

A photograph of a lush forest floor. The scene is dominated by vibrant green vegetation. In the foreground, there are several tall, thin, grass-like plants with feathery heads. To the left, there are large, dark green ferns. A large, weathered log lies horizontally across the middle ground. The background is filled with a dense thicket of various green plants and trees, creating a rich, textured environment. The lighting is soft and even, highlighting the natural beauty of the forest.

Over half of the world's species of  
horsetails grow in County  
Fermanagh!

# Fermanagh's Horsetails

There are eight  
species in Fermanagh  
(and Ireland)  
and fifteen species in  
the world!

*E. arvense:*  
*Field Horsetail*

*E. palustre:*  
*Marsh*  
*Horsetail*

*E. fluviatile:*  
*Water*  
*Horsetail*

*E. telmatia:*  
*Great*  
*Horsetail*

*E. sylvaticum:*  
*Wood*  
*Horsetail*

*E. pratense:*  
*Shade*  
*Horsetail*

*E. hyemale:*  
*Dutch rush*

*E. variegatum:*  
*Variegated*  
*Horsetail*

# There are also six hybrids in Ireland

- *E. arvense* x *E. fluviatile* = *E. x littorale*: Shore Horsetail is widespread.
- *E. hyemale* x *E. variegatum* = *E. x trachyodon*: Mackay's Horsetail is local.
- *E. hyemale* x *E. ramosissimum* = *E. x moorei*: Moore's Horsetail; only occurs in Wexford and Wicklow.
- *E. fluviatile* x *E. palustre* = *E. dycei*: in five hectads in Ireland.
- *E. palustre* x *E. telmatia* = *E. x font-queri*: in three hectads in Sligo.
- *E. fluviatile* x *E. telmatia* = *E. x willmotii*; at one site in Cavan.

