

Cornfield Flowers Project



Species Cards - Places & People

Central to the Cornfield Flowers Project are the local farmers and volunteers throughout north-east Yorkshire who host these rare arable wildflowers on their land. A number of individuals, along with our main introduction sites, are mentioned within the species cards and described further below.

Main sites

The project manages **Silpho field**, located within the North York Moors National Park. It is here that we trial numerous plants in the 'wild'; receiving introductions from our plant nursery or volunteer grown specimens, where they are reunited with the life of an arable headland, but one in which the project can maintain direct control and monitor the results.

Ryedale Folk Museum, Hutton-le-Hole, is a living history museum showcasing rural life, where the project operates a large demonstration field, providing a recreation of an historical arable field complete with wildflowers (*pictured below*) and our nursery beds, where seed from new species is nurtured and multiplied for later reintroductions.

Water Fulford, York, is our latest addition; owned by the Carstairs Countryside Trust, an area of sandy arable land was entrusted with the project and has received a number of unique species introductions that are adapted to the specialist soil conditions found here.



Farm sites

Numerous farmers work with us to grow arable plants on their land and receive species introductions. Playing an incredibly valuable role, they provide protected conditions where the range of different species can be extended, safe in the knowledge they will be well looked after. Our main sites comprise:



Stephen & Jocé Gibson at Birkdale Farm, Terrington; John Middlewood at Glebe Farm Potter Brompton; Charles Clarkson at Beckhouse Farm, Menethorpe; Peter and Mike Hayton at South Fordon Farm, Fordon; Martin Stringer at Old Rectory Farm, Nunburnholme; Peter Hutchinson at Spikers Hill Farm, West Ayton; John Simpson at Keasbeck Hill Farm, Harwood Dale; Penelope Dawson-Brown at Low Askew Farm, Cropton; Philip Winter at West End Farm, Muston; Will Terry at Stoupe Brow Cottage Farm, Ravenscar; Don Spink at High Field Farm, Hunmanby.

Colleagues and volunteers

Helping the project achieve its aims and working alongside project officers Chris Wilson and Tom Normandale are numerous individuals who have played key roles: Rona Charles, senior ecologist at the North York Moors National Park Authority, Kevin Simms at the Ryedale Folk Museum, our volunteers Diney Gilruth, Julia Lockwood and her Saltburn colleagues, Gill Pullen, Nan Sykes, Jill Magee, Pauline Popely, Cedric Gillings, Belinda Robson, the late Belinda Terry, Jo Simmons and the Hunmanby in Bloom group, the North-East Yorkshire Botany Group, Jack Whitehead and the Filey Brigg Ornithological Group, Julie Bentley at North Yorkshire County Council, Andy Marshall and the CIRCLE interns at Flamingo Land, the National Park apprentices, Tricia Harris at the Helmsley Walled Garden, Don Davies of Ryedale District Council, Heidi Saxby, Natasha Hambly, Josie Downs, Christine Muchow, Jacki Barlow, Melanie Earle, Maisie Storey and Tobey Burnett.

A number of local schools have worked with us in the latest phase of the project, providing an invaluable opportunity to make the newest generation aware of these most threatened plants: Lisa Woolridge of Hunmanby Primary School; Jean Yendall of Sowerby Community Primary School; Simon Johnson of Kirkbymoorside Community Primary School; Jayne Prime of Belmont Primary School; Laura Normandale of Filey Secondary School; Jayne Westwood of Eskdale School; Chris Cassells and Tom Webborn of Cranedale Centre.



Finally, we offer our apologies but great appreciation to the countless other supporters and well-wishers, too numerous to name, who have shared their time and enthusiasm to help bring such locally rare and significant plants back from the brink, and 'out of intensive care'.

The Cornfield Flowers Project is spearheaded by the Carstairs Countryside Trust, Ryedale Folk Museum, North Yorkshire Moors Association and North York Moors National Park Authority. It has a demonstration field and nursery at Ryedale Folk Museum and a working arable field at Silpho, near Scarborough. It is supported by the North York Moors National Park Sustainable Development Fund, North York Moors Coast & Hills LEADER Programme and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

