
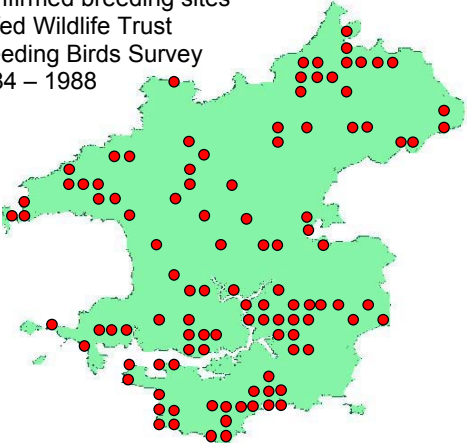


|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Ecology</b></p> <p>A once familiar bird of open country, the yellowhammer most commonly chooses farmland with a mixture of cereal fields, pasture, hedgerows and thickets. It is believed that there are more yellowhammers on organic farms. The nest is built in thick cover in a ditch or low hedge. The bird was also known as the ‘scribbling lark’ because the eggs have such intricate and varied markings. In winter, they gather into small flocks to feed on fields rich in weed seeds and spilt grain.</p>   |   |
| <p><b>Where in Pembrokeshire?</b></p> <p>The yellowhammer was still considered ‘extremely common’ in the county until at least the 1950’s. It was absent only from the woods and hill-tops of Preseli. Survey work in the late 1980’s reckoned there to be around 15,000 pairs across the county. Since then, there have been fewer sightings and it is believed that the number has gone down. This mirrors the picture across the UK, where numbers have almost halved in the last 25 years. As the map below shows, you can still hear the distinctive ‘little-bit-of-bread-and-no-cheese’ song in farmland around places like Martletwy or St Davids.</p> | <p><i>When shall I see the white thorn leaves agen<br/>And yellowhammers gath’ring the dry bents<br/>By the dyke side on stilly moor or fen<br/>Feathered wi love and natures good intents<br/>Rude is the nest this Architect invents<br/>Rural the place wi cart ruts by dyke side<br/>Dead grass, horse hair and downy headed bents<br/>Tied to dead thistles she doth well provide<br/>Close to a hill o’ ants where cowslips bloom<br/>And shed o’er meadows far their sweet perfume<br/>In early Spring when winds blow chilly cold<br/>The yellowhammer trailing grass will come<br/>To fix a place and choose an early home<br/>With yellow breast and head of solid gold.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">John Clare, 1835</p>   |
| <p><b>Outline Distribution Map (1984 – 1988)</b></p> <p>Data source: Pembrokeshire Bird Atlas<br/>Confirmed breeding sites<br/>Dyfed Wildlife Trust<br/>Breeding Birds Survey<br/>1984 – 1988</p>    | <p><b>Why is it in trouble?</b></p> <p>The plight of many farmland birds is clearly linked to changing farming practices. The yellowhammer has been badly affected by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● replacement of mixed farms by larger specialised farms</li> <li>● winter growing of cereals and early ploughing of stubbles</li> <li>● loss of thick hedgebanks with occasional taller trees and too much ‘tidying’</li> <li>● greater use of sprays to kill weeds and insects</li> <li>● tidier farmyards and grainstores</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>What’s being done?</b></p> <p>Many farmers have joined farm conservation schemes. These are encouraging mixed farming, ‘bird-friendly’ cereal fields, good hedgerows and less intensive grassland management. More needs to be done to help all landowners adopt a ‘conservation plan’. And, in the background, conservation organisations have been lobbying to make the Common Agricultural Policy fairer and more wildlife friendly.</p>   | <p><b>What can you do to help?</b></p> <p>Farmers and birdwatchers are joining forces through national and local schemes to find out more about Pembrokeshire’s farmland birds. A detailed advice sheet is available from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). If your garden backs on to farmland, try attracting yellowhammers with wild bird seed mixes.</p> <p>For more information on species identification, where to send records or how you can get involved with specific projects see part 2 of the plan or contact the Biodiversity Officer.</p> <p><b>FREEPOST</b>      Freepost RLXJ-HAHU-BCAK Pembrokeshire<br/>Biodiversity Partnership, c/o Countryside Unit, Development<br/>Planning, 1B County Hall, Haverfordwest, SA61 1TP<br/>Tel: 0790 154 1728      Fax: 01437 776496<br/><a href="http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk">www.biodiversitywales.org.uk</a></p> |

