

NBIS Metadata

The NBIS database currently holds almost 2 million species records covering all the major taxon groups. We are always aiming to increase our data holdings, particularly for species and geographical areas for which records are currently sparse.

TEMPORAL COVERAGE

NBIS hold species records from 1600 to present, with the majority of records covering the last 30 years. While large datasets are generally updated annually by the County Recorders and other groups, records are received throughout the year.

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

The species records held cover the entirety of Norfolk; however the west of the County is less well covered than elsewhere.

Data resolution varies between and within taxa. Overall, the majority of records are at 1km or 100m resolution. See metadata for individual taxon groups for more details.

METHODS OF DATA CAPTURE

Data have been collected via a variety of methods, including surveys by specialist groups, reports written by ecological consultants as part of the planning process and from NBIS staff and members of the public.

QUALITY OF RECORDS

The majority of records submitted to NBIS are verified by the network of County Recorders. The remaining records are verified in-house by NBIS staff prior to their inclusion on the database.

Records are entered onto a Recorder 6 database which validates them on input with regards dates and grid references.

FURTHER INFORMATION

NBIS holds records for the majority of taxa found in the county. However updates of some taxon groups have not been received recently. Details of who to contact if you require data not yet held by NBIS will be available here shortly.

DATA SECURITY

Records are kept on a password-protected, secure database which is held on the Norfolk County Council server. The data is backed up daily. The paper copies of records which have been digitised in house are filed securely in case future reference is necessary. Most are held within the Norfolk Archive Centre, with a small number of files in frequent use stored in the NBIS office.

INDIVIDUAL TAXA

Amphibians and Reptiles

- 6484 records.
- Records held cover the period 1778 – 2010.
- The majority of records are post – 1980.
- Good coverage of records in the east of the county, but sparse in the far west.
- The majority of records have a grid reference of 100m or 1km resolution, with more recent records generally recorded at a higher resolution.

Birds

- Just over 189000 records.
- Records cover the period 1605 – 2010.
- Most records are post – 2000.
- Records last updated by the County Bird Recorder in Jan 2010.
- Good coverage of records throughout the county.
- The vast majority of the records are at 1km resolution.

Fish

- 8873 records are held.
- Records cover the period 1960-2009.
- Most of the records held are from between 1980 and 1999, with just under 1000 post – 2000.
- Records scattered, but throughout the whole county.
- Most records are at 100m resolution.

Fungi & Lichen

- 73930 records held.
- Records cover the period 1800 – 2009.
- Most of the records held are from between 1980 and 1999, with just over 9000 post-2000.
- Records are scattered and particularly sparse in West Norfolk.
- 99% of the records are at 100m resolution.

Marine Species (excluding fish)

- 4149 records held.
- Records cover the period 1898 – 2010.
- Record resolution is very variable, with most recorded at 1km or higher.
- Grid references for cetaceans often give the viewing point rather than the location of the animal.

Non- Vascular Plants

- 4614 records held.
- Records span the time period 1795 – 2010.
- Most of the records held are for post – 2000.
- Records are fairly sparsely distributed, with particular gaps in North and West Norfolk.
- 70% of the records (including most post – 2000) are recorded at 1km resolution.

Hymenoptera

- Just over 9000 records held.

- Records cover the period 1866 – 2010.
- Many of the records have a 100m resolution grid reference, with later records generally having a higher resolution than older ones.
- Bumblebee records updated by the County Recorder in January 2010.

Coleoptera

- 75019 records held.
- Records span the period 1800 – 2009.
- The majority of records held are from 1980 onwards.
- Approximately 60% of the records have a resolution of 1km, 21% at 100m resolution.

Butterflies

- 76627 records held.
- Records span the period 1827 – 2010.
- The majority of records have a resolution of 1km or 100m.

Odonata

- Just over 5000 records held.
- Records cover the period 1903 – 2009.
- Many records for the Broads. Patchy coverage of the rest of the county.
- The majority of post – 1980 records have a resolution of 100m or 1km.
- The dragonfly records have not been updated recently by the County Recorder but will be following the completion and publication of the Norfolk Dragonfly Atlas.

Diptera

- 9464 records held.
- Records cover the period 1868 – 2009.
- The largest proportion of records is from 2000 onwards.
- Records are fairly sparsely distributed with a hotspot in the Broads and a gap in West Norfolk.
- More than two thirds of the records held are recorded at 10m resolution.

Moths

- 594806 records held.
- Cover the time period 1800 – 2009.
- Around 86% of records have a 100m resolution grid reference.
- Dataset updated by the County Recorder in March 2010.

Other Terrestrial Invertebrates

- 43871 records held.
- Records span the time period 1600 – 2009.
- Most of the records held are post – 1980.
- Good coverage across the county, sparser in the west.
- About half of the records are at 100m resolution, with most of the remainder either at 10m or 1km.

Terrestrial Mammals

- 51854 records held.
- Spans the time period 1705 – 2010.
- The majority of records held are post – 1980.

- Good coverage across most of the county. Records slightly sparser in the south and west of the county.
- Most of the records held are at either 1km or 100m resolution.
- The database contains some confidential badger and bat records which cannot be given out. Enquirers will be notified when this occurs and advised as to where to go for further information.

Vascular Plants & Stoneworts

- 421978 records held.
- Records span the time period 1670 – 2010.
- 88% of records are at 2km resolution, with the remaining records having a grid reference of 1km resolution or greater.
- Dataset for West Norfolk updated by the County Recorder in January 2010.

SITE INFORMATION

NBIS holds site boundary information for the following sites:

Ramsar;
 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC);
 Special Protection Areas (SPA);
 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);
 National Nature Reserves (NNR);
 Local Nature Reserves (LNR);
 County Geological Sites (CGS);
 County Wildlife Sites (CWS);
 Roadside Nature Reserves (RNR);
 Ancient Woodland;

and the locations of Geodiversity Sites.

NBIS also holds site details of:

- County Wildlife Sites (Number, name and citation)
- Roadside Nature Reserves (Road name and number and the species for which they are designated; citations will be available shortly)
- Geodiversity Sites (Site name, site description, site type and geodiversity features)

NBIS are also able to access citations for Ramsar, SAC, SPA, SSSIs and CGS.