Poppy in barley © Nick Ford CC BY NC ND 2.0

Crops

While creating habitats alongside cropped areas is extremely beneficial to wildlife, the cropped area itself can deliver enhanced benefits for wildlife through reducing inputs, incorporating stubbles and fallows, and adjusting rotations.

Cropped areas of the farm are valuable for a range of wildlife. Some species, such as arable plants, flourish under conditions of regular annual disturbance, and require absence of broad-leaved herbicides and low levels or absence of fertilisers. Invertebrates are helped by changes in management that enhance plant communities, in turn supporting other groups such as birds. Cropped areas are particularly important for a number of declining farmland birds, such as skylark, which need open areas of the field for feeding and nesting.

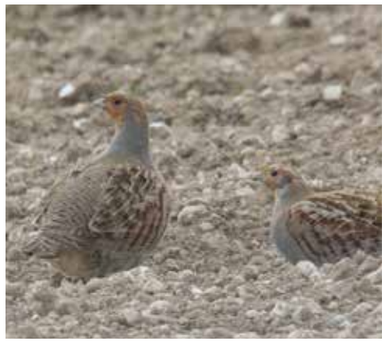
Key points

- **Cropped areas are important for a range of species**
- **Reducing pesticides and fertilisers on field edges or whole fields encourages plant and invertebrate diversity**
- **Incorporating stubbles, fallows, and spring cropping will benefit farmland birds and other wildlife**

Crops

Crop edge flora © Michelle Jones CC BY NC ND 2.0

There are a number of ways in which cropped areas can be managed to help increase their wildlife value, which are supported by agri-environment scheme funding. Conservation headlands, fallow plots, spring cereals, overwinter stubbles and careful management of inputs will all help wildlife. Together with field margin management, sympathetic crop management will also benefit predatory invertebrates such as beetles and spiders, which help control crop pests.



Conservation headlands help gamebirds, such as grey partridge, to raise more young
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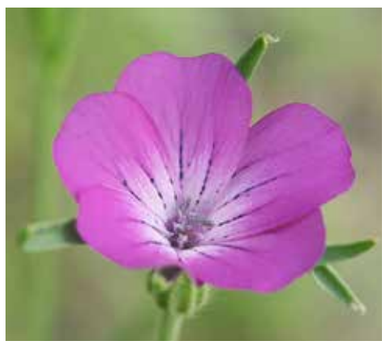


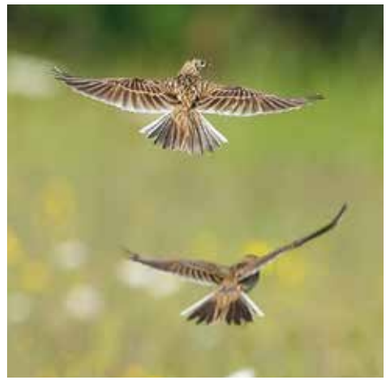
Conservation headlands can encourage rare arable plants, such as corncockle
© BerndH CC BY SA 2.5

Conservation headlands

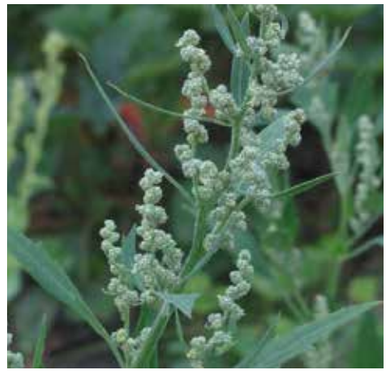
Conservation headlands were originally developed by the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust, to help halt the decline of the grey partridge. A conservation headland is the outer edge of a cereal crop (around 6-24m wide), which has reduced pesticide inputs (only to control grass weeds and some insect vectors of plant viruses). Summer use of insecticides and the use of herbicides targeted at broad-leaved plants are avoided. Fertilisers are not used on the headland.

Conservation headlands particularly benefit gamebirds such as the native grey partridge and the introduced red-legged partridge and pheasant. They provide nesting and brood rearing areas and abundant invertebrates, such as sawflies, that are important in the diet of their chicks. All three gamebird species feed chicks at field edges rather than centres, particularly where broad-leaved weeds are present as host plants for invertebrate prey. Under reduced herbicide regimes, cereal crops provide insect food as well as an ideal sward structure for cover from predators and adverse weather conditions.

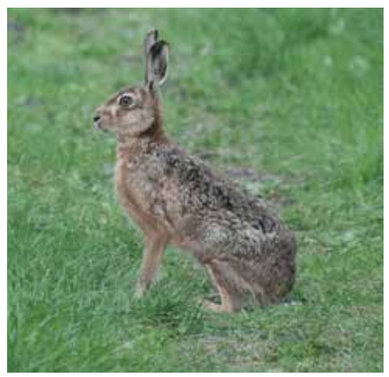
Conservation headlands can also help other wildlife. Rare arable plants that depend on regular cultivation of cropped areas will benefit from the lack of herbicide use, while small mammals will make use of the more abundant supplies of seeds and invertebrates that are found in conservation headlands (Box 7).



