

**European Community Directive
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats
and of Wild Fauna and Flora
(92/43/EEC)**

**Second Report by the United Kingdom under
Article 17
on the implementation of the Directive
from January 2001 to December 2006**

**Conservation status assessment for
Habitat:**

**H6510 - Lowland hay meadows (*Alopecurus
pratensis*, *Sanguisorba officinalis*)**

The information in this assessment corresponds to the "habitat fact sheet" submitted by the UK to the European Union in February 2008 (second and final submission). Please note that this is a section of the UK's report. For the complete report visit <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/article17>

Please cite as: Joint Nature Conservation Committee. 2007. *Second Report by the UK under Article 17 on the implementation of the Habitats Directive from January 2001 to December 2006*. Peterborough: JNCC. Available from: www.jncc.gov.uk/article17

Habitat Name: Lowland hay meadows (*Alopecurus pratensis*, *Sanguisorba officinalis*)

1. National level

Habitat Code H6510

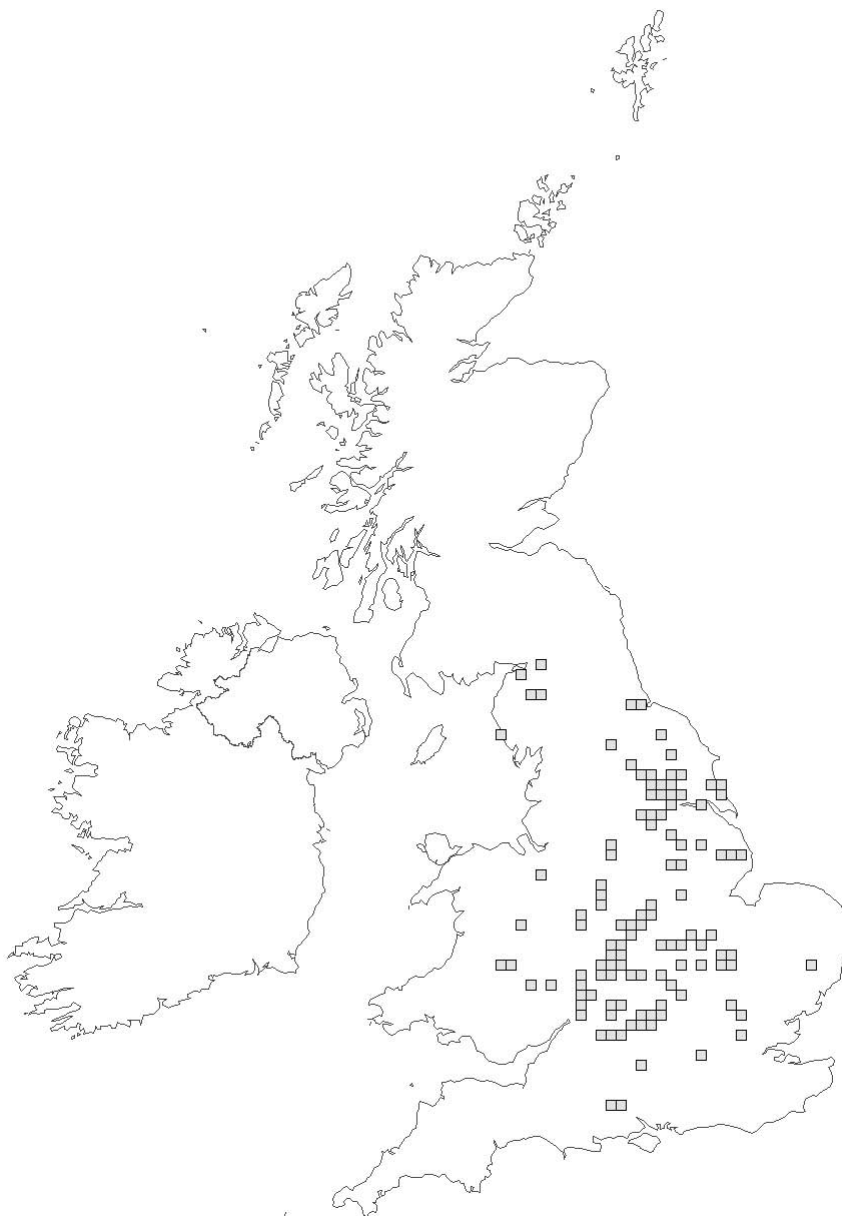
Member State UK

Biogeographic regions concerned within the MS ATL

1.1 Habitat range map



1.2 Habitat distribution map



2. Biogeographic level

2.1 Biogeographic region or marine region

ATL

2.2 Published sources and/or websites

Air Pollution Information System 2004. www.apis.ceh.ac.uk

BLACKSTOCK T. H. et al 1999. The extent of semi-natural grassland communities in lowland England and Wales: a review of conservation surveys 1978-96. *Grass and Forage Science* 54 1-18.

