



Dyfi Valley Seed Savers  
growing diversity in fruit and vegetables

## The Powys Orchard Project Fruit trees for people and biodiversity

We would like the people and wildlife of Powys to benefit from the planting of more orchards. But successful fruit growing takes careful planning and it seems that more advice is needed. This need has inspired the "The Powys Orchard Project; Fruit trees for people and biodiversity", funded by Glasu and organised by the Dyfi Valley Seed Savers.

We are interested to know how you are getting on with fruit growing in our beautiful, but damp land. Do you get regular crops of rosy sweet apples and baskets full of blackcurrants, or do you suffer from irregular crops of scabby fruit? Do you enjoy your orchard? Is it a rewarding activity for you, or a drain on your resources? A guilt inducing bramble patch, best not looked at? Or a sanctuary for yourself and the bees, butterflies and birds? **Whether you have a few bushes in your garden, or a whole orchard, we'd love to hear your experiences.**

Please send your completed survey form to:

**Dyfi Valley Seed Savers c/o Ecodyfi, Ty Bro Dyfi,  
52 Heol Maengwyn, Machynlleth, Powys SY20 8DT**

Or you can fill in the survey online at [www.dyfivalleyseedsavers.org.uk](http://www.dyfivalleyseedsavers.org.uk)  
(A Welsh language version of our survey is also available)

### Part 1 - Orchard Location and Conditions

1. Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

or Map grid reference: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Surrounding area: *(tick one or more)*

- Pasture  
 Forestry  
 Urban  
 Suburban  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. Boundaries: *(tick one or more)*

- Fences  
 Hedgerow  
 Walled

5. Aspect (facing direction) *(circle one)*

| N | NE | E | SE | S | SW | W | NW |  
 No aspect (flat ground) *(tick)*

6. Height above sea level:

\_\_\_\_\_ Meters | Feet *(please circle)*

7. Growing conditions: *(circle one)*

Full sun | Part sun | Shade

8. Waterlogging – would you say your ground is soggy? : *(circle one)*

Yes | No



## Part 2 - Trees and Fruit Bushes

Please let us know which types of fruit you grow by ticking the boxes on the following pages.

For each fruit type we'll ask you how you manage the tree/bushes, and how your varieties are doing.

### APPLES

#### How do you manage your apple trees?

Do you...?: (tick one or more)

Winter Prune     Summer Prune

#### How do you manage the understorey?:

(tick one or more)

- Strim  
 Grazed by sheep  
 Herbicide  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

#### Do you apply fertilizer?: (circle one)

Yes | No

If yes, what kind?: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Do you apply pesticides?: (circle one)

Yes | No

If yes, what kind?: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Tell us about your Apple varieties

Enter one of the following:  
 Under 5 years | 5 - 15 years  
 15 - 50 years | over 50 years

Enter one of the following:  
 Under 2 meters / 6 foot  
 2-6 meters / 6-20 foot  
 Over 6 meters / 20 foot

**If good:**  
 Clean (non-diseased) fruit  
 Good fruit for eating  
 Good fruit for cooking  
 Good for juice  
 Good for Cider/Perry  
**If poor, in what way?**

Variety	Rootstock	No. of Trees	Age	Tree/bush Height	Performance	Last years Harvest
<i>Egremont Russet</i>	<i>M26</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>5-15 years</i>	<i>2-6 meters</i>	<i>good - for juice</i>	<i>100kg (or 'good')</i>

If you have more than five Apple varieties, please fill in the details above for your three best performing varieties and two which don't perform so well in your orchard, or continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Please list your other varieties here: \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 2 - Trees and Fruit Bushes (continued...)