Fallow plots encourage skylarks
© Don Sutherland CC BY NC ND 2.0



Fat-hen is beneficial for birds and insects
© Melganzenvoet Bloeiwijze CC BY SA 3.0



Brown hares benefit from undersowing
© sootyskye CC BY NC ND 2.0

Fallow plots

Where naturally regenerated stubble is left fallow over the following growing season, the patchy, diverse vegetation that regenerates provides an insect rich habitat during the summer and an undisturbed breeding area for ground nesting birds and mammals, such as the brown hare. The benefits of fallows for invertebrates largely depend on seed bank diversity. Fallows can also have an agronomic benefit, allowing soil fertility to recover and soil structure to improve following continuous cultivation. Management of fallows for wildlife should aim to delay cultivation or mowing of the vegetation until at least late July to protect ground-nesting birds.

Spring cereals

Spring-sown cereal crops offer better wildlife benefits than winter-sown cereals as they can normally be grown with no insecticide sprays and many of the spring germinating weeds, such as fat-hen, are very beneficial for birds and insects. They also have a crop structure that is suitable for a number of ground nesting birds, including skylarks, which enables birds to nest and feed within the crop. RSPB research has identified a noticeable difference in skylarks' nesting activity in spring wheat compared to winter wheat. Skylarks in spring-sown crops nest for longer and can raise two or three broods, but in winter crops most stop nesting in late May, raising just one brood, as the crop becomes too tall and dense and stops the birds having easy access to the ground.

Undersowing

The addition of a grass/clover ley as an understorey to cereal crops increases the diversity of the habitat; making them insect-rich foraging grounds for birds such as grey partridges and corn buntings. It also benefits farm wildlife such as the brown hare. The undersown crop will also help prevent pollution by reducing soil erosion and run-off at source.

Any undersown grass leys should be maintained until the crop is harvested, which should be not be before 1 July. The grass ley remains in place until the following summer.

Crops

© Evelyn Simak CC BY SA 2.0

Cereal stubbles (above) and stubble kale (below), retained over winter, provide rich food sources for farmland birds

© Peter Roworth/Natural England

Overwinter stubbles are especially good for corn buntings © P.N. Watts/Natural England

Overwinter stubbles

Retaining stubble following the harvest of combinable crops until the following year is a valuable option for wildlife. Overwinter stubbles can be moved around the farm within the normal rotation and fit into most arable systems.

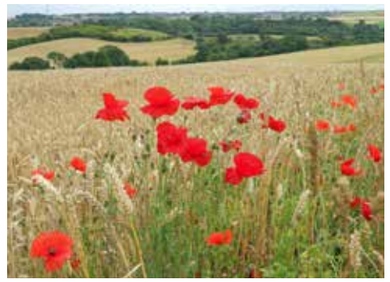
This option will provide winter food sources for farmland birds and habitat for brown hare with further wildlife benefits from spring-grown crops. Stubbles have traditionally been one of the most important sources of seed food and shelter for farmland birds over the winter. Spilt grain and weed seeds among the stubble can attract large flocks of finches, larks and buntings. Stubbles for wildlife should ideally be left unploughed as late as possible (end of February). Sawflies spend the winter as pupae in the soil, and another benefit of late ploughed stubbles is that sawflies can emerge safely and provide important food for birds. To deliver widespread benefits for seed-eating birds, 10-20% of arable land should be left as late ploughed stubbles. The value of stubbles for wildlife is dependent on them providing a rich source of seeds, so management of the previous crop is important.

Skylark plots

Skylark plots are undrilled or sprayed-out patches in winter cereal fields. In a conventional winter cereal field, skylarks can forage easily during spring but, by June, they struggle to find food in the tall and dense crop. However, in fields with skylark plots, skylarks can continue to forage easily throughout the season because of the less dense patches of habitat. Two plots per hectare in winter wheat can boost skylark productivity by around 50%. Skylark plots are usually created by switching off the drill to create undrilled patches at least 3m wide. Plots need to be located away from hedges and field edges, in large fields of more than 5ha.

Low input cropping and organic management

Reduced pesticide use can be carried out over the whole field, rather than just the field edge, and this may be supported by agri-environment funding. An integrated farming approach that combines measures such as choosing crop varieties for disease resistance, minimum tillage and precision farming to optimise nutrient and crop protection inputs has the potential to deliver significant financial and environmental benefits.



Reduced or no use of herbicides increases plant and insect diversity in the crop

© Duncan Harris CC BY 2.0

Low input farming can encourage beneficial invertebrates, such as these linyphiid spiders

© P.R. Harvey, Spider Recording Scheme (2011)

Many of the environmental benefits of integrated farming relate to soil and water conservation but there are also specific benefits for wildlife, particularly through measures that reduce nutrient and pesticide inputs (Box 8). Reduced crop inputs are likely to increase plant diversity within the crop, with associated benefits for rare arable plants, insects and seed-eating birds, through increasing summer and winter food availability. Many of the more desirable weeds for wildlife are the less competitive or more easily controlled species, making it possible to consider management techniques that might allow some non-crop plants to flourish without encouraging the problem species.

