



BROAD-BORDERED WHITE-UNDERWING

This small Red Data Book moth measures about 2.5 cm across. It flies by day when its white underwing bordered by a broad dark bar, is distinctive. Relatively frequent in Shetland in the 19th century it has only been seen twice in the last 20 years. It favours high ground, notably Ronas Hill, and is best looked for on fine days in June.

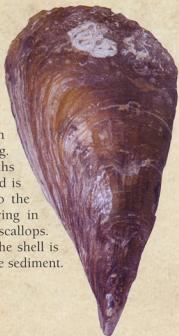
COMMON BLUE DAMSELFLY



Our only resident dragonfly is best looked for on moorland pools on calm, sunny days from mid-June to early-August. It is currently known only from the North Mainland and Yell.

FANSHELL

This large two-shelled mollusc feeds on tiny marine organisms in the plankton and can grow up up to 30cm long. It occurs in water depths of 10 to 400 metres and is usually firmly dug into the sediment, often occurring in the same habitat as scallops. Only the top third of the shell is usually visible above the sediment.



FRESH WATER PEARL MUSSEL

This freshwater animal is dependant on brown trout for part of its life-cycle. It is now so rare in Britain, due to pearl fishing, that it is illegal to remove it from the stream-bed without a licence. It favours running freshwater with a fine stone or shingle substrate, and occasionally occurs in peaty substrates.



STAG'S-HORN CLUBMOSS

Although reasonably widespread across Shetland until the 1970's this plant was never common. Then after the last confirmed sighting in 1990, it was feared extinct until two records in 2004. It favours dry, often stony, shallow heathland, and is most likely to be found where sheep grazing is either very light, or absent.



HEATH CUDWEED

Once widespread in Shetland, this plant has not been recorded here since 1986. Its reddish flowers and narrow, pointed, grey-backed leaves are quite distinctive and should be looked for in July and August. It occurred on dry heathy or turfy ground, along roadsides and sometimes near arable ground.