BULLOCK J. M. et al 2002. Plant dispersal and colonization processes at local and landscape scales. In: Bullock J.M., Kenward R.E. & Hails R. (eds.) *Dispersal Ecology*. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, pp. 279–302.

COOPER A., MCCANN T., & POWER J. 1994. Grassland diversity in relation to field parcel size and management. In: *Fragmentation in Agricultural Landscapes*. (ed. J.W. Dover), pp. 62-70. International Association for Landscape Ecology (UK).

CORPORAAL, A., HORSTHUIS, A.M.P. & SCHAMINEE, J.H.J. 1993. *Oecologie*

verspreiding en planensociologie positie van de Kievitsbloem (*Fritillaria meleagris* L.) in Nederland en Nordwest – Europa. *Stratiotes*, 6, 14-39.

GOWING, D.J.G., TALLOWIN, J.R.B., DISE, N.B., GOODYEAR, J., DODD, M.E. & LODGE, R.J. 2002. A review of the ecology, hydrology and nutrient dynamics of floodplain meadows in England. English Nature Research Report No 446. Peterborough

HAINES-YOUNG, RH et al 2000. Accounting for nature: assessing habitats in the UK countryside. DETR, Rotherham.

HEWINS E. J., PINCHES C., RILEY J., LUSH M. J. & ARNOLD J. 2005. Monitoring of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) grasslands. English Nature Research Report No 626. Peterborough

HOLMES P, PINCHES C AND JEFFERSON R 2005. National Assessment of Lowland Neutral Grassland. Paper GC P05 07 to English Nature Council March 2005. www.english-nature.org.uk/about/meetings/GCP0507.pdf

JACKSON, D.L. & MCLEOD, C.R. (eds.) 2002. Handbook on the UK status of EC Habitats Directive interest features: provisional data on the UK distribution and extent of Annex I habitats and the UK distribution and population size of Annex II species. JNCC Report, No. 312. Version 2. www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2447

JEFFERSON R. J. 1997. Distribution, status and conservation of *Alopecurus pratensis* – *Sanguisorba officinalis* flood-plain meadows in England. English Nature Research Report No.249. Peterborough
JNCC Wildlife Statistics www.jncc.gov.uk/page-3711

JOINT NATURE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE 2005. Common Standards Monitoring (CSM). Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough
www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2217

MCLEOD, C.R., YEO, M., BROWN, A.E., BURN, A.J., HOPKINS, J.J., & WAY, S.F. (eds.) 2007. The Habitats Directive: selection of Special Areas of Conservation in the UK. 2nd edn. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough
www.jncc.gov.uk/SACselection

PACHA, M. 2004. Fragmentation of Northern Hay Meadows and Populations of *Geranium sylvaticum* in the Yorkshire Dales national Park. Phd thesis, Lancaster University

PAGE, M.L. 1980. A phytosociological classification of British Neutral grasslands. D. Phil thesis, University of Exeter.

PERRING, F.H. & WALTERS, S.M. 1982. Atlas of the British Flora. 3rd edition. London. Botanical Society of the British Isles.

POSCHLOD P. & BONN S. 1998. Changing dispersal processes in the central European landscape since the last ice age – an explanation for the decrease of plant species richness in different habitats? *Acta Botanica Neerlandica* 47, 27–44.

PRESTON C.D., PEARMAN D.A & DINES T.A. 2002. New Atlas of the British Flora. Oxford University Press. Botanical Society of the British Isles.

