

The Big Farmland Bird Count Information Sheet

The aim of the Big Farmland Bird Count is to help raise awareness of the important role that farmers play in the survival of farmland bird populations. It will provide an opportunity for farmers to actually demonstrate what their work and effort delivers on the ground. Don't forget you can upload your count information online at bfbc.org.uk

Please complete as much of the following information as possible as it will help us to accurately record your survey details.

1. Contact and Farm Details.

Name	
Address	
Post Code	
Grid Reference (if known)	
Farm Size ha	

2. What are the main enterprises on your farm? Please tick all that apply

Arable – Combinable Cropping		Poultry – Free Range	
Arable – Field vegetables		Poultry – Housed	
Horticulture -		Pigs – Out door	
Beef / Sheep		Pigs – In door	
Diary		Top fruit	
Others not listed			

3. Is your farm in an Environmental Stewardship Scheme?

Yes/No

Environmental Stewardship	Please Tick as appropriate
ELS	
HLS	
Other Scheme	

4. Is there a shoot on your farm?

Yes/No

5. If yes do you release birds?

Yes/No

Please return completed sheets to BFBC, Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust,
Burgate Manor, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, SP6 1EF

Guidelines for your count

- Please count the birds at your chosen site for ½ an hour.
- We would recommend that the count takes place at first light to see maximum activity.
- If possible, the count should take place in clear dry weather. Please do not count in the fog.
- Your count area should be approximately 2ha and ideally it should all be visible from one vantage point.
- Only record the highest number of each bird species you see at the same time. Don't count the total over the half hour as you may get the same birds visiting more than once.
- Only count those birds within your survey area/ field.

Details of your count

1. Where did you do your count? Please record details of the main use of the farm land where you carried out your count by ticking the boxes below.

On arable land Yes/No

If yes Cropping / Land use			
Bare Ground	Stubbles	Winter crop	Other- please specify

On grassland Yes/No

If yes tick land use as appropriate an indicate livestock type			
Permanent with livestock	Permanent without livestock	Temporary ley with livestock	Temporary ley without livestock

2. Which of the following features are adjacent to or within your survey areas?
Please tick all that are present

Hedgerows		Ditch (wet or dry)	
Woodland		Trees Hedgerow/Field	
Ponds		Scrub	
Grass margins			
Stream/River			

3. What was the weather like during the survey? Please tick as appropriate

Clear & Sunny		Overcast	
Rain		Sleet / Snow	
Frost		Snow Cover	

4. Please indicate what time your count took place (please use 24-hour clock):
5. Is there any supplementary feeding taking place at your count site? Yes/No
If yes please complete the box below

Type of feeding	Yes/No	Additional Information	
Hoppers		Number of hoppers in place	
Wild seed mix		Plants in the mix	Area (ha)
Game cover		Plants in the mix	Area (ha)
Scatter feeding		Type of seed	

6. What did you see? Please record the maximum number of birds seen at any one time.

Species	Number	Species	Number
Barn owl		Lapwing	
Barnacle goose		Lesser black backed gull	
Bittern		Little owl	
Black headed gull		Linnet	
Blackbird		Long tail tit	
Blackcap		Magpie	
Blue tit		Mallard	
Brambling		Mandarin	
Brent goose		Marsh harrier	
Bullfinch		Marsh tit	
Buzzard		Meadow pipits	
Canada goose		Merlin	
Carrion crow		Mistle thrush	
Chaffinch		Moorhen	
Coal tit		Mute swan	
Collared dove		Nuthatch	
Common crane		Oyster catcher	
Common gull		Peregrine falcon	
Common tern		Pheasant	
Coot		Pied wagtail	
Cormorant		Other	
Corn bunting		Pinkfooted goose	
Curlew		Pochard	

Dipper		Raven	
Dunnock		Red kite	
Egret (Little)		Red leg partridge	
Egyptian geese		Redpoll	
Fieldfare		Redshank	
Firecrest		Redwing	
Gadwall		Reed bunting	
Goldcrest		Ring necked parakeet	
Golden plover		Robin	
Goldeneye		Rook	
Goldfinch		Ruddy duck	
Greenshank		Shelduck	
Goosander		Short eared owl	
Great tit		Shoveler	
Greater spotted woodpecker		Siskin	
Grebe (Little)		Skylark	
Grebe (Great crested)		Snipe	
Green sandpiper		Song thrush	
Green woodpecker		Sparrowhawk	
Greenfinch		Starling	
Grey partridge		Stock dove	
Grey wagtail		Stone chat	
Greylag goose		Tawny owl	
Hen harrier		Teal	
Heron		Tree creeper	
Herring gull		Tree sparrow	
Hooded crow		Tufted duck	
House sparrow		Twite	
Jackdaw		Water rail	
Jay		Waxwing	
Kestrel		Widgeon	
King fisher		Willow tit	
Other species			

Final Questions

Just a few final questions that would be useful to have answers for:

1. Which of the following are you?

	Please tick
Farmer	
Gamekeeper	
Conservation Advisor	
Ornithologist	
Landowner	
Other (please specify)	

2. Are you a LEAF Marque Farmer? Yes/No
3. Are you a GWCT Member? Yes/No
4. Are you a FWAG Member? Yes/No
5. Are you a member of a facilitation fund or farmer cluster group? Yes/No
If so, please state which one below:

6. How did you hear about the Big Farmland Bird Count?

	Please tick
GWCT Website	
GWCT Email	
Twitter	
Facebook	
Your local FWAG Group	
LEAF Email	
Other (please specify)	