

**Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority  
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**2007 Monitoring summary for  
Prickly Sedge (*Carex muricata* spp. *muricata*)  
at Colt Park, Ingleborough NNR**

**Frances Graham (YDNPA) & Colin Newlands (Natural England)**

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**(Prickly Sedge) at Colt Park, Ingleborough NNR**

A *Carex muricata* spp. *muricata* monitoring visit was carried out at Colt Park NNR by Colin Newlands (Natural England) and Frances Graham (YDNPA) on 16th July 2007. After studying the thriving specimens growing in the Colt Park garden (Photos 1 & 2), we followed the directions in the baseline survey report (Foley, 1999) to the wild population. Once in the area of the plants we re-found the caged plants (Photos 3 & 4). Inside the cage we recorded 43 vegetative shoots, there were ten inflorescences present with some immature utricles. We cleared some *Mercurialis perennis* from inside the cage. Immediately south of the cage we recorded seven vegetative shoots, with five inflorescences present. The third clump was re-found three metres due north of the north west corner of the cage near a multi-stemmed *Prunus padus*. We recorded four shoots with three inflorescences present at this location. Some *Pteridium aquilinum* was cleared around this clump. It was not thought to be a future threat. The Prickly Sedge plants were growing amongst *Saxifraga hypnoides*, *Geranium robertianum*, *Valeriana officinalis*, *Stellaria holostea* and *Festuca*. The population appeared to be healthy with no evidence of rabbit grazing. When compared with the results of previous monitoring visits we felt the population was stable and that the LBAP action regarding erecting a larger cage was unnecessary and no longer relevant because there was no evidence of rabbit damage on the wooded pavement. The wooded pavement is extremely dangerous to survey as the lush ground flora obscures the location of the grykes so great care was needed. Other species noted in the vicinity were *Trollius europaeus* and *Campanula latifolia*.

2007 - 54 vegetative shoots, 18 inflorescences  
Population Trend – Stable

**Photo 1 - *Carex muricata* spp. *muricata***



**Photo 2 – *Carex muricata* spp. *muricata* in Colt Park garden**



**Photo 3 – *Carex muricata* spp. *muricata* in cage at Colt Park**



Photo 4 - *Carex muricata* spp. *muricata* in cage at Colt Park