**Ecoleg**

Ar un adeg roedd melyn yr eithin yn aderyn cyfarwydd ar dir agored, gan amlaf i'w weld ar dir fferm naill ai ar berci cnydau yd, porfeydd neu gloddiau a llwyni. Credir bod mwy o felyn yr eithin ar ffermydd organig. Adeiladir nyth mewn cuddfan drwchus mewn ffos neu glawdd isel. Arferid adnabod yr aderyn wrth yr enw `ehedydd yn sgriblan` am fod patrymau mor gywrain ac amrywiol ar yr wyau. Yn y gaeaf, maent yn ymgasglu'n heidiau bychain i fwydo mewn caeau sy'n gyfoethog o ran hadau chwyn a grawn sydd wedi sarnu.



**Ble yn Sir Benfro?**

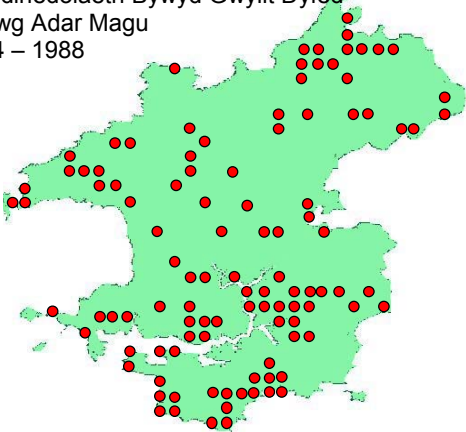
Roedd melyn yr eithin yn dal yn `hynod gyffredin` yn y sir tan o leiaf 1950au. Yr unig ardaloedd lle nad oedd i'w weld oedd yng nghoedwigoedd ac ar foelydd y Preselau. Awgrymodd gwaith maes yn y 1980au hwyr fod yna 15,000 o barau ar draws y sir. Ers hynny, gwelwyd llai ohonyn nhw a chredir bod eu nifer wedi gostwng. Adlewyrcha hyn y sefyllfa ar draws y DU, y nifer bron wedi haneru yn ystod y chwarter canrif ddiwethaf. Ond dengys y map islaw ei bod yn dal yn bosib o hyd i glywed ei gân nodweddiadol 'tamed-bach-o-fara-ond-dim -caws' ar dir ffermio yng nghyffiniau ardaloedd megis Martletwy neu Dyddewi.

*When shall I see the white thorn leaves agen  
And yellowhammers gath'ring the dry bents  
By the dyke side on stilly moor or fen  
Feathered wi love and natures good intents  
Rude is the nest this Architect invents  
Rural the place wi cart ruts by dyke side  
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In early Spring when winds blow chilly cold  
The yellowhammer trailing grass will come  
To fix a place and choose an early home  
With yellow breast and head of solid gold.*

John Clare, 1835

**Map Dosbarthiad Amlinellol (1984 – 1988)**

Ffynhonnell data: Atlas Adar Sir Benfro  
Safleoedd magu sydd wedi eu cadarnhau  
Ymddiriedolaeth Bywyd Gwyllt Dyfed  
Arolwg Adar Magu  
1984 – 1988



**Pam ei fod mewn trafferth?**

Mae cyflwr nifer o adar tir ffermio yn gysylltiedig â'r newidiadau i arferion ffermio. Mae Melyn yr Eithin wedi eu heffeithio'n ddrwg gan:

