

▲ **Hedgerow Heterogeneity and
Management, the Influence on
Breeding Populations of Yellowhammer
(*Emberiza citrinella*)**

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Image: RSPB, 2021

Introduction

- Where it all began
- Farmers and wildlife
- Hypothesis:



Research Question 1: Does hedgerow heterogeneity affect the choices made by Yellowhammer when choosing a breeding site?

Research Question 2: Does hedgerow management affect the choices made by Yellowhammer when choosing a breeding site?

Methods

- Questionnaires
 - Sent to farmers within the Selbourne Landscape Partnership
 - Identifying hedgerow management techniques used
 - Identifying potential study sites
- Hedgerow Surveys
 - 10 sites used in the main study
 - 1 further site studied
- Yellowhammer Surveys
 - Every other week for 16 weeks
 - 8 visits to each site in total



The Next Steps...

- Statistical Analysis, Discussion and Conclusion
- Submit my dissertation to University Centre Sparsholt
- Produce a document for farmers explaining my research and what it could mean for their hedgerow management – do we need to rethink things?
- Further Research? Who knows!



Thank You!

The Southdowns National Park Authority – Nick Heasman

The Selbourne Landscape Partnership - Debbie Miller & Matthew Norris-Hill

Norton Farm – Kate & Derek Faulkner

Manor Farm – Paul Andersen

Copse Field – Liz & Andrew Try

Lupin Farm – Richard & Rosemary Keyser

Windmill Farm – Rem Moser

Tutors: Dr Claire Cresswell, Alex Theodorou, Nicola Edwards, Dr Matthew Tallis