*Equisetum telmetia* = *E. maximum*  
Great Horsetail



# Equisetum fluviatile: Water Horsetail



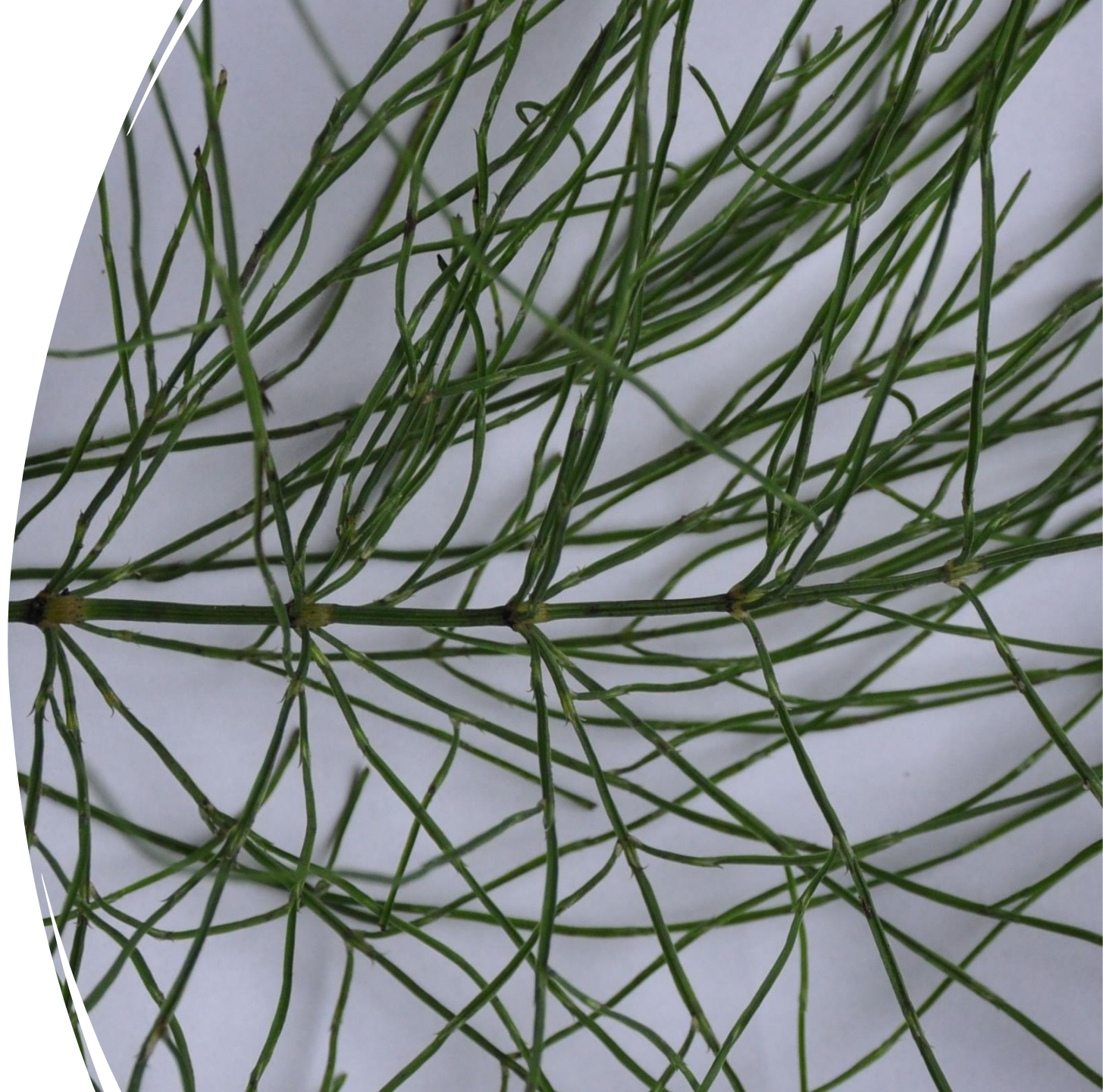
# Equisetum arvense: Field Horsetail



# Equisetum arvense: Field Horsetail

---

- First internode on branch is much **longer** than the adjacent stem sheath.
- Internodes on branches are **white tipped and spreading**.



**Equisetum palustre:  
Marsh Horsetail**