- ailosodiad ffermydd cymysg gan ffermydd arbenigol mawr
- tyfiad cnydau yn y gaeaf ac aredig cynnar soft
- diflaniad coetyrch trwchus gyda choed achlysurol, talach a gormod o 'dacluso'
- Mwy o ddefnydd o chwistrell er mwyn lladd chwyn a phryfed
- Ffermydd taclusach a storfeydd grawn

**Beth sy'n cael ei wneud?**

Mae llawer o ffermwyr wedi ymuno â chynlluniau cadwraeth. Mae'r rhain yn cymell ffermio cymysg, perci cnydau sy'n `adar-gyfeillgar`, cloddiau da a llai o reolaeth tir pori dwys. Mae angen gwneud mwy i gynorthwyo pob tiffeddiannwr i fabwysiadu `cynllun cadwraeth`. Ac, yn y cefndir, mae mudiadau cadwraeth wedi bod yn llobio i geisio gwneud y Polisi Amaeth Cyffredin yn decach ac yn fwy cyfeillgar o ran bywyd gwyllt.

**Beth fedrwrch chi ei wneud i helpu?**

Mae ffermwyr a gwylwyr adar yn cydweithio trwy gynlluniau cenedlaethol a lleol i ganfod mwy am adar tir ffermio Sir Benfro. Mae taflen gynghori manwl ar gael oddi wrth y Gymdeithas Frenhinol er Diogelu Adar (RSPB). Os yw eich gardd yn ffinio â thir amaethyddol, ceisiwch ddenu melyn yr eithin gyda chymysgfa o fwyd hadau adar gwyllt.

Am ragor o wybodaeth am adnabod rhywogaethau, ble i anfon cofnodion neu sut i ymwneud â phrosiectau penodol gweler rhan 2 o'r cynllun neu cysyllter â'r Swyddog Beioamrywiaeth.

**RHADBOST**

Rhadbost RLXJ-HAHU-BCAK, Partneriaeth Bioamrywiaeth Sir Benfro, D/o Uned Cefngwlad, Datblygu Cynllunio, 1B Neuadd y Sir, Hwlfordd, Sir Benfro, SA61 1TP  
Ffôn: 0790 154 1728  
Ffacs: 01437 776496  
[www.bioamrywiaethcymru.org.uk](http://www.bioamrywiaethcymru.org.uk)

**YELLOWHAMMER ● BRAS MELYN**



The actions listed below are aiming to

- Maintain the current population of 2004
- Expand the population to the numbers recorded in 1994.

|       | <b>ACTION</b>   | <b>PARTNERS</b>  | <b>DATE</b>                           | <b>DETAILS</b>   | <b>Link to</b>     |
|-------|---|------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 1     | Press Release to coincide with launch of plan   | PBP, RSPB, FUW   | May 2004                              | Launch event, encourage recording of breeding pairs<br>Western Telegraph/ Pembs Radio / Farmers Unions Newsletter                                    | PBP AWG            |
| 2     | Find out where the yellowhammers are nesting and how many are in the county. Send records to the county recorder via the biodiversity officer   | Pembs Bird Group | 2003/2004                             | BAP special breeding birds (Species Challenge Fund)  | PORC               |
|       |   | RSPB             | On going                              | Volunteer and Farmers Alliance   | BC in PEVN         |
|       |   | Pembs Bird Group | 2003/2007                             | Breeding Birds Atlas   | PORC               |
|       |   | RSPB             | 2004/2007                             | Aren't Welsh Birds Brilliant   | PEVN<br>PORC       |
|       |   | BTO              | On going                              | Farmland/ Breeding Bird Surveys  | PORC               |
|       | County Recorder   | On going         | Collates all records for the county   | PORC   |                    |
| 3     | Convert survey information into a digital map database (GIS, Geographical information system)   | CCW              | Current data 2004<br>Ongoing          | Enter records provided onto a digital database, update annually  | PORC<br>PBP FWG    |
| 4     | Review farm conservation schemes and improve conditions in current nesting areas. (Nest sites and singing posts in hedgerows and feeding requirements) See RSPB Farming for birds – Yellowhammer for more information).   | CCW              | Ongoing                               | Tir Gofal  | PBP FAG<br>PBP FWG |
|       |   | WAG              | Ongoing                               | Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs)   |                    |
| 5     | Promote advice / small grants for farmers outside conservation schemes to carry out specific management (see RSPB Farming for birds – Yellowhammer) to benefit yellowhammers.   | CCW              | Ongoing                               | Section 16 management agreements   | PBP FAG            |
|       |   | PCNPA            | Ongoing                               | Section 39 management agreements   |                    |
|       |   | RSPB             | 2004/2007                             | Aren't Welsh Birds Brilliant   |                    |
|       |   | PLANED           | Ongoing                               | Farming Connect  |                    |
| PCNPA | Ongoing   |                  |                                       |  |                    |
| 6     | Encourage land managers undertaking management on conservation sites (with suitable yellowhammer nesting habitat) to identify nest sites before carrying out scrub management or burning. Ensure information on section 9 commons is passed to Pembrokeshire Living Heathlands Officer. | CCW              | Current data 2004<br>Updated annually | Provide indicative maps of yellowhammer nest sites where known on conservation sites   | PORC<br>PBP BDAG   |
|       |   | PBP              |                                       | Distribute maps to site managers and raise awareness with management of Heathland project sites (inc some section 9 commons), National Trust land.   |                    |
|       |   | PBP              |                                       | Distribute maps to site managers and raise awareness with management of PCC Section 9 commons outside heathland project PCNPA and CCW managed sites. |                    |

