

# *Miliaria calandra* (Corn Bunting)

Full report outputted on the 31/07/2003 11:07:26

## 1. Status of the habitat / species

Please give your most accurate assessment of the status of your species or habitat for the UK and for each country. Leave the row blank where the species or habitat does not occur in that country.

	Amount:	Units:	Year:	Accuracy:	Reference for data:
UK	9000	Breeding pairs/units	2000	Informed guess	Extrapolated from Gibbons, Reid & Chapman: The New Atlas (incorporating 10 yr smoothed CBC trend)
E					No data available
NI					No data available
S					No data available
W					No data available

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## 2. Trend in Biological Status

Please give your best estimate of the current trend for your species or habitat for the UK, and each appropriate country, using the following categories. Please give an estimate unless there is absolutely no information on which to assess status.

	Trend:	Accuracy:	Reference for data:
<b>UK</b>	Declining (continuing/accelerating) ▼	Partial or sample survey ▼	<a href="http://www.bto.org/birdtrends/wcrcorbu.htm">http://www.bto.org/birdtrends/wcrcorbu.htm</a> (data for 1994-2000)
<b>E</b>	Declining (continuing/accelerating) ▼	Partial or sample survey ▼	<a href="http://www.bto.org/birdtrends/wcrcorbu.htm">http://www.bto.org/birdtrends/wcrcorbu.htm</a> (data for 1994-2000)
<b>NI</b>	Not applicable (does not occur in this country) ▼		
<b>S</b>	Declining (continuing/accelerating) ▼	Best guess ▼	J Wilson pers. comm.
<b>W</b>	Not applicable (does not occur in this country) ▼		

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### 3. Status of knowledge

To what extent is our scientific knowledge of the habitat / species (e.g research information, autecological knowledge, knowledge for effective re-introduction or habitat restoration/re-creation) sufficient to deliver the plan targets?

Please give an assessment for the UK overall but if there is significant difference in knowledge between different countries this should be noted.

<b>Status of knowledge:</b>	Know ledge sufficient to effectively deliver the plan targets. <input type="button" value="v"/>
<b>Notes:</b>	<input type="text"/>

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### 4. Progress on targets

Each of the revised targets from the 2001 Targets Review is listed below.

For each one please give a qualitative assessment of progress for the UK and each country. You can also enter quantitative information on progress by entering data in each of the target boxes and entering the current amount in the amount box. For more information see Help.

**T1: In the short term, halt or reverse the decline in numbers of the corn bunting by the year 2003 so that the Breeding Bird Survey index is at least at 1996 levels.**

**Target start date:**

1998

Target end date: 2003

Target units:

	Progress	Target	Current	Accuracy	Monitoring
UK	<input type="text" value="No progress"/>	<input type="text" value="100"/>	<input type="text" value="67"/>	<input type="text" value="Partial or sample survey"/>	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>
E	<input type="text" value="No progress"/>	<input type="text" value="100"/>	<input type="text" value="62"/>	<input type="text" value="Partial or sample survey"/>	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>
NI	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
S	<input type="text" value="Unknown"/>	<input type="text" value="100"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Partial or sample survey"/>	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>
W	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**T2: In the long term see a sustained recovery in numbers so that the BBS index is at least 50% higher than 1996 levels by 2008.**

Target start date: 1998

Target end date: 2008

Target units:

	Progress	Target	Current	Accuracy	Monitoring
UK	No progress	150	67	Partial or sample survey	Yes
E	No progress	150	62	Partial or sample survey	
NI					
S	Unknown	150		Partial or sample survey	Yes
W					

**T3: Expand the range from that of 1996, as measured by the frequency in random BBS squares, by 2008.**

Target start date: 1998

Target end date: 2008

Target units:

	Progress	Target	Current	Accuracy	Monitoring
UK					

<b>E</b>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>NI</b>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>S</b>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>W</b>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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## 5. Current factors affecting the habitat

When your plan was published the factors (threats) that were thought to be causing loss or decline were listed (in section 2). Re-assessing the current situation may help prioritise actions for your species or habitat. In addition, this enables identification of the main threats to biodiversity across all plans. It is useful to assess whether the importance of different factors is changing and whether there are new issues emerging.

The threat section from the original plan is duplicated below, and a first attempt at categorising the threats has been made. Please confirm that you agree with the categorisation of the original threats identified in the plan (by deleting any wrongly categorised threats and adding the correct category). Please also add to the list any significant threats that have emerged recently, being mindful of environmental issues that have increased in profile or been recognised since plan publication (e.g. climate change). Once you are happy that the list contains all the threats identified in the published plan together with any new ones, please rank them in order of severity (1= highest threat). If the situation has changed and one of the published threats is no longer significant, please leave this in the list but give this rank = 0.

### Current factors affecting the habitat from the original publication:

2.1 Although the precise factors remain unclear, the loss of extensive mixed farming would appear to be the key to the decline of the corn bunting.

2.2 Loss of winter food is thought to be a probable cause of the population decline. The BTO's winter corn bunting survey, in 1992/93, showed that weedy stubble fields were by far the most important feeding habitat during the winter. The area of winter stubbles has been greatly reduced in recent decades due to the switch from spring-sown to autumn-sown cereals, the decline in mixed farming and the disappearance of undersowing. In addition, increased herbicide and fertiliser use has reduced the abundance of wildflower seeds.