# Equisetum palustre Marsh Horsetail

- 
- First internode on branch is much **shorter** than the adjacent stem sheath.
  - Internodes on branches are **black tipped and clasping**.



# Equisetum sylvaticum: Wood Horsetail



# Equisetum pratense: Shade Horsetail



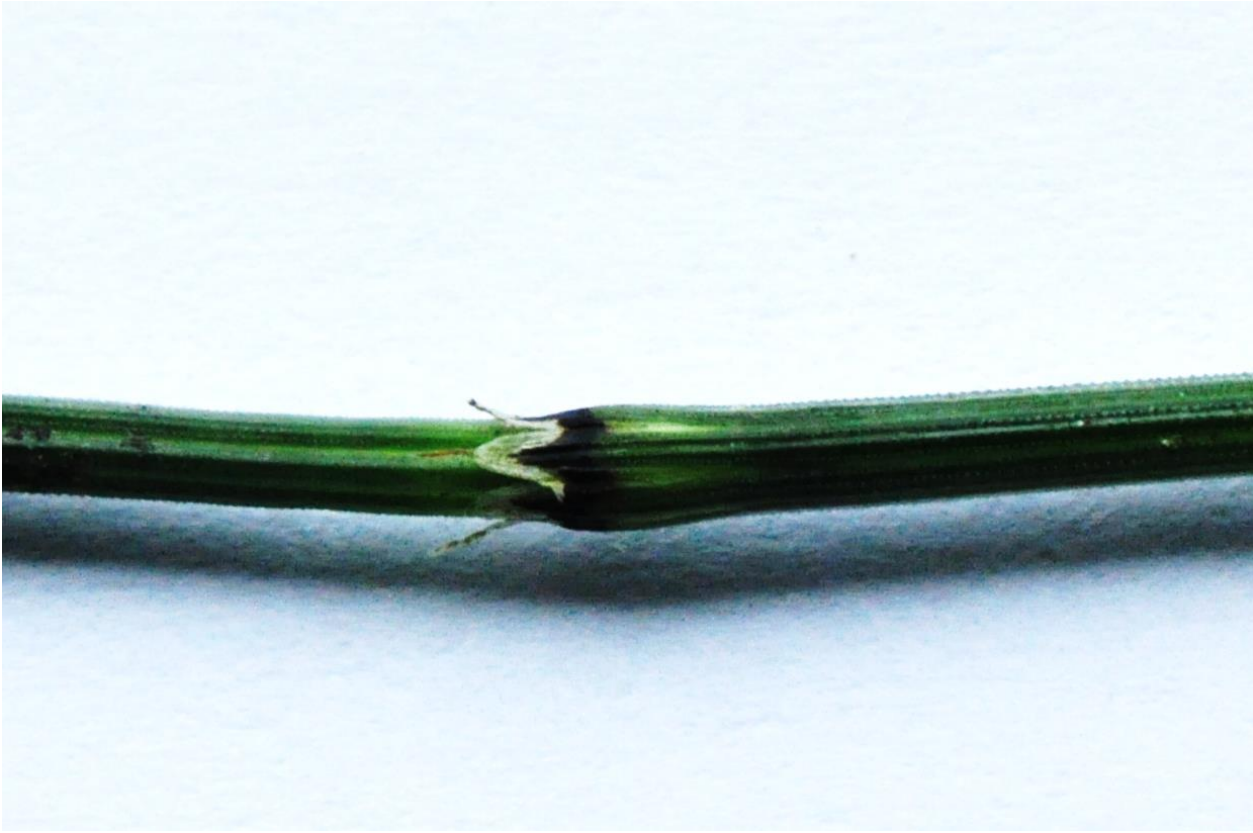
*E. pratense* and  
*E. sylvaticum*  
Shade Horsetail  
and Wood  
Horsetail