Restrictions on pesticide and fertiliser use are greatest in organic farming systems. Research has shown organic cereals to have higher numbers of non-crop plants, which in turn increases the numbers of predatory spiders in the crop, which respond to the increased structure in the understorey vegetation.

Rare arable plants

Pheasant's eye was once gathered for cut flowers

© Alberto Salguero CC BY SA 3.0

Many species of arable plants are rare, declining or of conservation concern. Some of the species that can be found in arable fields are cornflower, pheasant's eye, corn buttercup and Venus's looking glass. Arable plants need annual ground disturbance in either spring or autumn, minimal competition from a crop (either an unfertilised crop or no crop sown at all) and no application of herbicides. Arable plants favour sands and freely draining acidic soils or chalk and limestone derived soils, including clays, in sunny situations. Sites tend to have been in arable cultivation for a long time (often more than 100 years).

The richest seed banks are often on field edges, where management may be most easily focused. Cultivated margins and conservation headlands are effective ways of encouraging arable plants. Organic farming, or other low-intensity regimes, such as low-input spring crops and summer fallows can also encourage arable plants and increase the diversity of insect life throughout the crop.

Poppies © Nick Ford CC BY NC ND 2.0

Wood mice prefer conservation headlands

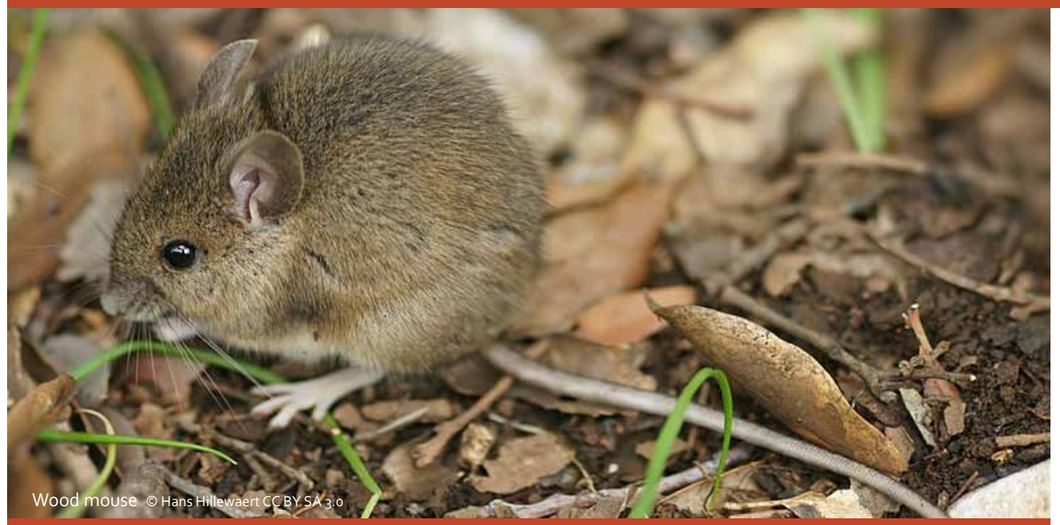
Conservation headlands, where the outer 6m or so of cereal fields receive reduced selective pesticide applications, can be very beneficial for wildlife and are widely supported through agri-environment scheme funding. Conservation headlands were originally developed by the Game Conservancy Trust (now the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust) and were shown to have higher abundances of insects and arable weeds than fully sprayed headlands, which in turn supported populations of grey partridge.

Insects and arable weed seeds are also eaten by small mammals such as harvest mice and wood mice and so conservation headlands might be beneficial in other ways. To find out whether wood mice could tell the difference between conservation headlands and other within-crop areas we fitted tiny radio-transmitters to wood mice and tracked their movements. It was clear that mice preferred to spend more time in conservation headlands and unsprayed headlands compared to sprayed headlands and mid-field areas. Further investigations revealed that in these areas they were pausing more often to feed.

Key results

- **Conservation headlands are beneficial for small mammals such as wood mice**
- **There is a higher diversity of plants and invertebrates in conservation headlands**
- **These provide rich food sources for small mammals**

Radio-tracking was used to reveal the movements of wood mice in arable fields © Fran Tattersall



Wood mouse © Hans Hillewaert CC BY SA 3.0

Methiocarb affects wood mice

Methiocarb is a non-specific carbamate pesticide that is widely used to control slugs and snails on farmland. It is usually applied as cereal-based pellets and may thus potentially be attractive to other, non-target species. Wood mice are known to eat methiocarb pellets and may therefore be particularly at risk of exposure.

We wanted to investigate whether broadcast applications of pellets affected the size of wood mouse populations, and whether these effects varied with the timing of application. To answer these questions, we captured, marked and released wood mice on four fields. One of the fields was treated with methiocarb in autumn, two of the fields were treated in spring, and the remaining field was not treated and acted as a comparison.