### PEARS

#### How do you manage your pear trees?

Do you..?: (tick one or more)

Winter Prune     Summer Prune

How do you manage the understorey?:

(tick one or more)

Strim

Grazed by sheep

Herbicide

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Do you apply fertilizer?: (circle one)

Yes | No

If yes, what kind?: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you apply pesticides?: (circle one)

Yes | No

If yes, what kind?: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Tell us about your Pear varieties

Enter one of the following:  
Under 5 years | 5 - 15 years  
15 - 50 years | over 50 years

Enter one of the following:  
Under 2 meters / 6 foot  
2-6 meters / 6-20 foot  
Over 6 meters / 20 foot

**If good:**  
Clean (non-diseased) fruit  
Good fruit for eating  
Good fruit for cooking  
Good for juice  
Good for Cider/Perry  
**If poor, in what way?**

Variety	Rootstock	No. of Trees	Age	Tree/bush Height	Performance	Last years Harvest
Concorde	M26	20	5-15 years	2-6 meters	good - for juice	100kg (or 'good')

If you have more than five Pear varieties, please fill in the details above for your three best performing varieties and two which don't perform so well in your orchard, or continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Please list your other varieties here: \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 2 - Trees and Fruit Bushes (continued...)

**STONE FRUIT** (eg. plums, damsons, cherries etc.)

### How do you manage your stone fruit trees?

Do you..?: (tick one or more)

Winter Prune     Summer Prune

Do you apply fertilizer?: (circle one)

Yes | No

How do you manage the understorey?:

If yes, what kind?: \_\_\_\_\_

(tick one or more)

Strim

Grazed by sheep

Herbicide

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Do you apply pesticides?: (circle one)

Yes | No

If yes, what kind?: \_\_\_\_\_

### Tell us about your Stone fruit varieties

Enter one of the following:  
Under 5 years | 5 - 15 years  
15 - 50 years | over 50 years

Enter one of the following:  
Under 2 meters / 6 foot  
2-6 meters / 6-20 foot  
Over 6 meters / 20 foot

**If good:**  
Clean (non-diseased) fruit  
Good fruit for eating  
Good fruit for cooking  
Good for juice  
Good for Cider/Perry  
**If poor, in what way?**

Variety (and type)	Rootstock	No. of Trees	Age	Tree/bush Height	Performance	Last years Harvest
Victoria (Plum)	M26	20	5-15 years	2-6 meters	good - for juice	100kg (or 'good')

If you have more than five Stone fruit varieties, please fill in the details above for your three best performing varieties and two which don't perform so well in your orchard, or continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Please list your other varieties here: \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 2 - Trees and Fruit Bushes (continued...)

**SOFT FRUIT** (eg. gooseberries, blackcurrants, raspberries etc.)

### How do you manage your soft fruit bushes?

Do you..?: (tick one or more)

Winter Prune     Summer Prune

Do you apply fertilizer?: (circle one)

Yes | No

How do you manage the understorey?:

If yes, what kind?: \_\_\_\_\_

(tick one or more)

- Strim  
 Grazed by sheep  
 Herbicide  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Do you apply pesticides?: (circle one)

Yes | No

If yes, what kind?: \_\_\_\_\_

### Tell us about your Soft fruit varieties

Enter one of the following:  
 Under 3 years | 3 - 15 years  
 over 15 years

**If good:**  
 Clean (non-diseased) fruit  
 Good fruit for eating  
 Good fruit for cooking  
 Good for juice

**If poor, in what way?**

Variety	Fruit Type	No. of Bushes	Age	Performance	Last years Harvest
<i>Ben Sarek</i>	<i>black currant</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>Under 3 years</i>	<i>good - for juice</i>	<i>100kg (or 'good')</i>

If you have more than five Soft fruit varieties, please fill in the details above for your three best performing varieties and two which don't perform so well in your orchard, or continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Please list your other varieties here: \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 3 - Management

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**1. Do you manage your orchard organically?** *(circle one)*

Yes | No

**2. Do you keep honey bees in or near the orchard?** *(circle one)*

Yes | No

**3. How much time to do spend in the orchard?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Hours per [ day | week | month | year ]

