



# Wildflowers of County Roscommon

Look around you and see the wonderful selection of wildflowers that grow in our beautiful county...



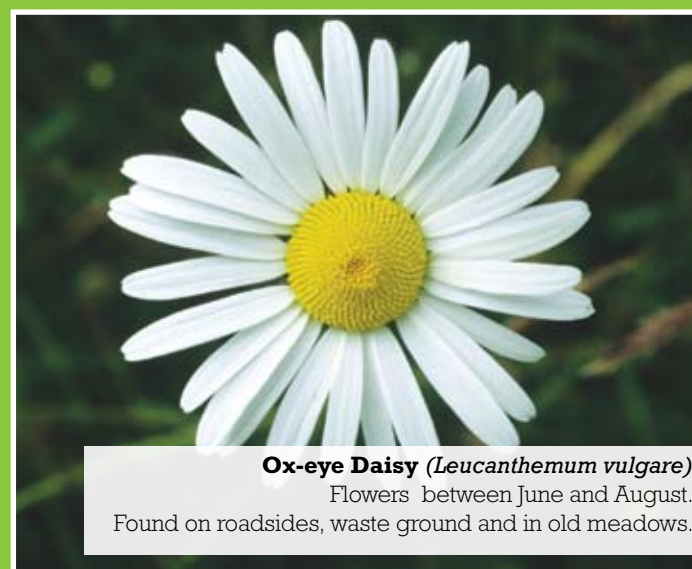
**Bird's Foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*)**  
Flowers from June to September. It grows abundantly in pastures and roadsides throughout County Roscommon.



**Dandelion (*Taraxacum*)**  
There are about 100 micro species of dandelion in Ireland. Flowering occurs from March to October and peaks in May.



**Water Avena (*Geum rivale*)**  
It grows in damp areas. The drooping reddish flowers appear from June to August



**Ox-eye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)**  
Flowers between June and August. Found on roadsides, waste ground and in old meadows.



**Corn Poppy (*Papaver rhoeas*)**  
Flowers from June to August. Grows in waste places and tilled ground.



**Yellow Flag (*Iris pseudacorus*)**  
Flowers in June and July and flourishes in damp fields, ditches, marshes and riversides.



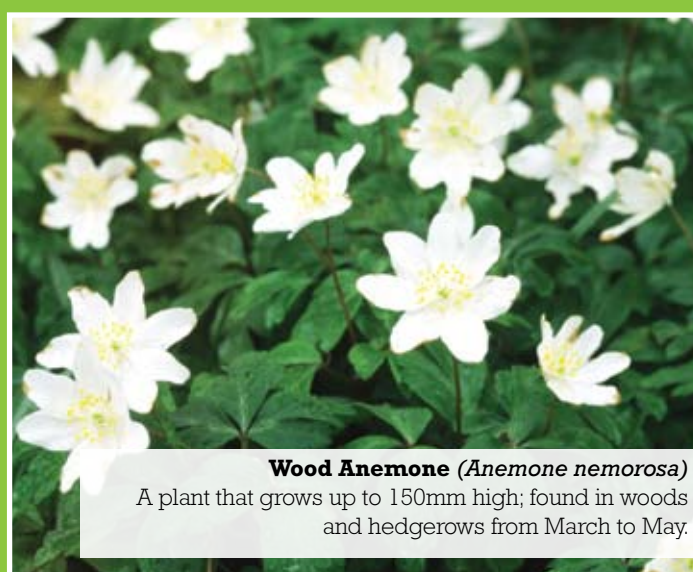
**Pitcher-plant (*Sarracenia purpurea*)**  
Flowers from May to July. Stores water in its distinctive pitcher-shaped leaves and captures insects.



**Irish Lady's Tresses (*Spiranthes romanzoffiana*)**  
A member of the orchid family and one of the rarest wildflowers in Ireland. It flowers in July and August near Lough Allen.



**Toothwort (*Lathraea squamaria*)**  
Flowers in April and May. Parasitic plant that grows woods at Mote Park, Lough Key Forest Park and St. John's Wood.



**Wood Anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*)**  
A plant that grows up to 150mm high; found in woods and hedgerows from March to May.



**Lesser Celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*)**  
Flowers from March to May. It grows in damp shady places and is very common in County Roscommon.



**Blackthorn or Sloe (*Prunus spinosa*)**  
Sloes and the Irish Shillelagh both come from the Blackthorn. Flowers in April and May.



**Cowslip (*Primula veris*)**  
Grows in the lime-rich parts of central Ireland and is rare elsewhere. It flowers in April and May.



**Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)**  
Abundant in County Roscommon in ditches, marshes and wet meadows. It flowers in July and August.



**Spear Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*)**  
A plant of grassland and waste ground. Flowers in July and August. It is common throughout Roscommon.



**Knapweed or Blackheads (*Centaurea nigra*)**  
Flowers from July to September and is common in pastures, banks, meadows and roadsides.



**Bee Orchid (*Ophrys apifera*)**  
Flowers in June and July. Grows in gravel areas and sometimes in disturbed ground after road-widening.



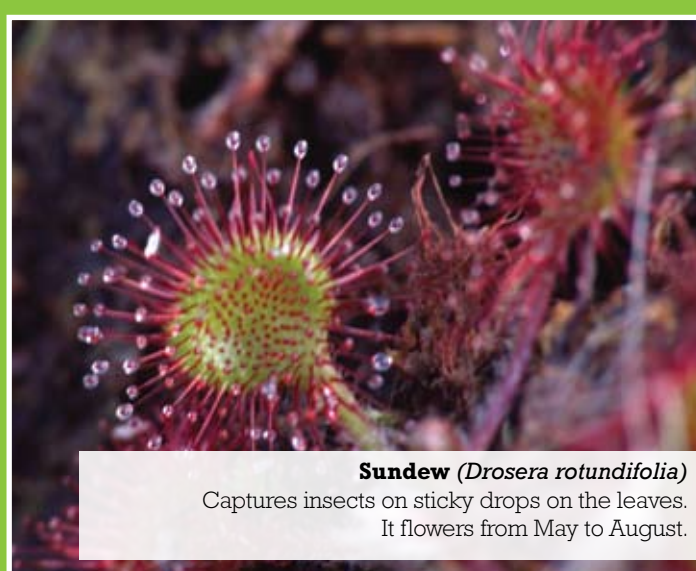
**Pyramidal Orchid (*Anacamptis pyramidalis*)**  
Named because of its distinctive shape. Grows in pastures, banks and sandy areas. Flowers in June and July.



**Lesser Butterfly Orchid (*Platanthera bifolia*)**  
The scented flowers appear in June and July. It grows in damp pastures and bogs.



**Bog Asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*)**  
In July and August its colourful yellow flowers brighten the bogs all over Roscommon.



**Sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*)**  
Captures insects on sticky drops on the leaves. It flowers from May to August.



**Marsh Helleborine (*Epipactis palustris*)**  
A very elegant, rare plant of damp places and marshes. Can grow up to 450mm tall. It flowers in June and July.



**Marsh Pea (*Lathyrus palustris*)**  
Flowers June to July and grows in marshy meadows. In Roscommon it grows close to Lough Ree and the River Shannon.



**Water Germander (*Teucrium scordium*)**  
Flowers in July and August. A very rare wildflower in Ireland but is frequent on the shores of Lough Ree and Lough Derg.