



CURRICULUM VITAE

Mairéad Gabbett B.Sc. (Hons)

TERTIARY EDUCATION

1994-1998 National University of Ireland, Galway:
Botany, B.Sc. Honours
Principal subjects: Botany, Zoology, Hydrology and Geology.

Thesis: A vegetation study of four North Connemara woodlands.

CAREER HISTORY

April 2007-Dec 2007 Survey of semi-natural grassland habitats of Offaly and Roscommon with BEC consultants. Duties included selection of sites using ArcView GIS, preparation of field maps and site packs, grassland vegetation survey, data entry, mapping of sites using ArcView GIS, assessment and compilation of EU Annex I Habitat monitoring and site conservation assessments scores for final report.

Sept 2006-March 2007 Management plan Special Area of Conservation facilitator for NPWS. Duties included collation of existing data, site visits and preparation of management plans for consultation with landowners and interested parties. Habitats included oak woodlands, petrifying springs, alluvial forests, transition mires and quaking bogs.

May 2006-Aug 2006 Coastal Habitat Monitoring Project for NPWS. Duties included vegetation surveying and mapping of coastal habitats including machair grasslands, fixed dunes, mobile dunes, embryonic dunes, perennial and annual vegetated shingle shores in the west and north of Ireland.

April 2006 Bat Survey with a team of ecologists surveying bats along the proposed Oranmore-Gort road scheme.

Oct 2005 –April 2006 Contract with NPWS updating NHA, SAC and SPA files and site packs from NPWS classification to Fossitt habitat classification.

Apr 2005 –Sept 2005 Native Woodland Survey with BEC consultants. Duties included vegetation surveys of woodlands, relevés, collecting timber data, bryophyte identification and data entry.

Jan 2005-Mar2005 Travelling in Argentina and Chile.

May 2004-Jan 2005 Survey of farm wildlife and habitats on 19 Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS) demonstration farms. The project was funded by The Heritage Council and supported by Teagasc. Duties include selection of farms, contacting REPS planners and farmers, co-ordinating and carrying out surveys, talking to farmers about the importance of farm wildlife and their management of farm habitats, creating reports for farmers and summary sheets for REPS advisors and drafting the project report. Habitats identified and surveyed during the project included wet meadows, hedgerows, field margins, embankments, woodlands, treelines, ponds, drains, rivers and riparian habitats.

Mar 2004-Dec 2004	Management plans for Special Areas of Conservation facilitator for NPWS. Duties include collation of existing data, site visits and preparation of management plans for consultation with landowners and interested parties. Habitats surveyed included alkaline fens, coastal habitats, raised bogs, transition mires and quaking bogs.
Nov 2002 – Jan 2004	Eco-Agri Technician on Ag-Biota Project based in Teagasc, Johnstown Castle. Duties included botanical survey of grasslands on Teagasc and commercial farms, collection of invertebrate traps, data entry and primary analysis of vegetation data. Developing and writing Farm Wildlife Surveys reports for REPS demonstration farms in Co. Wexford.
May 2002 – Oct 2002	Raised Bog NHA designation project fixed term contract with NPWS. Duties included compilation of information on proposed NHA sites, preparation of site maps, site descriptions, site synopsis and Natura 2000 forms.
Jan 2002 – Feb 2002	Common Standards Monitoring Pilot Project fixed term contract with Scottish Natural Heritage. Duties included fieldwork in a range of Scottish uplands habitats assessing site condition monitoring field cards.
Aug 2001 – Dec 2001	Employed as a botanist by McConnell Associates Consultants on three reports commissioned by Scottish Natural Heritage: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Site Condition Monitoring of Vascular Plants at Creag Meagaidh. 2. Habitat Impact Assessment of Inchnadamph and Inverpolly in Relation to Grazing and Trampling Impacts by Red Deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i> L.). 3. Heather Condition Assessment with Particular Reference to Heather Die back and its Areal Extent on Ronas Hill, North Roe SSSI/cSAC.
Jul 2001 – Aug 2001	Volunteer research assistant, University of Stirling on the Corsican high mountains target region of the CEU Framework V funded project <i>The European dimension of the Global Observations Research Initiative in Alpine Environments (GLORIA) – a contribution to GTOS.</i> (Co-ordinated by the University of Vienna).
Apr 2001 – Jun 2001	Assistant to horticulturist production manager at Costins Nursery, Kilcock, Co. Kildare.
Apr 2000 – Mar 2001	Year spent travelling and working abroad in New Zealand and Australia
Oct 1999 – Apr 2000	Biological Heritage Sites (BHS) project officer with Lancashire Wildlife Trust. Duties included site visits, vegetation surveys, contacting landowners, tenants and interested parties to inform them of the importance of the BHS and its location, preparation of site cards and maps of BHS, and attending meetings with other NGOs, English Nature, FWAG, MAFF and County Council staff.
Jun 1999 – Aug 1999	Researcher on the hybrid status of <i>Quercus</i> in Derryclare Wood NHA, Galway for Department of Botany, NUIG.
Feb 1999 – Mar 1999	Identification of bryophyte samples collected in Derryclare Wood NHA, Galway for Department of Botany, NUIG.
Sept 1997- Dec 1997	Botany demonstrator in first year science labs in NUIG.
Jun 1997-Sept 1997	Awarded summer bursary from Connemara National Park to carry out fieldwork for final year thesis. Other duties included vegetation survey of grassland enclosures and leading tours of the natural and cultural history of the park.

SKILLS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Excellent general fieldwork and flora identifications skills.
- Good data collection, analysis and technical report writing skills.
- Good interpersonal, communication and presentation skills.
- Computer skills – include MS Word, ArcView, MS Access, MS Powerpoint and MS Excel.
- Full clean driving licence.
- Experienced hill walker

PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Gabbett, M. & Finn, J. (2005) The Farmland Wildlife Survey-raising awareness of wildlife habitats. Report to Teagasc.

Gabbett, M. & Finn, J. (2005) The Farmland Wildlife Survey. Report to Heritage Council.

Derwin, J., **Gabbett, M.**, Keane, S., Long, M. and Martin, J. (2002) Raised bog natural heritage areas (NHAs) project 2002. Unpublished report for Dúchas.

Fahy O., Fuller J., **Gabbett M.**, Gormally M. and Sheehy Skeffington M. (1999) Derryclare wood: a multidisciplinary study of its structure and age. Report to the Heritage Council, Kilkenny.

Gabbett M. and Sheehy Skeffington M. (1998) An ecological study of woodlands in NW Connemara. Presented to Irish Botanists' Meeting, UCD (April 1998).

Gabbett M. and Finn J. (2004) Raising awareness of wildlife habitats - the 'wildlife audit' approach. In: *Proceedings of the 14th Irish Environmental Researchers' Colloquium (Environ 2004)*, University of Limerick.