The results showed that broadcast application of methiocarb pellets caused a significant decline in wood mice in both spring and autumn. Importantly, though, the decline was greatest in fields treated in autumn. This may have been due to seasonal variation in food availability, and the ease with which pellets were found by mice.

We conclude that the use of methiocarb pellets could have an impact on wood mouse populations and, potentially, on species that feed upon wood mice, such as tawny owls and kestrels. If methiocarb pellets need to be used, spring applications may have fewer adverse effects than autumn applications.

Key results

- **Wood mouse populations declined in fields treated with methiocarb pellets**
- **The greatest declines were observed on fields treated in autumn, compared to fields treated in spring**
- **Changing the timing of methiocarb applications may reduce their impact on non-target wildlife species**

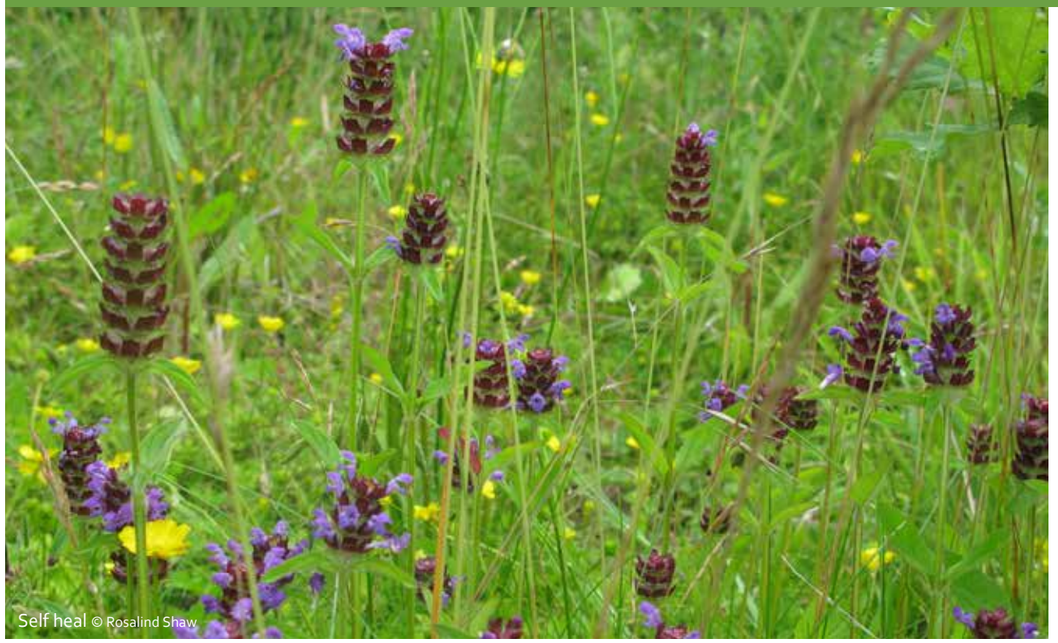
Slug control may have less impact on wood mice if carried out in spring © CropShot CC BY NC ND 2.0

Crops

Management summary		
	Key actions	Potential benefits
Conservation headlands	• Selective inputs to field headlands • No fertilisers or broad-leaved herbicide	Encourages rare arable plants and insect communities Provides key food items for birds such as grey partridge
Stubbles, fallow plots and spring cropping	• Overwinter stubbles are a rich source of seeds and spilt grain • Natural regeneration on fallow plots results in a diversity of vegetation structure • Spring cropping needs fewer inputs, and has a more open sward	Supply vital food for wintering farmland birds Reduces soil disturbance allowing some invertebrates to complete their life cycles Plant and insect communities are enhanced, supporting other wildlife Particularly beneficial for birds such as skylark
Low input farming	• Reducing inputs to field edges or whole fields	Benefits plant and invertebrates, and reduces risk of harming non-target species

Options especially relevant for crops		
Code	Countryside stewardship options	Tier
AB2	Basic overwinter stubble	Mid
AB4	Skylark plots	Mid
AB5	Nesting plots for lapwing and stone curlew	Mid
AB6	Enhanced overwinter stubble	Mid
AB7	Whole crop cereals	Mid
AB10	Unharvested cereal headland	Mid
AB13	Brassica fodder crop	Mid
AB14	Harvested low input cereal	Mid
OP1	Overwintered stubble	Mid
OP5	Undersown cereal	Mid
OR3	Organic conversion - rotational land	Mid
OT3	Organic land management - rotational land	Mid

Find out more at:
www.naturalengland.org.uk www.gwct.org.uk www.leafuk.org www.plantlife.org.uk
www.arableplants.org.uk www.rspb.org.uk