Equisetum  
hyemale:  
Dutch Rush



# Equisetum variegatum: Variegated Horsetail



# Equisetum x trachyodon: Mackay's Horsetail Dutch Rush x Variegated Horsetail



Equisetum x trachyodon  
Mackay's Horsetail

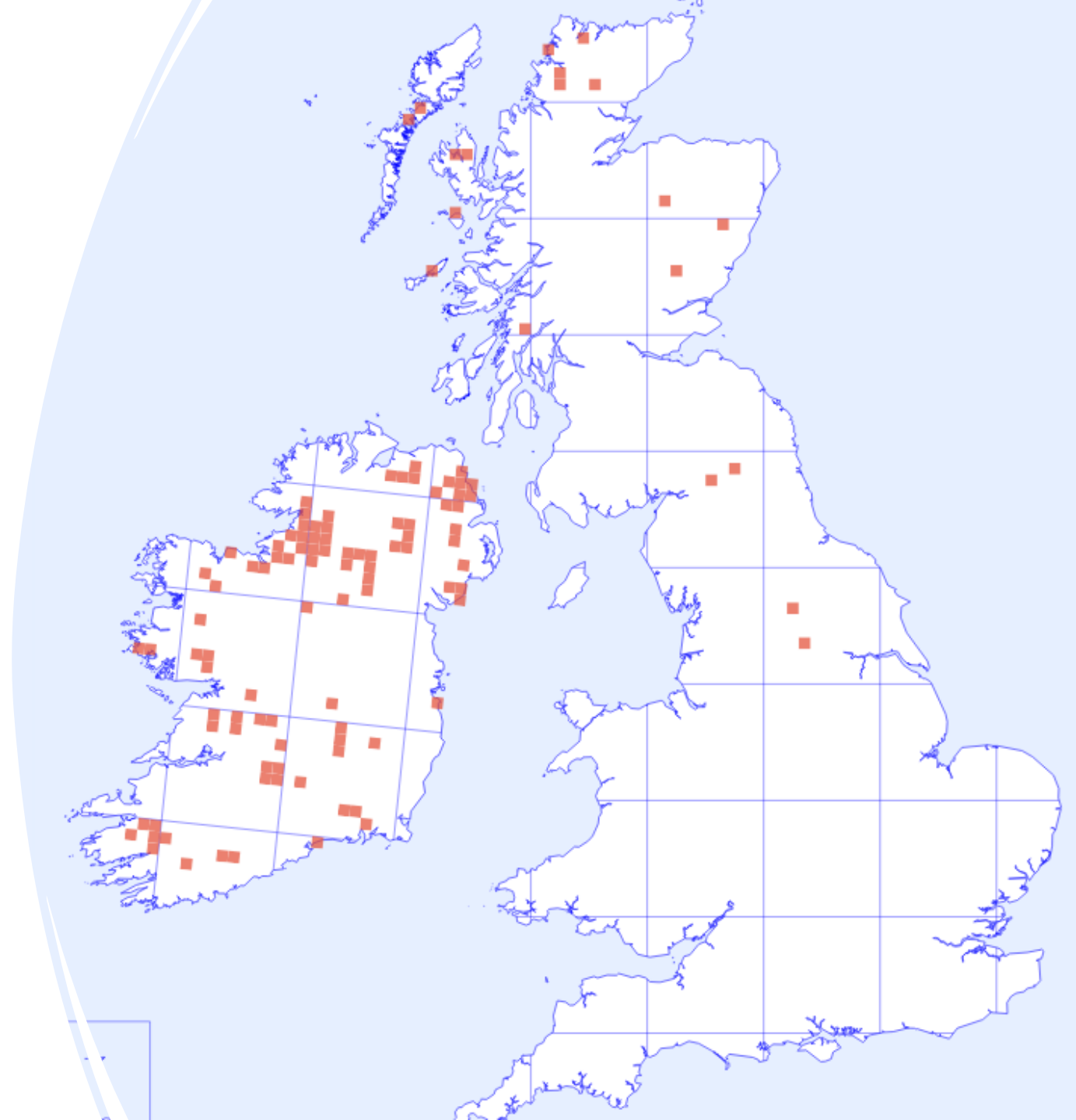




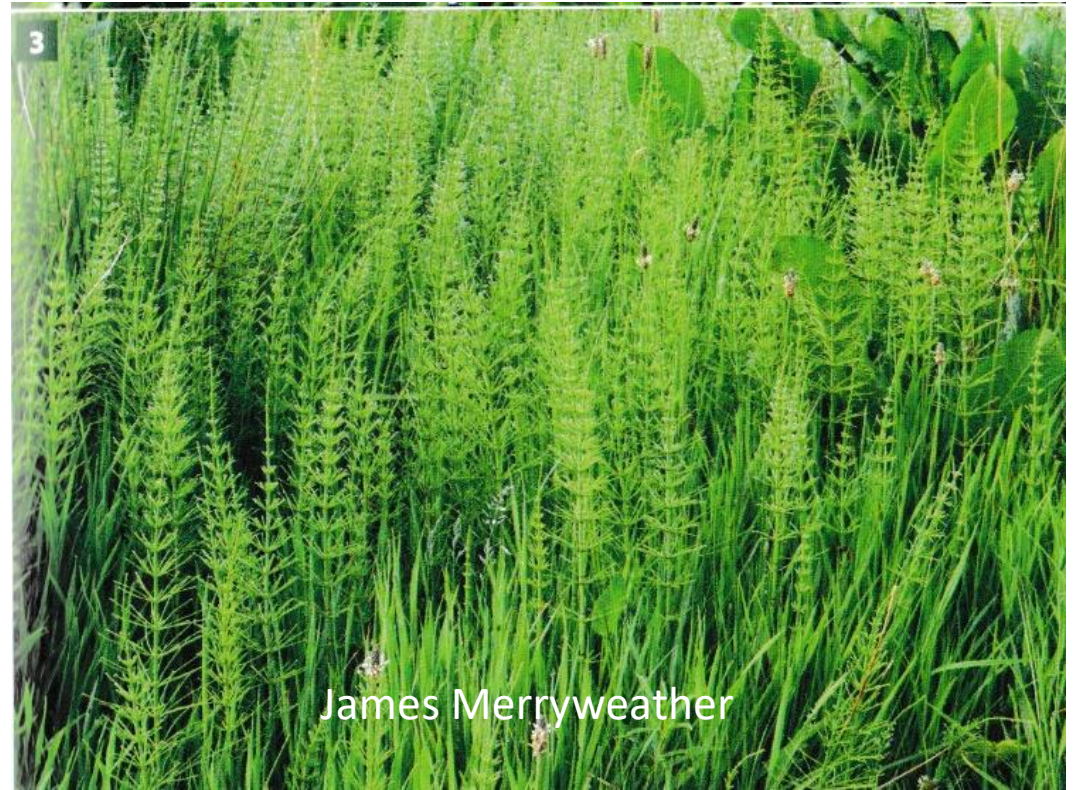
# Equisetum x trachyodon Mackay's Horsetail

---

- Distribution of the species in Britain and Ireland from the DDb.



