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| **Oldfield Pond: summary sheet** |
| **Map location and site boundary** |
| **Description**The site consists of plantation woodland, neutral to calcareous grassland, seasonally wet ditches and an ancient field pond with stands of mixed emergent vegetation surrounded by sallow carr. It has been divided into four sub-sites, which are described separately.  | **Features of interest*** Outstanding assemblage of aquatic invertebrates;
* Species-rich neutral and calcareous grassland
* Local wetland plant species such as Lesser Spearwort, Parsley Water-dropwort and Common Yellow-sedge
* Amphibians including Great Crested Newt and Common Toad
 |
| **Photographs**A field of tall grass with trees in the background  Description generated with very high confidence | **A green plant in a forest  Description generated with very high confidence** |

**Technical data**

Centre Point Grid Reference: TF13090028

Parish: Castor

Conservation status: none

Data from CPERC: yes

Records on NBN: yes

**Key plant species recorded**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific name** | **English name** | **Status** | **Notes** |
| *Agrimonia eupatoria* | Agrimony | NGI/CGI |  |
| *Brachypodium rupestre* | Tor-grass | CGI\* |  |
| *Bromopsis erecta* | Upright Brome | CGI\* |  |
| *Bromus racemosus* | Meadow Brome | NGI\* |  |
| *Carex demissa* | Common Yellow-sedge | County rarity | Ditches |
| *Carex flacca* | Glaucous Sedge | NGI\*/CGI\* |  |
| *Centaurea debeauxii* | Chalk Knapweed | NGI/CGI |  |
| *Centaurium erythraea* | Common Centaury | NGI/CGI |  |
| *Cirsium acaule* | Stemless Thistle | CGI\* |  |
| *Clinopodium vulgare* | Wild Basil | CGI\* |  |
| *Eleocharis palustris* | Common Spike-rush | NGI | Ditches |
| *Galium verum* | Lady’s Bedstraw | NGI/CGI |  |
| *Hypericum perforatum* | Perforate St.John’s-wort | CGI |  |
| *Knautia arvensis* | Field Scabious | NT Eng, CGI  |  |
| *Inula conyzae* | Ploughman’s Spikenard  | CGI\* |  |
| *Lathyrus pratensis* | Meadow Vetchling | NGI |  |
| *Linum catharticum* | Fairy Flax | NGI\*/CGI\* |  |
| *Lotus corniculatus* | Bird’s-foot Trefoil | NGI/CGI |  |
| *Oenanthe lachenalii* | Parsley Water-dropwort | County Rarity | Ditches |
| *Pimpinella saxifraga* | Burnet Saxifrage | NGI/CGI |  |
| *Pulicaria dysenterica* | Fleabane | NGI |  |
| *Ranunculus flammula* | Lesser Spearwort | NT Eng, NGI\* | Ditches and pond |
| *Rumex acetosa* | Common Sorrel | NGI |  |
| *Samolus valerandi* | Brookweed | Local | Ditches |
| *Trisetum flavescens* | Yellow Oat-grass | NGI/CGI |  |