Self heal © Rosalind Shaw

Grasslands

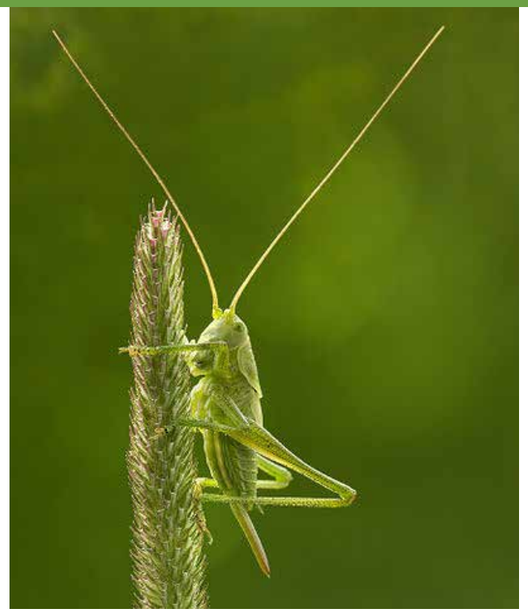
Lowland grasslands range from intensively managed grazed pastures and silage fields, through to remnant patches of species-rich downland and floodplain meadows. Modern intensive agricultural grasslands are very different from the grasslands of even 50 years ago, with far fewer species. Nonetheless, the management of these grasslands can be modified to enhance their value for wildlife.

Semi-natural grasslands are home to an enormous number of plants and invertebrates. Such grasslands are often the result of a long history of a particular grazing or cutting regime, and have very special value. The wide range of plants provides food for a great variety of invertebrates. These, in turn, support a rich fauna of birds and mammals.

Key points

- **Grasslands are valuable for a range of wildlife**
- **Species-rich meadows and grasslands are rare habitats to be protected and cherished**
- **Agriculturally improved grasslands are less species-rich, but can still be managed to help wildlife**

Grasslands



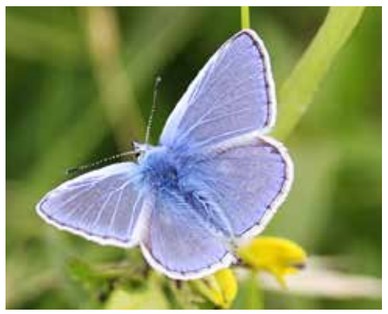
Crickets and grasshoppers are found in grasslands and flower rich meadows
© Richard Bartz CC BY SA 2.5

Grasslands have changed dramatically over the last sixty years. The introduction of inorganic fertilisers, increasing mechanisation, drainage, increased stock densities, reseeding of old pastures and a switch from hay to silage production have all contributed to reductions in sward diversity. The pockets of species-rich grassland that remain are habitats to be protected and cherished for the abundance and diversity of wildlife they support.

Agricultural grasslands range from being semi-natural to improved, depending largely on the number of different species found. More improved grasslands tend to have fewer species and therefore lower biodiversity or wildlife value. The more species a grassland has, the less likely it is that it has been fertilised.

Semi-natural grasslands

Chalk downland has unique flora © Guy Riddoch



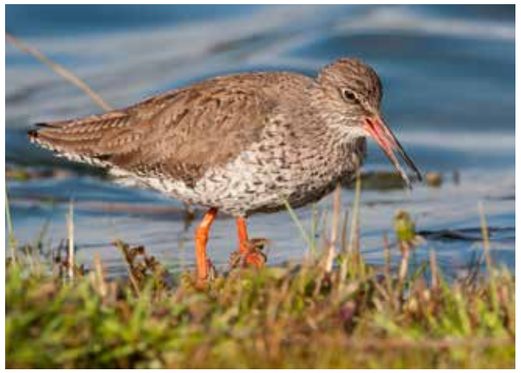
Common blues are found in abundance on downland © Steve Chilton CC BY NC ND 2.0

There are five main types of semi-natural grassland in England: limestone (calcareous) grasslands, marshy grasslands, acid grasslands, lowland meadows and pastures and upland hay meadows.

Chalk downland (a type of limestone grassland) is often unsuitable for intensive agriculture because of the nutrient-poor, shallow soil and difficult slopes. For this reason it has often survived uncultivated; however, its shallow soil structure makes it extremely fragile and easy to destroy. The decline of extensive grazing has meant that many areas of downland have reverted to scrub or other less rare habitat. Chalk downland needs to be managed carefully to safeguard its unique flora and fauna. Ideal grazing regimes create varied turf structure with some short and some tall areas, with the precise level of grazing depending on the interests of the site.

Acid grasslands are less well known than lowland meadows or limestone grasslands. They tend to occur as mosaics with lowland heathland. The tussocky vegetation and bare ground that characterise lowland acid grassland allow a wide range of invertebrates to thrive including solitary wasps, butterflies and

Species-rich hay meadows are rare and important havens for wildlife © Peter Roworth/Natural England



Wet grasslands are vital for birds such as redshank
© Don Sutherland CC BY NC ND 2.0

Cattle-grazing is often used to manage wet grasslands
© Peter Roworth/Natural England

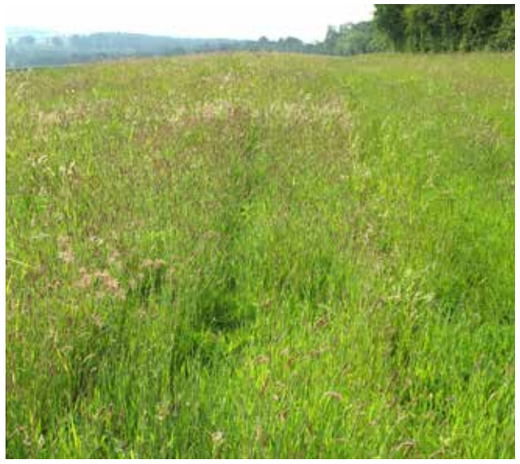
moths. In some areas, such as Breckland, soil disturbance is an important part of conservation management to help these species thrive.

