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Your Living Landscape

Natural Networks

Conference venue & meeting rooms

News

Campaigns

Food & Farming

Grasslands

Water & Wetlands

Woodlands

Planning & Development

Frequently Asked Questions

Living Seas

[Back to news listings](#)

Orchids return

Thursday 9th May 2019



Orchids are starting to get their feet in the ground as part of a long-term meadow restoration project near Castlemorton.

Hollybed Farm Meadows were purchased by Worcestershire Wildlife Trust in 2013 and the local charity have been restoring the fields since then.

Far Starling Bank, one of the nature reserve's fields, is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and is full of wildflowers. Each year volunteers have taken some of the seed from this field and scattered it over the remaining fields. Along with seed from other nearby meadows, this is allowing the rest of the site to gradually build up larger numbers and more varieties of plants, replicating what has been lost over the last 60 or 70 years.

From just one green-winged orchid on 2016 and 60 in 2018, there are now more than 200 appearing in four different fields.

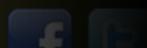
David Molloy, Conservation Officer for the Trust, explained "Hollybed Farm Meadows is a special place with meadows, a wet woodland and orchard



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