

NHMP Autumn 2024 Update: Wroughton, Wiltshire

Thank you for taking part in the National Hedgehog Monitoring Programme this year. We are extremely grateful to all of our hub managers, site co-ordinators, citizen scientists and camera hosts. Without the hard work of the NHMP volunteers, the project simply would not be possible.



Together, this year we have surveyed 40 sites across England, Scotland and Wales. This is fantastic news, as it means we have already reached our target for the whole three-year pilot, with another year to go! The surveys have generated a huge number of images; over 5 million have been uploaded to MammalWeb so far, with lots more to be added. Whilst we work our way through all the data to produce the first hedgehog population density estimates, we wanted to give you a quick update on your local site.

At the end of September, thirty cameras were placed out in Wroughton, and left on for 30 days to photograph anything passing in front of them. Over 120 000 images were uploaded to MammalWeb from these cameras. AI filtered out pictures of humans and blank images, and the rest were made available for volunteers to look through and identify what species had been snapped. This is a crucial step to identify which of the images contain hedgehogs and therefore need to be analysed. As one of the last sites to be surveyed for the programme, the images have only recently been made available online. already over 130 volunteers have helped with this process, becoming 'Spotters' to classify the image sequences from Wroughton, so thank you very much if you're one of them. There are still lots of sequences left for spotting, so please do take a look if you can on [MammalWeb](#).

Of the images classified so far, 31 species of bird and mammal have been spotted at Wroughton (excluding livestock, dogs, cats and people). Red Fox appears on the most cameras from Wroughton, appearing at 28 of the 30 cameras. Unlike most of the NHMP

sites, Pheasant is one of the least spotted species in Wroughton, appearing on only one camera (so far).



Badgers were spotted at six cameras across the site.

We're pleased to report that so far, hedgehogs have been spotted at 11 cameras, making them the 9th most spotted species across the site. It's likely that there are more that haven't been spotted yet, so do have a look.



Hedgehogs have appeared at 11 cameras so far.

Please note that these are preliminary results and need to be verified. Part of that verification comes from several Spotters agreeing with each other and the AI on what species is in the image. The more Spotters we have viewing and classifying the images, and the more agreement we have between Spotters on what they've seen, the more confident we can be in the results and the faster we can produce density estimates. Another reason to take part and classify the NHMP images on [MammalWeb](#). Plus, it's good fun and you can see what your local wildlife gets up to when you're not looking! Thank you so much to everyone who has had a go at Spotting so far, if you'd like to have a go, you can find instructions [here](#).



Red Fox was the most widespread species across Wroughton, appearing at 28 cameras

Thanks again, and we'll be in touch in the new year with more updates and plans for next year.



The National Hedgehog Monitoring Programme is run by The British Hedgehog Preservation Society and People's Trust for Endangered Species, in partnership with Nottingham Trent University, Zoological Society of London, London Hogwatch, MammalWeb and Durham University, and co-funded by Natural England.