

Table 2. Important factors for invertebrates

Scrub edge	Cut in Autumn on a 5-10 year rotation. 2m wide round field boundary or less than 5% of field unit. If very high value site or small fields avoid too much scrub.
Tussock	Cut in Autumn. Cut every other year. 4m wide verge or 5-10% site. If possible rotate management either alternate fields or verges so some tussock grass is always left uncut. Another option is to leave a randomised one strip in 10 uncut.
Spring cutting or grazing	Caution needed! Spring cutting beneficial if high nutrient removal needed in early years for flower-rich restoration. Or ad-hoc small compartment for heterogeneous management. Caution needed to avoid cutting Yellow Rattle (<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>) or other hemiparasitic annuals. This is the best option to target difficult patches of Bracken or scrub encroachment.
Extra Late areas	Designate areas with important plants like Field Scabious (<i>Knautia arvensis</i>) or Devils Bit Scabious (<i>Succisa pratensis</i>) for late cutting areas. Cut in September or October once flowering has finished.
Timing	If possible, to increase the probability of escaping mowing machines, mowing ideally is better after the morning or when the area is warm and sunny. If possible, leave hay on site for a time to allow larvae to escape. Ideally near uncut areas.
Rotational	Any refuges are best either as hedgerows, verges or randomised areas cut in next year. Maybe possible to specify leave 1 in 10 rows uncut for contractor, but if too complicated rotations over fields possible say leave 1 field in 4 Uncut.
Scrapes	Every 3-4 years create some new bare ground features either scrapes or scuffed up areas.
Anthills	If possible, avoid driving over obvious Yellow Meadow Ant nests.
Wet Features	Ponds and ditches are valuable. Spoil from pond creation can complement bee bank creation.
Harrow or rotavate	Small areas could be of value.
Winter Poaching or Tracks	Round gates etc. can be valuable additional bee nesting areas. Permanent tracks with wheel ruts. Erosion such as footpaths can be valuable.
Green Hay	Local provenance introduction of selected species of high value is of value (Appendix 1.)
Dung	Livestock dung in spring / summer is of great value for invertebrates.
Yellow Rattle	Introduce local provenance Yellow Rattle to boost flower diversity.