**4. Does anyone else help to manage the orchard?** *(tick one or more)*

Friends

Family

Paid workers

Community involvement

*(please specify \_\_\_\_\_)*

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**5. What are your motivations for managing your orchard?** *(enter 1 for most important, 2 for second most important, etc)*

Interest/hobby

Income

To produce organic fruit

To produce local fruit

Came with house / land

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Do you sell the fruit/fruit produce?** *(circle one)*

Yes | No

If so how and where? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Does the orchard make a useful contribution to your income?** *(tick one)*

Yes, the orchard earns me a wage for the time put in

Do not receive a good income, but is a useful contribution of money/fruit for enjoyable work

No. I work the orchard for the love of it.

I do not manage the orchard because it is not economically viable

**8. Can you tell us how much income the orchard provides for you each year?**

£ \_\_\_\_\_

*(We'll keep this confidential)*

## Part 4 - Wildlife / Biodiversity Value

### 1. Which of the Welsh mammals (or signs of) have you seen in your orchard?

(tick one or more, and enter species if known)

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hedgehog         | <input type="checkbox"/> Rat         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mole             | <input type="checkbox"/> Fox         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shrew<br>(_____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pine Martin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bat<br>(_____)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Stoat       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbit           | <input type="checkbox"/> Weasel      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hare             | <input type="checkbox"/> Polecat     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Squirrel         | <input type="checkbox"/> Ferret      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vole<br>(_____)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mink        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mouse<br>(_____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Badger      |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Otter       |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

### 2. What reptiles and amphibians have you seen in your orchard?

(tick one or more, and enter species if known)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adder         | <input type="checkbox"/> Slow-worm       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grass Snake   | <input type="checkbox"/> Common Toad     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common Lizard | <input type="checkbox"/> Common Frog     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sand Lizard   | <input type="checkbox"/> Newt<br>(_____) |

### 3. Do you regularly see unusual types of bird or insect life in your orchard that you don't often see elsewhere? (circle one)

Yes | No

Species / Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 4. What are the dominant plants in the under storey vegetation? (tick one or more)

- Grass
- Nettles
- Brambles
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Do you have any of the following growing in your orchard? (tick one or more, and enter species if known)

- Wildflowers  
(\_\_\_\_\_)
- Mosses  
(\_\_\_\_\_)
- Lichens  
(\_\_\_\_\_)
- Fungi  
(\_\_\_\_\_)

### 6. Does your orchard contain mistletoe? (circle one)

Yes | No

### 7. Do your trees have holes/hollows in the trunk/main branches? (circle one)

Yes | No

### 8. Does the orchard contain dead wood? (circle one)

(circle one)

Yes | No

If yes, is it... (tick one or more)

- Standing
- Fallen

### 9. Do you feel that having an orchard brings more wildlife to your land? (circle one)

Yes | No

## Part 5 - Your details

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1. First Name \_\_\_\_\_
2. Surname \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name of Orchard \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Tel. Number \_\_\_\_\_
6. Mobile \_\_\_\_\_
7. Email \_\_\_\_\_
8. Website \_\_\_\_\_

9. Would you like your contact details included in the directory of "Orchards in Powys" part of our report? *(circle one)*

Yes | No

**If yes, any further details or instructions for your listing in the directory** (details to be made available to others who work with orchards/orchard products. For contacts/produce sale/networking etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. If you are completing this questionnaire on behalf of an Orchard or fruit grower, enter your name here and we'll give you special thanks in our report!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 6 - Additional Comments

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1. Any further comments?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you enjoy your orchard, would you have one again if you had the choice? *(circle one)*  
Yes | No
3. What would you do differently if you started your orchard again from scratch?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What might make your orchard work better for you?  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Can we include your comments on this page in our report? *(circle one)*

Yes | No

7. What information would you like to see in our report?

- How to manage an orchard in the Powys climate
- Fruit types and varieties which do well in Powys
- How to encourage beneficial wildlife
- How to get community involvement and help with your orchard
- How to market your produce and improve your income
- Other \_\_\_\_\_