
Close-up (left) and whole plant (right)
Photos by Mike Clark

Tim Rich of the National Museum of Wales, collected (under licence) the leaves and inflorescence as type specimens. The only previous record of this hybrid known to authors is a single plant found by Derek M. Turner Ettliger and Barry Tattersall in 1981/82 in North Hampshire. I thought it would be appropriate to give this hybrid a scientific name. So, following much discussion and help from Les Lewis, it is described now under the binomial \times *Dactyloдения ettligerana*. Note that the cross between *Dactylorhiza praetermissa* and *Gymnadenia conopsea* is \times *Dactyloдения wintonii*. For more detailed information on \times *Dactyloдения ettligerana* consult Clark and Lewis (2011). This article was included in the first issue of the new scientific journal “*New Journal of Botany*”, published by the Botanical Society of the British Isles.

Reference

Clark, M. J. & Lewis, L. (2011) Discovery of *Dactylorhiza praetermissa* \times *Gymnadenia densiflora* (Orchidaceae) at Kenfig National Nature Reserve, Glamorgan, Wales. *New Journal of Botany* 1: 24-27.