Equisetum x littorale : Shore Horsetail  
E. fluviatile x E. arvense  
Water Horsetail x Field Horsetail



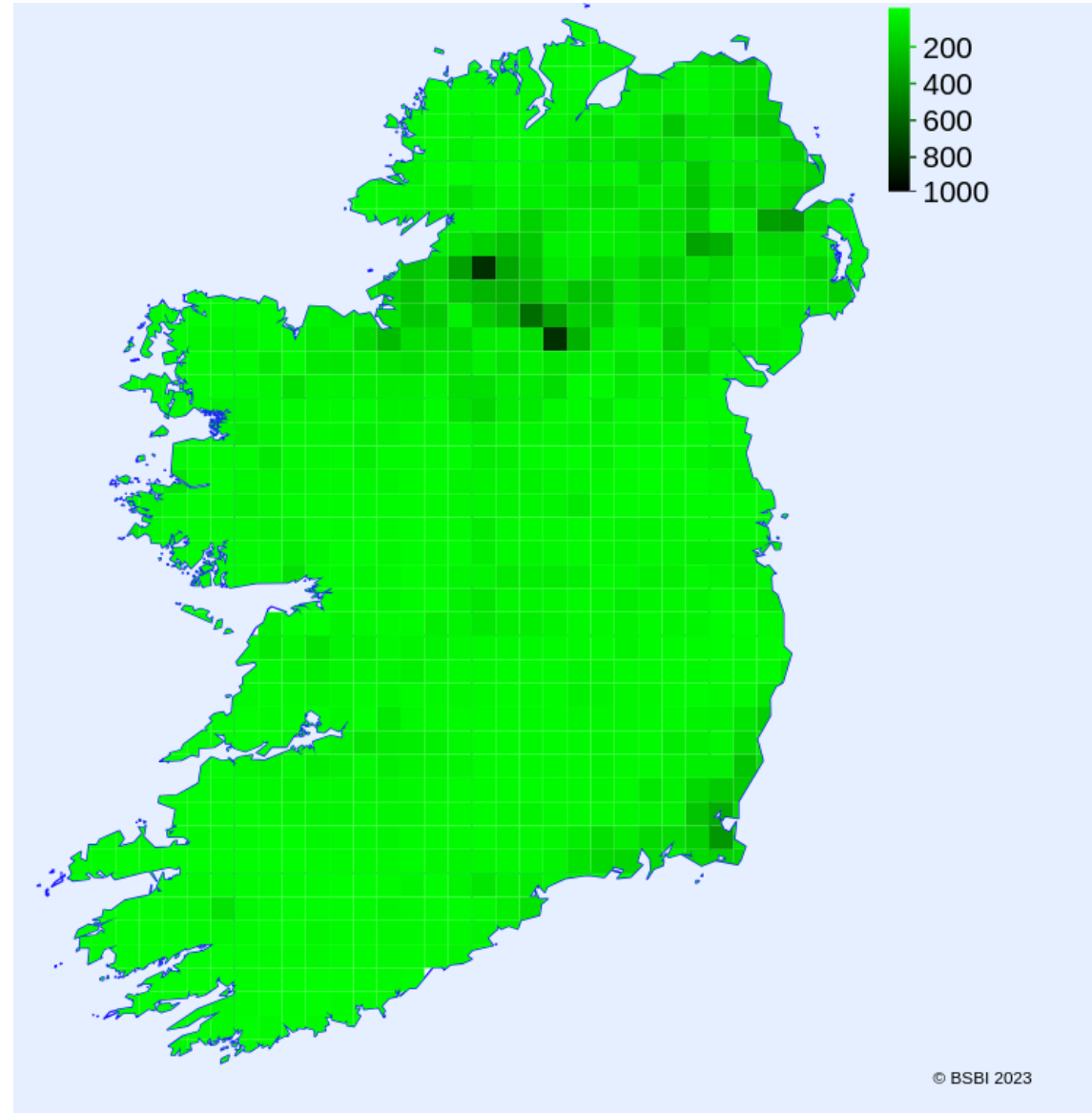
*E. fluviatile*: Water Horsetail  
*E. arvense*: Field Horsetail  
*E. X littorale*: Shore Horsetail



*E. arvense*: Field Horsetail  
*E. X littorale*: Shore Horsetail  
*E. fluviatile*: Water Horsetail



Number of  
Horsetail records  
per Hectad in the  
BSBI's database



**Distribution map of Field,  
Marsh and Water Horsetails  
in Ireland.**

**All hectads appear to have  
at least one of these  
species.**

**There must be some  
Horsetails near you!!**

**Go and find them!**

