Bayfordbury lake flora (1961 – 2026)

The table below is an extended version of the table published in *Transactions of the Hertfordshire Natural History Society* v. 58 (2026).

Comparison between time periods is based mainly on two papers by Kenneth A. Beckett in *The Journal of The John Innes Society* (1961 and 1962), 3 management plans for Bayfordbury (Crispin & Izzo, 1995; Allen-Williams, 2007 and O'Brien, 2010) and my own observations between 2013 and 2026. The management plans were mostly used to confirm the presence/disappearance of species seen in the 1960s and in the recent decade. My own observations are rather patchy as I do not survey the lake vegetation regularly as I do in other parts of Bayfordbury, and so some species might get overlooked.

Some species names were updated according to the current accepted names to make comparison easier, while some were left as reported in Beckett 1961 and 1962.

Latin name	English name	1961-1962	1995-2010	2013-2026	note, KB
Acer campestre	Field Maple		✓	✓	
Acer platanoides	Norway Maple			✓	
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore		✓	✓	
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	✓	✓	✓	
Acorus calamus	Sweet Flag	✓	✓	✓	naturalized
Aegopodium podagraria	Ground Elder	✓		✓	
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony	✓		✓	
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping Bent			✓	
Ajuga reptans	Bugle			✓	
Alisma plantago-aquatica	Water-plantain	✓			
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	✓		✓	
Alopecurus pratensis	Meadow Foxtail			✓	
Anemone nemorosa	Wood Anemone	✓		✓	
Anisantha sterilis	Barren Brome			✓	
Anthoxanthus odoratum	Sweet Vernal Grass			✓	
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	✓		✓	
Arctium minus agg.	Lesser Burdock			✓	
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-grass	✓		✓	
Arum maculatum	Lords-and-Ladies			✓	
Barbarea vulgaris	Wintercress	✓			
Bellis perennis	Daisy	✓		✓	
Betula pubescens	Downy Birch			✓	
Brachypodium sylvaticum	False Brome	✓		✓	
Brassica napus		✓			
Bromopsis ramosa	Hairy Brome	✓		✓	
Callitriche platycarpa	Various-leaved Water-starwort	✓			

Calocedrus decurrens	Incense Cedar	✓	✓	✓	planted before JII
Calystegia sepium	Hedge Bindweed		✓	✓	
Calystegia silvatica	Large Bindweed	✓		✓	
Cardamine pratensis	Lady's Smock	✓		✓	
Carex acutiformis	Lesser Pond Sedge			✓	
Carex hirta	Hairy Sedge			✓	
Carex pendula	Pendulous Sedge		✓	✓	
Carex riparia	Greater Pond Sedge	✓		✓	
Carex sylvatica	Wood Sedge			✓	
Catala (bignonioides)	Indian Bean Tree		✓	✓	
Centaurea nigra s.l.	Knapweed	✓	✓	✓	
Cerastium fontanum	Common Mouse-ear	✓			
Chamaecyparis lawsoniana	Lawson Cypress		✓	✓	
Chamaecyparis nootkatensis	Nootka Cypress	✓			
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen	✓			
Circaea lutetiana	Enchanter's-nightshade			✓	
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle	✓		✓	
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	✓	✓	✓	
Clematis vitalba	Traveller's-joy			✓	
Clinopodium vulgare	Wild Basil			✓	
Cornus mas	Cornelian-cherry			✓	
Cornus sericea	Red-osier Dogwood	✓			planted before JII?
Cornus sanguinea subsp. sanguinea	Dogwood		✓	✓	
Corylus avellana	Hazel			✓	
Crataegus laevigata	Midland Hawthorn	✓		✓	
Crataegus x media				✓	
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn		✓	✓	
Crepis capillaris	Smooth Hawk's-beard			✓	
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	✓		✓	
Daphne laureola	Spurge-laurel			✓	
Darmera peltata	Indian-rhubarb	✓		✓	planted before JII
Deschampsia caespitosa	Tufted Hair-grass	✓		✓	
Dipsacus fullonum	Wild Teasel		✓	✓	
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern	✓		✓	
Elodea densa	Large-flowered Waterweed	✓			introduced
Elytrigia repens	Common Couch	✓		✓	
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb	✓		✓	
Epilobium montanum	Broad-leaved Willowherb	✓			
Epilobium parviflorum	Hoary Willowherb	✓		✓	

