

STORIES FROM THE FARM

“The countryside means everything to me – not just growing crops but enhancing the environment for future generations.”

Stephen Honeywood

Halls Farm Suffolk

As nature intended

Stephen is a farmer who loves the countryside where he lives and believes in enhancing it for future generations.

That is why he chose to manage Halls Farm in a way that gives nature the space to follow its own path. Stephen lets hedges thicken and spill out to create wonderful wide scrubby habitat and he sows large areas of farmland with cover crops for wild birds. He doesn't worry about being over-tidy. This approach has created more habitat and food for wildlife on his farm. »

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Stunning silver-washed fritillaries flourish in the dappled woodlands

Stephen will happily take time out from farming to install barn owl boxes. He also hosts visitors and groups on his farm to help them understand his management style or to undertake wildlife surveys.

Stephen also manages the adjacent Little Haugh Farm where graceful silver-washed fritillary butterflies, a species of conservation concern, flourish in the woodlands. Thanks to the way that Stephen manages habitat on his farms, this species is now colonising Halls Farm next door. As it spreads, the population of this butterfly will become larger and less vulnerable.