

# Mammals

Species	Connection to meadows
Bat species	Food – insects
Brown hare	Food – herbs and grasses
Common shrew	Food – small invertebrates
Field vole	Food – grasses
Mole	Molehills. Food – soil invertebrates
Roe deer	Food – leaves and other herbs
Wood mouse	Food – seeds and invertebrates

Brown hare



### Wildlife friendly mowing

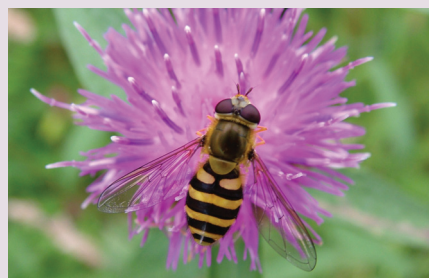
Cutting the field from the centre out – or from one side of the field to the other – allows time for birds and mammals to move out of the way.

# Birds

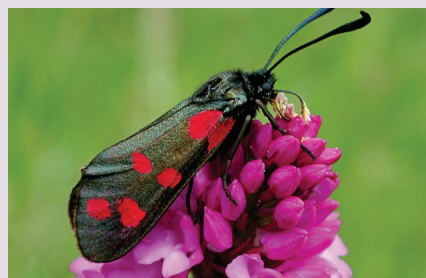
Species	Connection to meadows
Barn owl	Predate on mammals in meadows
Black grouse	Food – flower buds, seeds
Curlew	Nesting and food – invertebrates
Kestrel	Predate on mammals in meadows
Lapwing	Nesting and food – invertebrates
S Skylark	Nesting and food – seeds, insects
Swallow	Food – insects
Twite	Food – seeds



Twite



▲ Hoverfly



▲ Burnet moth



▲ Curlew

Front cover photos: white-tailed bumblebee, J Pigott; lapwing, Gillian Day; small skipper, T Frankowski; barn owl, Jon Hawkins - Surrey Hills Photography. Back page photos: brown hare, Iain Challis; twite, Amy Lewis; burnet moth, Les Binns; curlew, D Kennedy.

**Thanks to the following for their specific input – Tony Marshall (mammals), Julia Pigott (bees) and Chris Winnick (butterflies)**

## References

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# Meadow Life

Cumbria's hay meadow project



Cumbria Wildlife Trust

[www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk)

# Wildlife in hay meadows



Protecting Wildlife for the Future



A Cumbria Local Nature Partnership project delivered by Cumbria Wildlife Trust



# Cumbria's hay meadows

Hay meadows are a stunningly beautiful and iconic habitat, which have suffered a serious and rapid decline since the Second World War. At last count, there are now only around 1,000 hectares of upland hay meadows left in the UK. Cumbria Wildlife Trust's Meadow Life project is working closely with landowners to help reverse this decline, restoring hay meadow habitats throughout Cumbria.

This leaflet is intended as a guide for landowners and those interested in wildlife in hay meadows, linking key upland hay meadow plant species with the wildlife that depend on them. Its aim is to help those interested in restoring hay meadow sites to understand and identify the wildlife they are likely to encourage by introducing key species into an upland hay meadow.

## Grasses

Species	Associated wildlife
Cock's-foot	Small skipper, large skipper, meadow brown, ringlet butterflies
Common bent	Meadow brown butterfly
Creeping soft-grass	Small skipper butterfly
Crested dog's-tail	Meadow brown butterfly
Fescue sp	Meadow brown butterfly
Meadow foxtail	Small skipper, large skipper butterflies
Meadow-grass sp	Meadow brown, ringlet, speckled wood butterflies
Oat-grass sp	Meadow brown butterfly
Soft brome	Small skipper, large skipper, speckled wood butterflies
Sweet vernal-grass	Meadow brown, small skipper butterflies
Timothy	Small skipper butterfly
Yorkshire-fog	Small skipper butterfly



Common blue



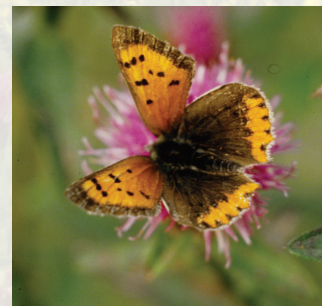
Dark green fritillary



▲ Meadow brown



▲ White-tailed bumblebee



▲ Small copper



▲ Ringlet

Photos: common blue, M Graham; dark green fritillary, D Kennedy; white-tailed bumblebee, J Pigott; ringlet, Rachel Scopes.  
Opposite: solitary bumblebee, J Pigott

## Flowers

Species	Associated wildlife
Buttercup species	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree bumblebees
Changing forget-me-not	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree bumblebees
Common cat's-ear	Hoverflies
Common chickweed	Flies
Common knapweed	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree, garden, red-tailed, common carder bumblebees. Six-spot burnet moth. Dark green fritillary, small skipper, red admiral, peacock butterflies
Common sorrel	Caterpillar of small copper butterfly
Crane's-bill species	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree bumblebees
Cuckooflower	Caterpillar of orange tip butterfly
Daisy	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree, garden, red-tailed, common carder bumblebees. Flies
Dandelion	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree, garden, red-tailed, common carder, solitary bumblebees. Hoverflies. Green-veined white, peacock butterflies
Eyebright species	Garden, red-tailed, common carder bumblebees. Insects. Butterflies
Great burnet	Burnet moth. Flies
Greater bird's-foot-trefoil	Caterpillar of common blue butterfly
Hawkbit species	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree, garden, red-tailed, common carder, solitary bumblebees. Wasps. Beetles. Butterflies
Lady's-mantle species	Flies
Lesser stitchwort	Flies
Lesser trefoil	Garden, red-tailed, common carder, solitary bumblebees. Common blue butterfly
Marsh-marigold	Early bumblebee. Beetles. Hoverflies
Meadowsweet	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree bumblebees. Flies
Meadow vetchling	Red-tailed bumblebee. Wasps
Mouse-ear species	Nectar loving insects
Oxeye daisy	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree, garden, red-tailed, common carder bumblebees. Butterflies. Hoverflies. Red soldier beetle
Pignut	Flies. Hoverflies
Red clover	Common carder, garden, red-tailed bumblebees. Many insects
Ribwort plantain	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree, garden, red-tailed, common carder bumblebees
Selfheal	Garden, red-tailed, common carder bumblebees. Wasps
Sneezewort	Hoverflies. Other nectar seeking insects
Speedwell species	Early bumblebee. Butterflies. Hoverflies. Insects
Vetch species	Garden, red-tailed, common carder, early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree bumblebees. Six-spot burnet moth
Water avens	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree bumblebees
White clover	Early, white-tailed, buff-tailed, tree, honey bumblebees. Common blue butterfly. Insects
Wood anemone	Hoverflies
Yarrow	Beetles. Flies. Aphid-eating hoverflies
Yellow-rattle	Common carder, red-tailed bumblebees



Solitary bumblebee