Epilobium tetragonum	Square-stalked Willowherb	✓		✓	
Equisetum arvense	Field Horsetail	✓			
Erigeron sumatrensis	Guernsey Fleabane			✓	
Fallopia japonica	Japanese Knotweed			✓	
Festuca rubra agg.	Red Fescue			✓	
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	✓		✓	
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash		✓	✓	
Fritillaria meleagris	Snake's-head Fritillary	✓			planted before JII
Galanthus nivalis	Snowdrop			✓	
Galanthus nivalis f. pleniflorus	Snowdrop			✓	
Galium aparine	Cleavers	✓		✓	
Galium mollugo	Hedge Bedstraw			✓	
Geranium dissectum	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	✓			
Geranium pratense	Meadow Crane's-bill	✓	✓	✓	probably planted
Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert	✓	✓	✓	
Geum urbanum	Herb Bennet			✓	
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy	✓	✓	✓	
Glyceria maxima	Reed Sweet-grass	✓		✓	
Gunnera manicata	Brazilian Giant-rhubarb	✓			planted before JII
Hedera helix	Ivy	✓		✓	
Helleborus foetidus	Stinking Hellebore			✓	
Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly Oxtongue			✓	
Heracleum mantegazzianum	Giant Hogweed	✓	✓	✓	naturalized
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	✓	✓		
Hippuris vulgaris	Mare's-tail	✓			
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	✓		✓	
Holcus mollis	Creeping Soft-grass	✓			
Hordeum secalinum	Meadow Barley	✓		✓	
Hottonia palustris	Water-violet	X			introduced
Hypericum perforatum	Perforate St John's-wort	✓	✓	✓	
Hypericum tetrapterum	Square-stalked St John's-wort		✓	✓	
Iris foetidissima	Stinking Iris			✓	
Iris pseudacorus	Yellow Flag Iris		✓	✓	
Juglans regia				✓	
Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. montanum	Yellow Archangel			✓	
Lathraea clandestina	Purple Toothwort	✓	✓	✓	
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow Vetchling	✓			

Lemna minor (agg.)	Common Duckweed	✓		✓	
Lemna trisulca	Ivy-leaved Duckweed	✓			
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	✓	✓		
Liquidambar styraciflua	Sweet Gum	✓	✓		planted before JII
Lolium perenne	Perennial Ryegrass			✓	
Lotus corniculatus	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	✓	✓		
Lycopus europaeus	Gypsywort	✓		✓	
Lysimachia nummularia	Creeping-Jenny			✓	
Lythrum salicaria	Purple-loosestrife	✓	✓	✓	
Mentha aquatica	Water Mint	✓	✓	✓	
Mercurialis perennis	Dog's Mercury	✓	✓	✓	
Metasequoia glyptostroboides	Dawn Redwood		✓	✓	
Morus nigrum	Black Mulberry	✓	✓	✓	planted before JII
Myosotis scorpioides	Water Forget-me-not	✓			
Myriophyllum verticillatum	Whorled Water-milfoil	✓			
Narcissus bulbocodium	Hoop-petticoat Daffodil	✓			planted before JII
Nuphar lutea	Yellow Water-lily	✓		✓	
Nymphaea alba	White Water-lily	✓	✓	✓	
Parrotia persica	Persian Ironwood		✓	✓	
Petasites fragrans	Winter Heliotrope			✓	
Petasites hybridus	Butterbur	✓	✓		probably planted
Petasites japonicus	Giant Butterbur	✓			planted before JII
Philadelphus sp. ('Lemoinei Group')	Mock-orange		✓	✓	
Phleum bertolonii	Smaller Cat's-tail			✓	
Phyllostachys sp.	(Bamboo)			✓	
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	✓		✓	
Plantago major	Greater Plantain	✓		✓	
Platanus orientalis	Oriental Plane	✓	✓	✓	planted before JII
Platanus x hispanica	London Plane	✓	✓	✓	
Polygonum amplexicaule	Red Bistort	✓			planted before JII
Persicaria maculosa	Redshank	✓			
Populus balsamifera agg.	Balsam Poplar	✓	✓	✓	
Populus x canadensis	Hybrid Black-poplar		✓	✓	
Populus x canescens	Grey Poplar			✓	
Populus lasiocarpa	Chinese Necklace Poplar	✓	✓		planted before JII
Populus tremula	Aspen		✓	✓	
Potamogeton sp.	Pondweed	✓			
Potentilla reptans	Creeping Cinquefoil	✓	✓	✓	
Primula veris	Cowslip	✓		✓	
Primula vulgaris	Primrose			✓	
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	✓	✓	✓	