|    | <b>ACTION</b>   | <b>PARTNERS</b>  | <b>DATE</b> | <b>DETAILS</b>   | <b>Link to</b>     |
|----|---|------------------|-------------|--|--------------------|
| 7  | Raise awareness of yellowhammer identification to shooting clubs members  | PBP              | CLBA AGM    | Request information from shooting club members about yellowhammers around seed feeding hoppers. Provide advice on management for yellowhammers and recording sheets. | PBP FAG & BAG      |
| 8  | Raising Public Awareness and Public Involvement, press releases and distribution of part 1 of the plan and recording forms. | FUW<br>PBP       | 2004        | Farmers Union Newsletter<br>Agricultural Shows – (include yellowhammer song recording)   | PBP FAG<br>PBP AWG |
|    |   | PBP<br>CLBA      | 2004        | CLBA newsletter  |                    |
|    |   | PBP, RSPB        | 2004        | Local Media (Western Telegraph, Radio Pembs)   | PBP AWG            |
| 9  | Hedgerow Management   | PCC              | Ongoing     | Promote hedgerow management guidelines and regulations on PCC managed sites (road verges, common land and county farms) and through planning system.                 | PBP FAG<br>PBP DAG |
|    |   | PCNPA            | On going    | Promote hedgerow management guidelines and regulations on PCNPA managed sites and through planning system  |                    |
| 10 | Monitor conservation status of species and habitat according to CSM on all known sites.                                     | ALL              | 2010        | Ensure the known population of breeding pairs in 2004 is maintained  | All                |
|    |   | Pembs Bird Group | Ongoing     | Monitor a sample of the breeding sites on a six year rotation.   | PORC               |

This plan contains all known information on January 2005, future schemes will be updated on the website plans. The whole plan will be reviewed in 2010.

**Links with other Habitat Action Plans and Species Action Plans.**

Management for many species and habitats is compatible with that for yellowhammers, e.g. cereal field margins, traditional field boundaries, lowland heathland, maritime cliffs and slopes, tree sparrow, linnet, bullfinch, stonechat, whinchat.

A glossary for the abbreviations used in this plan can be found in the full Local Biodiversity Action Plan available from the website or the biodiversity officer.  
**Website:** [www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/planning/biodiversity.htm](http://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/planning/biodiversity.htm)      **Tel:** 0790 154 1728      **E-mail:** [bethan.cox@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:bethan.cox@pembrokeshire.gov.uk)