**Key invertebrate species recorded**

| **Scientific name** | **English name** | **Status** | **Notes** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Agabus labiatus* | a diving beetle | NT | A declined and relic species of shallow, often seasonal, standing waters |
| *Anthracus consputus* | a ground beetle | NS | Plant litter and damp ground at water margins |
| *Badister dilatatus* | a ground beetle | NS | Dense vegetation at water margins and fluctuating swamps |
| *Bembidion fumigatum* | a ground beetle | NS | Tall marginal vegetation and fluctuating swamps |
| *Berosus luridus* | a scavenger water beetle | NT | Well-vegetated pools and drains, often on peat |
| *Calligypona reyi* | a planthopper | RDBK | Club-rushes |
| *Ceratocombus coleoptratus* | a jumping ground bug | local | Permanently damp plant litter |
| *Chrysolina herbacea* | a leaf beetle | local | The foodplant is Water Mint; a scarce species locally, though more frequent further south and west along the Nene valley. |
| *Cicadula flori* | a leafhopper | Nb | Marshes and water margins, usually on sedges |
| *Cistogaster globosa* | a bristle fly | RDB1 | Moderate to tall lightly managed dry grassland |
| *Colobaea punctata* | a snail-killing fly | N | Open-structured vegetation on seasonally exposed fringes of water bodies |
| *Dasytes plumbeus* | a false soldier beetle | NS | Habitat mosaics and transitions; larvae believed to develop in dead wood |
| *Donacia cinerea* | a reed beetle | NS | Lesser bulrush emergent from still water |
| *Dryops similaris* | a long-toed water beetle | NS | Sunny but well-vegetated or mossy margins of ponds and drains |
| *Dytiscus dimidiatus* | King Diving Beetle | NT | Ponds and drains, especially with good mollusc populations and in areas of old wetland |
| *Enochrus quadripunctatus* | a scavenger water beetle | NS | Well-vegetated but sunny shallow waters and pond fringes |
| *Graptodytes bilineatus* | a diving beetle | NS | Well-vegetated shallow ponds and drains, including reed-beds and highly seasonal mossy pools |
| *Graptodytes granularis* | a diving beetle | local | Well-vegetated clean waters |
| *Helophorus nanus* | a scavenger water beetle | NS | Densely vegetated water margins and swamp, often amongst tall vegetation |
| *Hesperocorixa moesta* | a water boatman | local | Clean, well-vegetated shallow pools and drains; characteristic of oligotrophic but calcareous water  |
| *Holocentropus stagnalis* | a caddisfly | NS | Densely vegetated shallow waters |
| *Hygrotus decoratus* | a diving beetle | NS | Well-vegetated base-rich pools |
| *Ilybius chalconatus* | a diving beetle | local | Well-vegetated, shallow, often seasonal pools |
| *Linnaemyia rossica* | a bristle fly | local | Open habitats and transitions; a predominantly northern and western species |
| *Lygus pratensis* | a plant bug | RDB3 | Open habitats with flowering tall herbs; status in need of revision |
| *Nemotelus pantherinus* | Fen Snout soldierfly | local | Wet grassland and pond fringes |
| *Nemoura dubitans* | a stonefly | local | Shallow water in well-vegetated habitats, such as seepages feeding through sedge or reed-beds |
| *Notaris scirpi* | a weevil | Nb | Tall wetland vegetation at water margins and in fluctuating swamps |
| *Pherbellia dorsata* | a snail-killing fly | N | Moderate to tall vegetation on seasonally exposed sediments by water bodies |
| *Philonthus fumarius* | a rove beetle | Nb | Dense, tall fluctuating swamp |
| *Picromerus bidens* | spiked shieldbug | local | Tall herbaceous vegetation in sheltered damp places, especially sheltered wetland transitions |
| *Platystomos albinus* | a fungus weevil | Nb | Fungoid dead wood |
| *Sphecodes ferruginatus* | Dull-headed Blood Bee | Nb | Open habitats, especially on calcareous soils |
| *Stratiomys potamida* | Banded General soldierfly | N | Shallow well-vegetated, sometimes seasonal water in ponds and slow drains, and seepages, often somewhat shaded |
| *Telmatophilus brevicollis* | a silken fungus beetle | RDB3 | Tall wetland vegetation |
| *Thereva plebeja* | Crochet-hooked Stiletto Fly | N | Open habitats on free-draining substrates |
| *Thrypticus nigricauda* | a long-footed fly | NS | Tall wetland vegetation, especially club-rushes |
| *Tiphia minuta* | Small Tiphia | Nb | Especially frequent in habitat mosaics and transitions |
| *Uleiota planatus* | a flat bark beetle | Na | Under bark of dead standing and fallen broadleaved timber |
| *Xylocoris cursitans* | a flower-bug | local | Found under bark, and usually associated with sites with good historical continuity of dead-wood habitats |

**Key vertebrate species recorded**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific name** | **English name** | **Status** | **Notes** |
| *Bufo bufo* | Common Toad | Section 41 species |  |
| *Triturus cristatus* | Great Crested Newt | Sch. 5 species, Section 41 species |  |

**Status**

Oldfield Pond qualifies as a **County Wildlife Site** on the following criteria:

* A Type 10A water body containing more than 15 submerged, floating and emergent species
* Site supports frequent numbers of eight or more neutral grassland indicator species (strong and weak)
* Site supports more than 0.05ha of CG4/CG5 calcareous grassland
* Site supports populations of species which occur in three or fewer sites in the county (VC32) (Common Yellow-sedge and Parsley Water-dropwort).
* An invertebrate index exceeding 500 (1850)
* A significant population of an RDB or NS species (*Agabus labiatus)*, possibly the only county site)

The pond qualifies as a **BAP Priority Pond** under the following criteria:

* Criterion 2 (species of High Conservation Importance): Pond supports a Schedule 5 species (Great Crested Newt)
* Criterion 2 (species of High Conservation Importance): Pond supports at least one Red Data Book invertebrate species; pond supports more than three nationally scarce invertebrate species