

Module title: Module 3 - Assessing Hedgerow Characteristics and Species Diversity in Arable Margins in Countryside Survey 2000		
Funded by: MAFF		
Module leader (s): C. J. Barr		
Start date: Apr 1998	End date: Apr 2001	Period covered by progress report: to end Dec 2000

OBJECTIVES

- To determine the current extent and distribution of species-rich arable plant communities and the factors that contribute to their presence in England and Wales and in major regions of each country.
- To analyse the data to give information about the current extent and distribution of species-rich arable communities, and about the factors that contribute to their presence.
- To analyse the data to give information about the current extent and distribution of species rich and other hedgerows in England and Wales and in major regions of each country.
- To determine the extent and distribution of species rich and other hedgerows in England and Wales, and in major regions of each country.
- To analyse hedgerow tree data from 1990 and 1998

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

- The additional recording of hedgerows and field margins was carried out in all surveyed squares in England and Wales. A total of 502 arable margin plots and 2341 additional hedgerow plots was recorded. (NERC also funded 50 arable and 119 additional hedgerow plots in Scotland).
- Data entry has been completed in synchrony with Module 1 work; the data will be integrated into the main CS databases and data structures.
- Data validation and analysis is nearing completion.
- A report on cereal field margins has been submitted to MAFF and a separate report on hedgerows and hedgerow trees is about to be submitted.

PROGRESS IN RELATION TO MILESTONES

Date of Milestone	Description of Milestone	Progress
mid May 1998	To agree a finalised methodology with the Ministry	This has been agreed.
Oct 1998	Complete field survey	A total of 2965 plots were recorded and documented.
May 1999	Enter and validate data	Data checking and entry has been completed.
Oct 1999	Analyse dataset	Analysis is nearing completion.
Jun 2001	To report the results to the Ministry	A draft report on arable field margins has been submitted and is ready to be edited. A preliminary draft report has been prepared on hedgerows.