

DORSET LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY HABITAT ASSEMBLAGES

Habitat assemblage:	Species of arable farmland
Broad Habitat type:	Farm, town and village
S41 and Priority Habitat type:	Arable Field Margins
Composite species assemblages:	Breeding farmland birds Wintering farmland birds Invertebrates of field margins Arable plants of cultivated field margins

Habitat assemblage description:	<p>Arable land has long been a feature of our farmed landscapes and certain assemblages of species have developed alongside it over many centuries. Some, particularly arable plants, are rarely encountered outside of cultivated fields. Since the intensification of agriculture in the 1950s and the widespread use of pesticides many once familiar species have declined and are now scarce or threatened.</p> <p>In recent decades agri-environment schemes have helped to slow or halt the decline of some species and features such as pollinator patches, cultivated (but unsprayed) margins and beetle banks have had been beneficial to species of the wider countryside including farmland birds, arable plants and pollinators.</p>
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Other related assemblages:	Species of species-rich hedges and hedgebanks
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Pressures and Threats	
PA11	Soil management practices in agriculture (e.g. ploughing)
	The majority of scarce and threatened arable plants are annuals and require regular cultivation for their germination. Recent changes in land management such as no-till can be detrimental to these species. Ploughing less often or bespoke management such as cultivating the first 5-10 metres of the field margins only are potential mitigation measures.
PA14	Use of pesticides and herbicides in agriculture
	<p>Continual use of herbicides along the field edge will deplete the number of plants and therefore the seedbank to maintain a viable population of many arable plants, the majority of which are annuals. Reducing the abundance and diversity of arable plants also reduces the winter seed source for wintering birds.</p> <p>The use of pesticides will be harmful to many invertebrates found on field margins, some of which will be useful pollinators for crops such as oil seed rape, others will be natural predators of pests such as aphids. Significantly reducing the abundance of invertebrates will have a knock-on effect on</p>

	breeding farmland birds the chicks of otherwise seed-eating birds will require invertebrates for food until they fledge.
PI02	Other invasive alien species
	Some non-native plants are invasive on bare ground including field margins, Canadian fleabane (and relatives) is the best example and is increasing in many open habitats and can out-compete smaller annual plants.
PI03	Problematic native species
	Several native plants (some are archaeophytes) are invasive on cultivated ground. Black-grass is a good example as can form dense mats that smother smaller annual plants and is difficult to manage or eradicate without using herbicides.
PJ03	Changes in precipitation regimes due to climate change
	Changing rainfall patterns such as prolonged spring droughts can impact on the germination or growth of annual plants such as found on cultivated field margins.

Micro-habitat assemblage: Breeding farmland birds and Wintering farmland birds

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures									
Birds	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Skylark	RED	n/a	n/a	1	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	Common Linnet	RED	n/a	n/a	1	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Burhinus oedichenemus</i>	Stone Curlew	AMBER	n/a	n/a	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	Greenfinch	RED	n/a	n/a	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Columba oenas</i>	Stock Pigeon	AMBER	n/a	n/a	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Common Quail	AMBER	n/a	n/a	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	Corn Bunting	RED	n/a	n/a	1	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Emberiza citrulus</i>	Cirl Bunting	RED	n/a	n/a	1	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Yellowhammer	RED	n/a	n/a	1	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn Swallow		n/a	n/a	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	RED	n/a	n/a	1, 6	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	Grey Partridge	RED	n/a	n/a	1	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	European Turtle Dove	RED	n/a	n/a	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn Owl		n/a	n/a	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Northern Lapwing	RED	n/a	n/a	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Micro-habitat assemblage: Invertebrates of field margins

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures									
Beetles	<i>Carabus moniliis</i>	Necklace Ground Beetle	EN	n/a	n/a	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Beetles	<i>Meloe proscarabaeus</i>	Black Oil Beetle	LC	n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Beetles	<i>Meloe rugosus</i>	Rugged Oil Beetle	LC	n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Beetles	<i>Meloe violaceus</i>	Violet Oil Beetle	LC	n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bees	<i>Andrena proxima</i>	Broad-faced Mining Bee	R	n/a	LC	4	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bees	<i>Melitta tricincta</i>	Red Bartsia Bee	.	n/a	NT(ERLB)	2	PA05	PA08	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Tyta luctuosa</i>	Four-spotted	NT	n/a	n/a	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Micro-habitat assemblage: Arable plants of cultivated field margins

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures									
Plants	<i>Adonis annua</i>	Pheasant's-eye	EN	EN	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Anthemris cotula</i>	Stinking Chamomile	VU	VU	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Buglossoides arvensis</i>	Field Gromwell	EN	EN	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Clinopodium acinos</i>	Basil Thyme	VU	VU	n/a	1	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Euphorbia exigua</i>	Dwarf Spurge	NT	VU	n/a	1	PA05	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Fumaria parviflora</i>	Fine-leaved Fumitory	VU	NT	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Fumaria vaillantii</i>	Few-flowered Fumitory	VU	EN	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Galeopsis angustifolia</i>	Red Hemp-nettle	CR	CR	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures									
Plants	<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	Corn Marigold	VU	VU	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Weasel's-snout	VU	VU	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Ranunculus arvensis</i>	Corn Buttercup	CR	EN	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Rosemeria argemone</i>	Prickly Poppy	VU	EN	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's-needle	CR	EN	n/a	1	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered Catchfly	EN	EN	n/a	1	PA04	PK04	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Silene noctiflora</i>	Night-flowering Catchfly	VU	VU	n/a	1	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	Corn Spurrey	VU	VU	n/a	1	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Torilis arvensis</i>	Spreading Hedge-parsley	EN	EN	n/a	1, 4	PA11	PA14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Valerianella dentata</i>	Narrow-fruited Cornsalad	EN	EN	n/a	1	PA14	PA19	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Valerianella rimosa</i>	Broad-fruited Cornsalad	CR	CR	n/a	1, 4	PA14	PA19	PK04	.	.	.	.	.	.	.