

Farmer ID:
Surveyor:

Plot number:
Survey date:

Total score:
(A+B+C+D)

/100

A Ecological Integrity

A1. Species richness. How many total **POSITIVE** indicators are present in the plot?

No. of +ive indicators:	very high 15+	high 10-14	medium 5-9	low 0-4
Score:	10	7	5	0

A2. What is the combined cover of all POSITIVE indicators throughout the plot?

% cover:	excellent >30%	good 16-30%	fair 6-15%	poor 0-5%
Score:	10	7	5	0

A3. What is the combined cover of all grasses/sedges throughout the plot?
(Excluding large rushes)

% cover:	excellent <50%	good 50-75%	fair 75-90%	poor >90%
Score:	10	7	5	0

A4. What is the combined cover of all large rushes throughout the plot?

% cover:	excellent <10%	good 10-25%	fair 25-50%	poor >50%
Score:	10	5	0	-5

A5. What's the combined cover of Agriculturally favoured species throughout the plot? (Excluding defined ELC areas)

% cover:	abundant >25%	frequent 10-25%	scarce 0-10%
Score:	-10	-5	0

Positive indicators

Tick if present:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bedstraws, small inc. Lady's bedstraw | <input type="checkbox"/> Red clover |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird's-foot-trefoil, common; Kidney vetch | <input type="checkbox"/> Ribwort plantain |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common valerian (not Red Valerian) | <input type="checkbox"/> Rushes, small (not soft rush) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eyebrights | <input type="checkbox"/> Scabious (Devil's-bit & Field) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Knapweeds | <input type="checkbox"/> Sedges (all species) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lady's mantle | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-heal; Bugle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lady's smock (or Cuckooflower) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sorrel (Common & Sheep's) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lesser spearwort | <input type="checkbox"/> Thistles (Marsh, Meadow & Carlina) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marsh cinquefoil; Marsh marigold | <input type="checkbox"/> Tormentil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marsh pennywort | <input type="checkbox"/> Umbels - large (Angelica, Common hogweed) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meadow buttercup (not creeping) | <input type="checkbox"/> Umbels - small (Pignut, Wild carrot, Cow parsley) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meadowsweet | <input type="checkbox"/> Vetches & Vetchlings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mints (all species) | <input type="checkbox"/> Violets (all species); Harebell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orchids | <input type="checkbox"/> Yarrow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ox-eye daisy/Dog daisy (not common daisy) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow composites (not dandelion) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ragged robin | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow flag-iris |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rattle (or Hay rattle) |

Agriculturally favoured species Tick if present:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large docks (NOT small sorrels) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ragwort |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perennial ryegrass | <input type="checkbox"/> Thistles (creeping & spear) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Nettles (not in approved ELC area) |

Total score A:
(A1+A2+A3+A4+A5)

/40

B Structure & functions

B1. What is the sward density and structure?

Select one type based on dominant cover >50%.

Sward density:	No general structure. Plot is managed to a point where there is limited cover other than isolated patches.	Weak density characterised by a thin 'wispy' appearance. Plant flowering heads largely absent or very close to the ground.	Moderate density characterised by thin appearance or heavy grazing. Herb layer poor or very short. Few flowering heads at appropriate levels.	Balanced vegetation density across the plot - not too heavy or thin. Often herb rich to 20 cm and easily permeable at ground level. Grasses and herbs a balanced mix.	Moderate density characterised by grassy appearance and/or some rank or thatched undergrowth. Often herb poor with grass dominating at ground level.	Heavy density characterised by very grassy appearance and/or rank undergrowth. Often heavily fertilised or under-grazed e.g. reseeded fields.	Very heavy sward structure characterised by rank thatched undergrowth at the base. Usually associated with abandonment or excessive fertilizer and reseeded of grass.
Score:	-10	0	10	20	10	0	-10

B2. What is the available optimal vegetation height for corncrake* within the plot (excluding large rushes)?**

*Ankle to knee length (20-50cm)

**If large areas of the meadow have collapsed, please exclude them.

% of plot 20-50cm:	excellent >75%	good 50-75%	fair 25-50%	poor <25%
Score:	20	10	0	-10

Total score B:
(B1+B2)

C Corncrake features

(mark ALL, but max. score for D is 20)

C1. Does the plot contain or is directly adjacent to an Early and Late cover plot specifically managed by the participant as part of the project specification?

	yes	no
Score:	5	0

(If NO, skip straight to C4)

ELC characteristic species Tick if present:

<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Flag Iris	<input type="checkbox"/> Large Umbellifers	<input type="checkbox"/> ELC crop mix
<input type="checkbox"/> Nettles	<input type="checkbox"/> Meadowsweet	<input type="checkbox"/> Canary Reed Grass

C2. Does the Early and Late cover plot meet the project specification in terms of species characteristics?

>50% cover of target species	yes	no
Score:	5	0

C3. What is the total area of the associated ELC?

(Note minimum eligible ELC area is 0.05ha)

Area of ELC:	>1000m ²	500 - 1000m ² or 5% of total plot	<500m ²
Score:	10	5	0

C4. What are the specific features present which may benefit corncrake?

Features present:	>5% cover of Yellow Iris within a clearly defined area of the plot i.e. not scattered throughout.	>5% cover of umbels throughout the plot.	Rocky outcrop or unmown headland covering >5% of plot (mown plots only).	5-20% Phragmites cover within the plot	Wetland features such as flushes and fen across >5% of plot
Score:	2	2	2	2	2

Total score C:
(C1+C2+C3+C4)

D Threats and pressures

D1. Is there any evidence of recent damaging activity that limits corncrake habitat quality?

Intensity is scored on effort required to restore the identified problem.

Intensity of damage:	High	Moderate	Low	No damage
Score:	-15	-10	-5	0

Examples may include:
dumping (organic or inorganic),
damaging supplementary feeding, pollution or damage to soil, active quarry/sand pit, restructuring of holding, use of herbicide, obvious poaching which has re-vegetated etc.

D2. Are invasive species present?

	yes	no
Score:	-10	0

Invasive species Tick if present:

<input type="checkbox"/> Rhododendron	<input type="checkbox"/> Giant Rhubarb	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Himalayan balsam	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese knotweed	

Total score D:
(D1+D2)

Management advice/comments:

Please make comments in relation to awarding of scores for C.