RACKHAM, O. 1986. The history of the countryside. J.M.Dent

	<p>RATCLIFFE, D.A. 1984. Post medieval and recent changes in vegetation: the culmination of human influence. <i>The NewPhytologist</i>, 98, 73 -100.</p> <p>RODWELL J.S. (Ed.) 1992. <i>British Plant Communities Volume 3: Grasslands and Montane Communities</i>. Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>RODWELL, J. S 1996. <i>Phytosociological Conspectus of British Plant Communities</i>. Unpublished Report. Peterborough: JNCC.</p> <p>RODWELL, J. S., MOSS, D, MORGAN, V., & JEFFERSON, R.J. (in prep). <i>The European Context of British Lowland Grasslands</i>. JNCC report</p> <p>SCHAMINEE, J.H.J., STORTELDER, A.H.F. & WEEDA, E.J. 1996) <i>Die Vegetatie van Nederland, 3 Graslanden, Zomen, Droge Heiden</i>. Uppsala:Opulus press.</p> <p>TILMAN D et al 1994. Habitat destruction and the extinction debt. <i>Nature</i> 371, 65–66.</p> <p>WALKER K. J. et al 2004. The restoration and re-creation of species-rich lowland grassland on land formerly managed for intensive agriculture in the UK. <i>Biological Conservation</i> 119 (1), pp 1-18.</p> <p>WEEDA, E.J., SCHAMINEE, J.H.J. & VAN DURREN, L. 2002. <i>Atlas van Plantengemeenschappen in Nederland</i>. Utrecht:KNNV Uitgeverij.</p> <p>WELLS, T C E , ROTHERY P, COX R, & BAMFORD, S. 1998. Flowering dynamics of <i>Orchis morio</i> L. and <i>Herminium monorchis</i> (L.) R.Br. at two sites in eastern England. <i>Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society</i>, 126, pp 39 -48.</p> <p>WESTHOFF, V. & DEN HELD, A.J. 1969. <i>Plantengemeenschappen in Nederland</i>. Zutphen:Thieme & Cie.</p> <p>Map data sources</p> <p>Data used to compile J.S. RODWELL, V. MORGAN, R.G. JEFFERSON & D. MOSS. 2007. <i>The European context of British Lowland Grasslands</i>. JNCC Report No. 394. Peterborough: Joint Nature Conservation Committee</p> <p>JNCC International Designations Database. Joint Nature Conservation Committee</p>
--	--

2.3 Range of the habitat within the Biogeographic or marine region

2.3.1 Surface area of range in square km	41631
2.3.2 Date of range determination	05/2007
2.3.3 Quality of data concerning range	Good
2.3.4 Range trend	Stable (=)
2.3.5 Range trend magnitude in %	Not applicable
2.3.6 Range trend period	1994-2004
2.3.7 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable

2.4 Area covered by habitat type within the range in the biogeographical region concerned.

2.4.1 Surface area of the habitat type (sq km)	15
--	----

2.4.2 Date of area estimation	05/2007
2.4.3 Method used for area estimation	3 - Ground based survey
2.4.4 Quality of data on area	Moderate
2.4.5 Area trend	Decreasing (-)
2.4.6 Area trend magnitude in %	Unknown
2.4.7 Area trend period	1994-2006
2.4.8 Reasons for reported trend	3 - Direct human influence;
2.4.9 Justification of % thresholds for trends (optional)	Not applicable
2.4.10 Main pressures	101 - Modification of cultivation practices; 110 - Use of pesticides; 120 - Fertilisation; 141 - Abandonment of pastoral systems; 162 - Artificial planting; 420 - Discharges; 701 - water pollution; 702 - air pollution; 840 - Flooding; 853 - management of water levels; 950 - Biocenotic evolution; 954 - invasion by a species;
2.4.11 Threats	101 - Modification of cultivation practices; 110 - Use of pesticides; 120 - Fertilisation; 141 - Abandonment of pastoral systems; 162 - Artificial planting; 420 - Discharges; 701 - water pollution; 702 - air pollution; 840 - Flooding; 853 - management of water levels; 950 - Biocenotic evolution; 954 - invasion by a species;
Complementary information	
2.5.1 Favourable reference range (sq km)	41631
2.5.2 Favourable reference area (sq km)	16.5
2.5.3 Typical species	none listed
2.5.4 Typical species assessment	Not applicable
2.5.5 Other relevant information	
2.6 Conclusions (assessment of conservation status at end of reporting period)	
(2.3) Range	(FV) - Favourable
(2.4) Area	(U1-) - Inadequate and deteriorating
(2.5) Specific structures and functions (incl. typical species)	(U2+) - Bad but improving
Future prospects	(U2+) - Bad but improving
Overall assessment	(U2+) - Bad but improving