Lowland hay meadows that are rich in wildflowers are a rare and irreplaceable habitat. Closing fields off from grazing livestock allows broad-leaved plants to flower and seed, providing summer food for seed-eaters like linnets, and nectar and pollen for insects. The continuation of haymaking provides a greater diversity of wildflowers, habitats for insects and mammals, and food for birds.

By managing grassland with low or very low inputs, soil erosion and run off from the farm can be reduced. Permanently grassed areas will slow down the flow of water on natural drainage pathways and reduce the channelling of runoff water, which can produce rills and gullies. Grassland managed or retained with little or no fertiliser has a greater value to wildlife, such as butterflies and bees, and will sustain a wider variety of plants. Permanent grassland is also an important historical feature demonstrating how farming has shaped our landscape over the centuries.

Wet grassland is a highly valuable habitat for a range of plant and animal species. These areas are especially important for wintering and breeding wildfowl and waders, and support a rich variety of other wildlife, including dragonflies and damselflies, water beetles, and wetland vegetation. Wet grasslands are usually managed by grazing, mowing, or both, and the timing of management, its intensity and frequency, all influence the habitat (Box 10). Some species-rich wet grasslands, such as floodplain meadows, have been managed in the same way for hundreds of years, and care should be taken not to change this.

Grasslands



Including more plant species in improved swards will have biodiversity benefits
© Nigel Jones CC BY NC ND 2.0

Agriculturally improved grasslands

Even in agriculturally improved grasslands, modifications can be made to improve the habitat for wildlife. Increasing plant diversity in productive swards results in a greater variation of sward structure, and this can be achieved by the inclusion of even just a couple of species other than ryegrass. Timothy, cocksfoot and red fescue are generally suitable species. Adding legumes or herbs to the sward can be even more beneficial.

Farmyard manure is the best fertiliser to use from the wildlife point of view as it boosts soil invertebrates. Earthworms, for example, are encouraged where manure has been applied the previous season, with benefits for wildlife species such as hedgehogs (Box 9). Solid manure brings invertebrates to the soil surface where they are more accessible to birds.

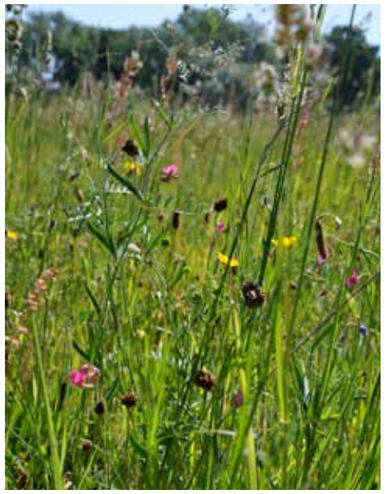
Uncut grass margins will benefit invertebrates
© Tara Proud

Mechanical operations such as spreading, rolling, topping and harrowing can be particularly damaging to ground-nesting birds in the spring so, wherever possible, they should be timed before or after the breeding season in fields with breeding birds.

Similarly, the timing of mowing for silage is important. Early mowing, whether for hay or silage, can destroy eggs and chicks, so late mowing is preferable. Later mowing will also allow flowering, providing pollen and nectar sources for grassland invertebrates. Even better, if some plants can be left to go to seed, this will provide food for birds late into the year, and even through the winter.

Later mowing for silage can reduce damage to ground-nesting birds, and allow plants to flower © Andrew Hill CC BY NC ND 2.0

Leaving uncut margins and corners in grass fields provides a refuge for wildlife from farm operations. Such structural, tussocky areas are good habitat for voles and other small mammals, which are preyed upon by owls and kestrels. Invertebrates, including pollinators and other beneficial invertebrates, will also benefit from these uncut areas.



Species-rich grassland can be created through arable reversion © Ruth Feber

Arable reversion to permanent grassland

The reversion of arable land to permanent grassland is a major work area funded through agri-environment schemes. Arable reversion can have a number of environmental benefits including ecological, landscape, archaeological and resource protection benefits. It may provide opportunities for the re-creation of species-rich grassland and other valuable habitats such as wetland and heath, and habitats can be created to benefit specific species, such as wet grassland for wading birds and wildfowl. It can provide a buffer from fertiliser run-off and sprays, for example, alongside Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), rivers and other important wildlife areas. Additionally, areas of existing semi-natural habitat can be linked, creating larger, more coherent blocks. Additional grazing can be provided which may aid the management of other habitats, for example by allowing stocking rates to be reduced, or by making grazing of small areas of semi-natural grassland more viable. Details of how to undertake arable reversion are found on the Natural England website.

