

The Big Farmland Bird Count (BFBC) 2019

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Game & Wildlife
CONSERVATION TRUST
The Allerton Project

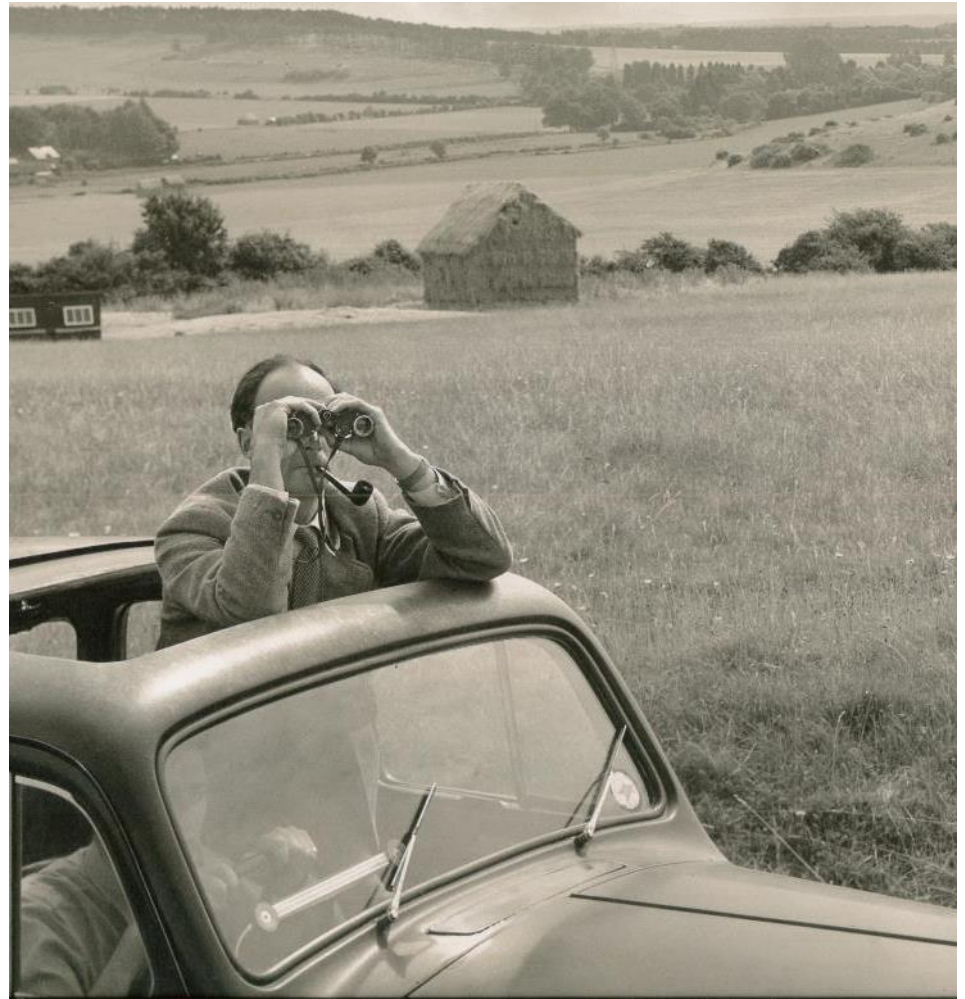
What is the Big Farmland Bird Count?

It is exactly what it says:

“An initiative encouraging farmers, land managers and gamekeepers to count birds on their land”

What it is not, is a robust, scientific survey

This year the count is kindly sponsored by the NFU



When is it ?

8th to 17th
February 2019

The count is in its 6th year.

Last year we had just over a
1000 people take part.

121 different species seen

25 species from the Red List
for Birds of Conservation
Concern were recorded, with
5 appearing in the 25 most
commonly seen species list



What are we asking people to do?

30 minutes recording the species and number of birds seen on around 2ha (5 acres)

We would recommend that the chosen site includes, or is close to, an area of game or wild seed mix or somewhere that supplementary feeding takes place.

Give a little thought as to the spot you choose to survey!

Perhaps most important of all – enjoy it!



Do you need help finding and identifying birds?

There are count sheets and ID guides online
gwct.org.uk/bfbc

We could help you to run an ID workshop for your group – contact Amelia Woolford for details:
awoolford@gwct.org.uk

We can also provide a presentation and potentially even an expert.....



What happens after the count?

The results are submitted online – it really does only take 10 mins

Once the results are submitted each recorder has created their own online record which can be added to each year.

Within the record there are links to species information sheets and tips and hints to help the birds that have been recorded.



What is in this for a Cluster Group?

A great way of assessing what your cluster is delivering.

Helps group members engage and learn about what the impact of their work is.

Might help focus work for particular birds.

The results can be shared across a cluster so you can build a cluster wide record and start to focus your work.



Get involved!

Would it not be wonderful if EVERY land manager in the country took part in the next BFBC?

Last year just over a 1000 people counted

There are around 212,000 farm holdings and around 3000 full time gamekeepers in the UK (and a similar number who do the job part time).

So less than one in every 200 (0.4%) of potential counters took part last year.

Let's at least get everyone involved in a farmer cluster doing the count



The Big Farmland Bird Count

Once the results are in, then let's tell everyone!

“Don't just be proud – be loud”

Tell people about the birds seen in your cluster and the work that you are all doing.

The GWCT will also shout from the rooftops on your behalf!

So don't forget - February 8th – 17th 2019

For more info – see: gwct.org.uk/bfbc

