Stuart Russell, Warwickshire

"Management of the fallow plots is quite straightforward even where blackgrass is a problem. On our permanent plots, we cultivate after autumn drilling to help weed germination. We then spray off in February so plots are ready for the first breeding attempts of farmland birds."

Establish plots of between 1 and 2.5Ha in size, at least 100m wide in large arable fields (larger than 5Ha) with an open aspect well away from trees, woodland and pylons. Rotational plots will require tine or disc cultivation between 1st February and 20th march.

Photo supplied by: Peter Thompson at GWCT

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	START OF BIRD BREEDING SEASON. EB1-3, EB8-10, EC4, ED4, EF1, EE7-8, EK1 All hedge laying/coppicing completed and no cutting until 1 September. EF2, C9 Retain to 1 March before re-establishment. EF10 Resume normal management. • You must not cut or plough vegetation on agricultural land which is not in agricultural production from this date (except in a limited number of circumstances) (GAEC 12). • You must not cut hedgerows from this date, although hedge-laying and coppicing still permitted. (GAEC 15)		10	11
12	13	14 EK4 Last day for cutting rush dominated areas	15 EF9-10, EF15, EG4 & C11 Final day to apply insecticides	16	17	18
19	20 EF13 & C5 Complete creation of cultivated areas	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 EF9, EF10, EF15 & C11 Final date for applying herbicides to control grass and broad-leaved weeds. • If you hold a water abstraction license, expect to receive your annual bill for the forthcoming financial year from 31 March. (GAEC 18)	

Campaign For the Farmed Environment

www.cfeonline.org.uk

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Uncropped cultivated areas

Offer breeding sites for ground nesting birds