



NatHistCam – A Natural History of Cambridge

www.nathistcam.org.uk

Garden Survey



NatHistCam is project to study the natural history of Cambridge, based on an 8-km square which is roughly centred on Mill Road Cemetery. Our aims are to:

- create a snapshot of the flora and fauna of Cambridge City and its immediate environs in a historical context; and
- increase public awareness of the diversity of plants, animals and fungi in the city.

Based on our field studies, we shall publish papers and probably two books.

In each monad (1-km square) of the selected 64 squares, we are systematically recording the presence of flowering plants, ferns, mosses and liverworts, and plan to draw on records for several animal groups. We are also using this framework to record gardens. Are you willing to participate?

Each selected garden will receive about 3 visits, a summer one to record plants and moths, a winter one to record mosses and liverworts, and an autumn one to trap small mammals. As an additional activity, we may – with your agreement – set cameras (Trailcams) in boxes to record animals without trapping them. Your name and address will not be released, but the garden will be localized to 100 m by a 6-figure grid reference.

If you would like your garden to be surveyed, please fill in the form that appears overleaf.

We regret we cannot promise to survey your garden, as we need to get even coverage across the city and are trying to avoid very small or very large gardens. Even if we do not select your garden, we would like to hear about the birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles that you have seen in your garden over the past two years.

Notes on filling in the form

Our surveyors can fill in most of it for you, but we need your input, especially on how you manage the garden. Obviously we need to know your contact details! It is also very interesting to know what vertebrates you have seen in your garden recently.

We calculate the area of your garden either from maps published in the internet (especially OpenStreetMap) or where this is not helpful by direct measurement.

The things that are particularly useful for us are:

- Approx date of property
- Your herbicide use (regular 2, occasional 1, never 0)
- Your metaldehyde slug pellet use (regular 2, spot treatments only 1, never 0)
- Your other pesticide use (regular 2, spot treatments only 1, never 0)
- Your inorganic fertilizer use (regular e.g. spring lawn greening 2, spot treatments 1, never 0)

We would also like to know what birds and other animals you have seen in the past 2 years. Birds flying over or heard from the garden are counted. Enter X in the box if you saw this species.

When you have filled in the form, send it to nathistcam@gmail.com or by post to Mark Hill, 11 Chaucer Road, Cambridge CB2 7EB, Tel. 01223-571574.

Items starred (name, address and telephone number) are necessary for us to contact you

NOT TO BE CIRCULATED

Name*	
Address*	
Postcode	
Email	
Telephone landline*	
Telephone mobile	
Grid reference	

FOR GENERAL CIRCULATION

Property description

Detached/Semi/Town	
Approx date of property	
Area of garden excl house (m ²)	(calc by us)
Area of house (m ²)	(calc by us)

Garden features

Separate front garden	
Wall	
Paling fence	
Flower beds	
Vegetable patch	
Lawn	
Paved area	
Hedge	
Ivy or climber on house	
Pond or other water feature	

Management

Compost heap	
Flower-bed weed control 0/1/2	
Veg-patch weed control 0/1/2	
Lawn care 0/1/2	
Herbicide 0/1/2	
Metaldehyde slug pellet 0/1/2	
Other pesticides 0/1/2	
Inorganic fertilizer 0/1/2	
Bird box (used)	
Bird box (unused)	
Bird feeder	
Other wildlife management	enter below
Household cat	
Household dog	

Vertebrates seen by you in last 2 years

Birds	Amphibian / Reptile	
Blackbird	Frog	
Blackcap	Grass snake	
Black-headed Gull	Newt, Smooth	
Blue Tit	Slow worm	
Bullfinch	Toad	
Carrion Crow		
Chaffinch	Mammals	
Chiffchaff	Badger	
Coal Tit	Fox	
Collared Dove	Hedgehog	
Dunnock	Mole	
Feral Pigeon	Muntjac	
Fieldfare	Rabbit	
Goldcrest	Rat	
Goldfinch	Squirrel	
G Spotted Woodpec		
Great Tit	Other species	
Green Woodpec		
Greenfinch		
Grey Heron		
House Martin		
House Sparrow		
Jackdaw		
Jay		
Kestrel		
Long-tailed Tit		
Magpie		
Pheasant		
Pied Wagtail		
Redwing		
Robin		
Song Thrush		
Sparrowhawk		
Starling		
Swallow		
Swift		
Tawny Owl		
Woodpigeon		
Wren		

Other wildlife management?

What is your worst weed?