

## **SPECIES DATASETS ON THE DONCASTER LRC DATABASE**

The geographical coverage of the biological records on our database is limited by the boundary of the Doncaster Metropolitan Borough.

The following are the major species datasets that we hold. Please get in touch if you are interested in any species groups which you do not see in the notes below.

Currently we do not upload our datasets to NBN but this is set to change in the near future as we liaise with one of our partner organisations, the YHEDN.

### **Amphibians and Reptiles**

The datasets for this group are included in general biological records but we also have data from several recent amphibian surveys carried out by specialists.

### **Badgers**

Our policy is not to keep records of active badger setts owing to the sensitive nature of these habitats. We do keep records of casual sightings not associated with setts, and records of road-killed animals.

### **Beetles**

Our Coleoptera (beetles) records of which there are approx. 37000 records of 1950 species, represent about 50% of the British Fauna. The large number of recorded species is due in part to the presence of sites such as Thorne and Hatfield Moors, Potteric Carrs and Denaby Ings SSSIs. Many Coleoptera records are included within general biological records datasets, but we do have records in specialist Coleoptera surveys from 2008 onwards. Most of our beetle records date from 1970 onwards.

### **Birds**

We have about 35000 bird records from our recording area. Most of these are post-2000 and are included in surveys from reserves and SSSIs including Potteric Carr, Denaby Ings and Thorne and Hatfield Moors. Our bird records in specific surveys have been received from specialist ornithologists. Some casual bird records from members of the public and general observers are included. Rarities and controversial species records are referred to specialists for verification as DLRC deems necessary. The grid references attached to most of our bird records are given to a 1km resolution.

### **True Bugs – Heteroptera**

Approximately 5000 heteropteran records are held in general biological records surveys. These cover the period 1985 to date. Most of these are the result of personal collection and surveying by the YNU county recorder for Heteroptera-Hemiptera.

### **Crustacea/Isopoda**

About 450 records of very varied groups including woodlice, freshwater shrimp, crayfish, daphnia and ostracods are held. All records are from specialist individuals and recording groups.

### **Orthoptera – Grasshoppers and crickets**

About 400 records of this insect group date from the earliest period of biological recording in the Doncaster district in the 1830s to the present day. All our records are from specialist individuals or groups. Our orthopteran records are subsumed into general biological record datasets.

### **Odonata – Dragonflies and damselflies**

This small group of insects is well represented and recorded in the Doncaster district, with around 2000 records, mostly post-1980. The records are the result of specialist activity in specific site surveys, for example from Thorne Moor in 1997 and 2011/12, and from Potteric Carr in 2010.

### **Hymenoptera – Bees, wasps and ants**

The 5000 or so records that we hold in our database are due to individuals specialising in the group. Most records are Aculeata from sites in the eastern half of our recording area where local geological conditions and suitable habitats suit these species. This number also includes some Ichneumonidae, again resulting from the work of specialist entomologists.

### **Fish**

We hold about 500 records of freshwater fish (and a few records of vagrant saltwater fish from the River Don). Many of these records, dating from 1800 onwards to the present day, have been provided to us by anglers rather than by field naturalists. Many of the grid references attached to these records are to 10km resolution owing to the nature of the long linear sites from which the records emanate.

### **Bryophytes – Mosses and lichens**

This large group of very under-recorded organisms is the preserve of specialist recorders. We have about 7600 records dating from 1985 to the present day. Most of this fine work is the result of the efforts of a single local bryophyte specialist who has covered all the 1km squares in the DLRC recording area. Records are held at 1km resolution in most cases.

### **Lepidoptera – Moths and butterflies**

The separation of moths from butterflies is a rather artificial one based on public perception rather than scientific reality. Butterflies are members of the Family Papilionidae, moths occupying the remainder of the Lepidoptera. We have about 25000 Lepidoptera records, all either directly from specialists, or casual records which have been verified by a specialist. Records are held in Doncaster area Lepidoptera surveys dating from between 1978 and 2014, and in surveys specific to locations, for example, Sprotbrough, and the reserve areas of Denaby Ings, Potteric Carr and Thorpe Marsh. We also hold a dataset of Doncaster area Lepidoptera courtesy of Butterfly Conservation, dated 2010 and 2012

### **Mammals**

Our 2700 mammal records are generally casual sightings or incidental by-products of surveys of other species groups, for example observations noted during botanical surveys.

### **Vascular plants**

Nearly 216000 records are held, covering the period 1800 to the present date. Most of our vascular plant records are the result of site surveys by specialist botanists.

### **Spiders**

3300 records of 260 arachnid species (about 40% of the British fauna) are held by DLRC. Most records are the result of site surveys.

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