<u>SK07 – Target square SK0577</u>

To summarise -

SK0577 - I found **elm in the the target km square, but only two spindly seedlings barely 6 ft tall** SK050 779 300m in a copse by Pye Greave Farm (I wonder if these should count since they are probably incapable of supporting WLH) **I found no elm in the remains of the tetrad.** I was not able to search all of it, but much of it is moorland and devoid of trees and most of the trees in the lower fields and stream beds are scrutinisable with binoculars from a footpath running past Allstone Lee Farm. They seem to be mainly ash, alder and hawthorn. Elms seem absent, which is especially curious since wych elms line the stream beds only a little downstream

I identified **no WLH caterpillars pupae or butterflies (29-6-07)**. The weather was cold, mostly overcast and generally unfavourable for butterfly sightings.

10 km square SK07

The closest elms to the 1km square are in the bed of the Pyegreave Brook and by Rye Flatt Cottage SK 045 783 unfortunately some 300 metres outside the tetrad. These are wych elms about 20-25 ft high, mostly overshadowed by taller trees. Some can be accessed from a field behind. This side is a south-facing and in a sheltered position which looks quite promising. Binoculars showed what might have been a pupa on one high branch.

Other prospects

Generally the land within the 10 km square is a limestone plateau, mostly of it above 300 metres in altitude.

The area around Buxton seems the most promising although the altitude is about 300m. In the centre of Buxton itself, I noticed a line of mature elms with trunks up to 3ft in diameter running down the side of St Anne's Well Park SK 059 733. Wych elms also are common. For instance, there is a line of them, mostly about 20-25 ft, along the footpath behind the railway line from the station SK 058 737.

Areas approaching 200 metres and therefore more promising for WLH. These are in the bottom of the Wye Valley as it nears the western edge of the 10km square and the Goyt Valley and Combs Reservoir areas on the extreme Northern edge of the 10km square.

I will put photographs of some of the elms on the blog-site www.whiteletter.multiply.com

Rob Foster 30th June 2007