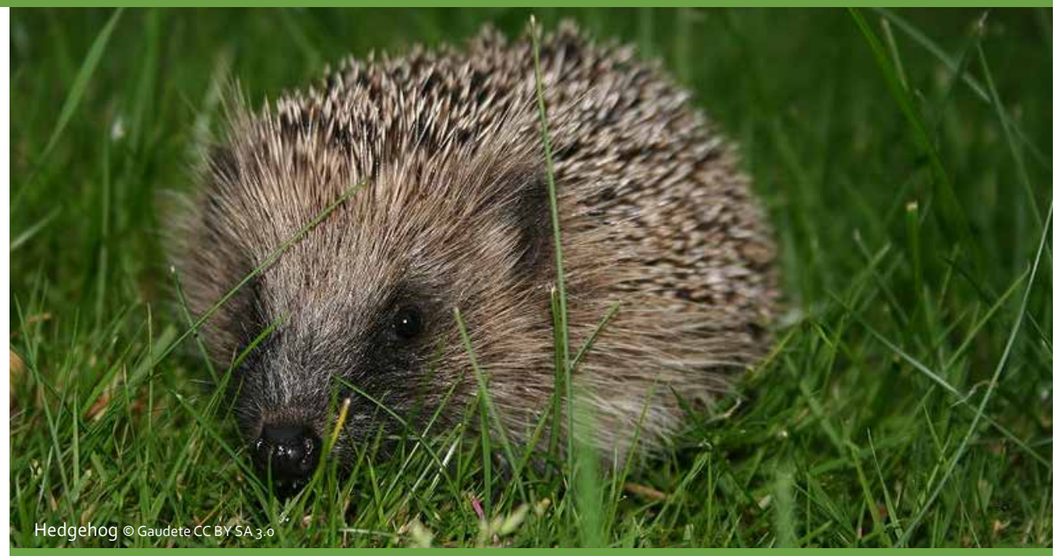
Some grassland statistics

Around 100,000ha of semi-natural grassland survives in England. This is roughly 3% of the total area of grassland. About half of this is lowland calcareous grassland (chalk downland and wold and other limestone grasslands such as the Cotswolds and Mendips). The rest consists of lowland meadows and pastures (20%), lowland acid grassland (10%), purple moor-grass/rush pastures (10%), upland hay meadows (2%) and upland calcareous grassland (10%). These figures are approximate, and in many parts of England the exact extent of the surviving resource is still not known.

North Meadow, Cricklade
© Nick Warner CC BY NC SA 2.0

Most surviving wildlife-rich grasslands in Britain are isolated fragments of formerly much larger grassland landscapes or farmland rich in grassland habitats. It is estimated that, overall, 97% of lowland meadows in England have been agriculturally improved or lost since 1940.

(Source: www.grasslands-trust.org)



Hedgehog © Gaudete CC BY SA 3.0

How to help hedgehogs

The unmistakable hedgehog, although widespread, is believed to be suffering severe population declines. Possible factors include changes in land use, resulting in loss of habitat (such as rough pastures and hedgerows) that they need for feeding and breeding. Pesticide use, particularly molluscicides, may also be a factor. Finding out how hedgehogs use the landscape in which they live is a crucial part of understanding how declines might be reversed. We marked hedgehogs to find out where they spent their time and we surveyed a range of factors which characterised the fields occupied by hedgehogs.

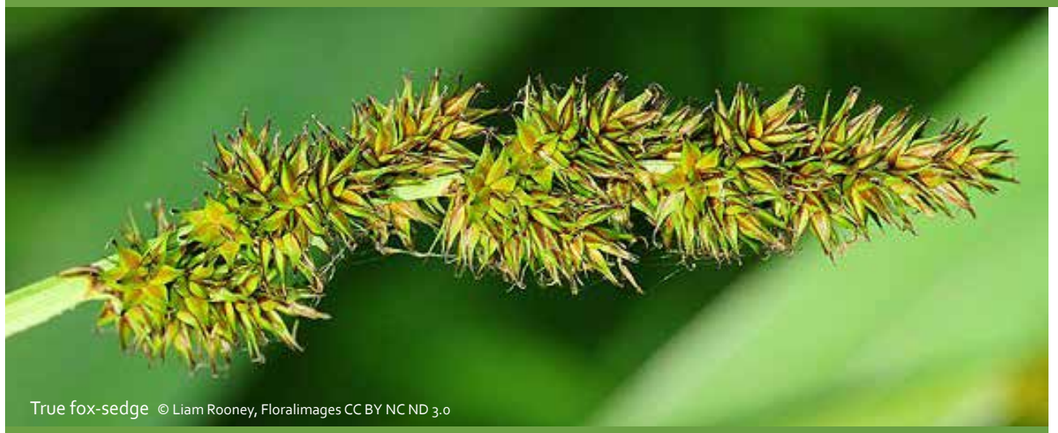
The surface availability of earthworms was the principal factor affecting whether or not a field was occupied, together with the number of molehills, which themselves are associated with earthworm abundance. Another important factor was the proximity of badgers. Badgers are significant predators of hedgehogs, and fields occupied by hedgehogs tended to be further away from fields with signs of badger activity. However, many hedgehogs were also closer to urban settlements, which happened to be further from badger activity.