2.3 Reduced breeding productivity. The intensification of farming practices, such as the increased use of pesticides and fertilisers, has reduced the availability of insects which are essential as chick food. Changes in grazing/mowing regimes may reduce nest site availability and breeding success on grassland, and the decline in mixed farming has led to the disappearance of insect-rich (and reduced input) undersown spring cereals.

## Keyworded factors:

To add factors click the add button, to delete factors check the delete box and then click the delete button.

Delete:	Rank:	Keyword:
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture   Inappropriate grazing (due to timing or livestock type)
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture   Intensive crop regimes
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture   Loss of mixed farming
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Pollution - land   Agricultural (nutrient enrichment)
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Pollution - land   Agricultural (other agro-chemicals)

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## 6. Constraints (optional)

Select the three most significant constraints to achieving the targets of the plan, and indicate the order of priority (1-3 with 1 being the most significant constraint). Only include constraints that are acting as a real blockage to delivering the plan targets or leading to a substantial delay in their delivery. For each constraint, please indicate whether you feel that it is within the ability of the lead partner or steering group to resolve the constraint.

<b>Constraint 1:</b>	
<b>Constraint keyword:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
Policy, legislation and designation   Agriculture (incl. Common Agricultural Policy)	UK E NI S W
<b>Solution:</b>	<b>Solution type:</b>
Persuade EU to implement appropriate changes at mid-term review	
<b>Able to resolve:</b>	
<b>Constraint 2:</b>	
<b>Constraint keyword:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
Funding and incentives   Agricultural schemes - changes needed to structure / payments	UK E NI S W
<b>Solution:</b>	<b>Solution type:</b>

<input type="text" value="UK Govts to make more money available through further modulation"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Able to resolve:</b>	
<b>Constraint 3:</b>	
<b>Constraint keyword:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
<input type="text" value="Funding and incentives   Agricultural schemes - changes needed to structure / payments"/>	<input type="text" value="UK E NI S W"/>
<b>Solution:</b>	
<b>Solution type:</b>	
<input type="text" value="Devolved Assemblies to develop agri-environment schemes alongside Defra model"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Able to resolve:</b>	

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## 7. Steering Group

Please list all organisations that are represented on the steering group for your species/habitat (include all organisations that have contributed either directly or by correspondence within the last 3 years). Where a steering group does not exist please leave this form blank.

To add organisations click the add button, to delete organisations check the delete box and then click the delete button.

**Delete: Organisation:**

- ✓ British Trust for Ornithology
- ✓ Countryside Council for Wales
- ✓ Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- ✓ Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland
- ✓ Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland
- ✓ English Nature
- ✓ Game Conservancy Trust
- ✓ Joint Nature Conservation Committee
- ✓ National Assembly for Wales Agriculture Department
- ✓ Pesticides Safety Directorate
- ✓ Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Division
- ✓ Scottish Natural Heritage
- ✓ Syngenta

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## 8. Other Groups/Organisations

Please list any additional groups/organisations that are actively involved in implementing your action plan. (This is to try to assess which groups are involved where there is no steering group and any additional contributors). If you do not have any other organisations involved, click [here](#).

To add organisations click the add button, to delete organisations check the delete box and then click the delete button.

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## 9. Linkages to LBAPs

a) Which of the following most accurately describes your interaction with LBAPs, up to now?



b) If you have been in contact with LBAPs how was it initiated?



c) Irrespective of current contact, how important do you consider LBAP co-ordinated action will be in achieving the targets of the plan? Select from category:



d) If you consider LBAP action to be anything other than unimportant, which of the following forms of engagement do you think would be appropriate? (Note, you may tick more than one category.)

- ✓ Indirect contact (e.g. posting information on UKBAP website, sharing work programmes, meeting schedules, articles in Biodiversity News, newsletter)
- ✓ Provision of generic information on habitat and/or species (e.g. advice and guidance on habitat/species ecology and management)
- ✓ Direct provision of advice (e.g. proactive approach to LBAP, response to consultations from LBAPs, advice on LBAP target setting)
- ✓ Reciprocal attendance at meetings
- ✓ Development of collaborative projects

**Other (please specify):**

Encourage local surveys

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## 10. Successes (optional)

Have there been key successes in the implementation of your plan that should be drawn to the attention of government, the wider BAP partnership, or the public? Please give a brief description (i.e. 2-3 sentences) of up to three successes and allocate a topic area to each of them:

### Success 1:

**Description:**

**Country:**

Partnership between DEFRA, SCAs, NGOs and industry to deliver research results and policy change

UK E NI S W

**Keyword:**

Partnership | Government support

**Success 2:**

**Description:**

Arable options included in Countryside Stewardship

**Country:**

UK E NI S W

**Keyword:**

Funding and incentives | Agricultural schemes - beneficial changes to structure / payments

**Success 3:**

**Description:**

Agreements for corn buntings secured in Cornwall (Countryside Stewardship) and Scotland (Rural Stewardship Scheme)

**Country:**

UK  E  NI  S  W

**Keyword:**

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Thankyou for answering the questions. You have not yet completed all of the questions. You can go back and answer the additional ones or edit the ones you have already answered whenever you want.

**Sign-off:**

When you have completed all of the questions that you are able to, you must sign off your reporting.

I agree that the steering group (if present) have agreed the information in this report and that the following contact point has also signed it off:

<b>Contact point:</b>	Defra	<b>email:</b>	andy.evans@
<b>Your name:</b>	AndyEvans		
<b>Date:</b>	13 01 03		

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