Prunus laurocerasus	Cherry Laurel			✓	
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn			✓	
Quercus x hispanica ('Heterophylla')	Hybrid Oak	✓	✓	✓	planted before JII?
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	✓	✓	✓	
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	✓	✓	✓	
Ranunculus peltatus s.l.	Pond Water-crowfoot	✓			
Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	✓		✓	
Rhamnus cathartica	Buckthorn			✓	
Ribes rubrum	Red Currant			✓	
Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum	Water-cress	✓			
Rosa canina agg.	Dog Rose	✓	✓	✓	
Rosa (xanthina?)				✓	
Rubus caesius	Dewberry	✓			
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	✓	✓	✓	
Rumex crispus	Curled Dock	✓			
Rumex sanguineus	Wood Dock	✓	✓	✓	
Salix alba	White Willow			✓	
Salix caprea	Goat Willow	✓	✓	✓	
Salix cinerea	Grey Willow			✓	
Salix elaeagnos	Olive Willow	✓		✓	
Salix fragilis s.l.	Crack-willow		✓	✓	
Salix purpurea	Purple Willow			✓	
Salix x sepulcralis (tbc)	Weeping Willow	✓	✓		
Salix viminalis	Osier		✓	(✓)	
Sambucus nigra	Elder		✓	✓	
Sasaella ramosa	Hairy Bamboo			✓	
Scrophularia aquatica	Water Figwort	✓		✓	
Scutellaria galericulata	Skullcap	✓		✓	
Senecio jacobaea	Common Ragwort		✓	✓	
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	✓			
Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet			✓	
Sonchus arvensis	Corn Sow-thistle	✓		✓	
Sonchus asper	Rough Sow-thistle			✓	
Sonchus oleraceus	Smooth Sow-thistle	✓			
Sorbaria sorbifolia	Sorbaria			✓	
Sorbus (intermedia)	Whitebeam	✓	✓	✓	
Sparganium erectum	Branched Bur-reed			✓	
Stachys palustris	Marsh Woundwort			✓	
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort	✓	✓	✓	
Stellaria holostea	Greater Stitchwort			✓	
Stratoides aloides	Water Soldier	X			
Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry		✓	✓	
Symphytum x uplandicum	Russian Comfrey			✓	
Tamus communis				✓	

Taraxacum	Dandelion	✓			
Taxodium distichum	Swamp Cypress	✓	✓	✓	planted before JII
Taxus baccata	Yew		✓	✓	
Torilis japonica	Hedge Parsley			✓	
Tragopogon pratensis	Goat's-beard			✓	
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	✓			
Trifolium repens	White Clover	✓	✓	✓	
Typha latifolia	Bulrush	✓	✓	✓	
Ulmus sp.	Elm	✓	✓	✓	
Urtica dioica	Stinging Nettle	✓	✓	✓	
Verbascum thapsus	Great Mullein			✓	
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	✓	✓	✓	
Veronica filiformis	Slender Speedwell			✓	
Veronica montana	Wood Speedwell			✓	
Viburnum lantana	Wayfaring-tree			✓	
Viburnum opulus	Guelder-rose			✓	
Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch	✓			
Vinca minor	Lesser Periwinkle	✓		✓	probably planted
Viola reichenbachiana	Early Dog-violet			✓	
Viola riviniana	Common Dog-violet	✓			

References

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