Grassland management that increases earthworm populations, together with the provision of other habitats such as hedgerows and woodland habitats, and reductions in pesticide use, will have important benefits for hedgehogs on farmland.

Key results

- **Hedgehogs are believed to be suffering severe population declines**
- **Fields with abundant earthworms attract hedgehogs**
- **Grassland management that increases earthworms will help hedgehogs and other wildlife**

Earthworms are one of the chief food items of hedgehogs on pasture © pfly CC BY SA 2.0



True fox-sedge © Liam Rooney, Floralimages CC BY NC ND 3.0

New discoveries of rare plants: true fox-sedge

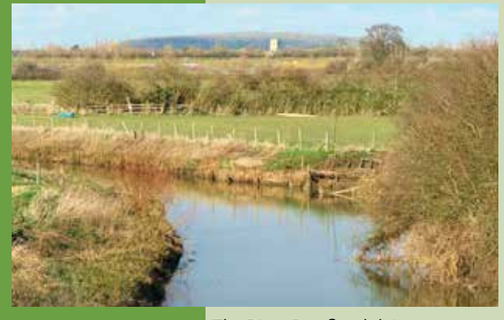
True fox-sedge is a Red Data Book plant classified as Nationally Vulnerable. Until 2004, its presence in Oxfordshire was limited to just a few sites along the River Ray, but in 2004/2005 eight new sites were found by a BBOWT/WildCRU survey, proving that the Upper River Ray floodplain is an important stronghold for the species. The area has been remarkably unaffected by intensive farming practices and retains an uncommon amount of species-rich grassland, along with abundant wetland areas such as ponds and ditches. These are probably critical factors in the survival of the true fox-sedge.

True fox-sedge does not appear to grow under intensive agricultural management. It grows well under hay-cutting and light grazing management, and also where no management is carried out at all. It was not found close to larger watercourses, possibly due to past engineering / maintenance, but also because it may not tolerate deep or running water.

Regular flooding, and the availability of agri-environment scheme grants in the Upper Ray floodplain, make extensive management a relatively attractive option in this area. Heavy clearance of watercourses is no longer carried out and there is little arable land in the floodplain. The primary threat is hedgerow and scrub growth, causing too much shade. This should be monitored, with landowners advised and assisted where necessary to carry out management work.

Key results

- **The River Ray floodplain is an Oxfordshire stronghold for the rare true fox-sedge**
- **True fox-sedge flourishes under extensive management such as hay cutting or light grazing, in wetland areas**
- **Heavily maintained ditches or large watercourses are not suitable for this species**



The River Ray floodplain, a stronghold for true fox-sedge © Michael CC BY SA 2.0

Grasslands

Management summary		
	Key actions	Potential benefits
Species-rich grasslands	• Have often been managed in the same traditional ways for hundreds of years, usually by grazing or cutting for hay	Management should not be changed without careful consideration
Improved grasslands	• Time mowing to avoid the nesting season, and to allow plants to flower and set seed and to reduce disturbance to invertebrates	Increases survival of chicks Enhances food for wintering farmland birds
	• Use manure to fertilise where possible	Encourages earthworms
Arable reversion	• Can help restore species-rich grasslands • Follow agri-environment scheme guidelines	Has many ecological and environmental benefits

Options especially relevant for grasslands		
Code	Countryside stewardship options	Tier
GS1	Take small areas out of management	Mid
GS2	Permanent grassland with very low inputs (outside SDAs)	Mid
GS3	Ryegrass seed-set as winter food for birds	Mid
GS4	Legume and herb-rich swards	Mid
GS15	Hay making supplement (in combination with specified options)	Mid
GS17	Lenient grazing supplement	Mid
OR1	Organic conversion - improved permanent grassland	Mid
OR2	Organic conversion - unimproved permanent grassland	Mid
OT1	Organic land management - improved permanent grassland	Mid
OT2	Organic land management - unimproved permanent grassland	Mid
SW7	Arable reversion to grassland with low fertiliser input	Mid
GS6	Management of species-rich grassland	Higher
GS7	Restoration towards species-rich grassland	Higher
GS8	Creation of species-rich grassland	Higher
GS9	Management of wet grassland for breeding waders	Higher
GS10	Management of wet grassland for wintering waders and wildfowl	Higher
GS11	Creation of wet grassland for breeding waders	Higher
GS12	Creation of wet grassland for wintering waders and wildfowl	Higher
GS13	Management of grassland for target features	Higher
GS14	Creation of grassland for target features	Higher

Find out more at:
www.naturalengland.org.uk www.rspb.org.uk www.plantlife.org.uk www.wildlifetrusts.org
www.floodplainmeadows.org.uk