

## FARMERS - WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP HARES

There are measures land managers can take to help increase hare survival. Many of these are grant-aided through agri-environmental schemes.

- Break up blocks of cereal as much as possible.
- Provide more grass on arable farms for summer grazing. Run wide strips of grass across open fields or have patches of pasture.
- Hares need quiet, undisturbed cover to raise leverets. On livestock farms, leave areas uncut and ungrazed for leverets to hide in.
- When making silage, cut the field from the centre outwards rather than from the outside in, so hares can escape the machinery into neighbouring fields.
- Have ploughed or rough cultivated areas left for spring crops for hares to jug (sleep).
- Please fill in and return the survey form.

### SURVEY FORM FOR FARMERS

Name.....Date.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Telephone.....E-mail.....

*What type of farm do you manage?*

Mixed arable          Cereal          Livestock and cereal

Other (please specify).....

*Have you got hares on your farm?*

Yes          No

*If yes, do you know how many?*

Number of hares.....Size of farm.....Don't know

*If yes, do you think hare numbers are increasing or decreasing on your farm?*

Increasing          Decreasing

*Approximate number of hares.*

1995.....1985.....1975.....Other.....

*Why do you think they are increasing or decreasing?*

.....  
.....

*Would you be prepared to count the hares on your farm as part of an organised survey, or have someone help you do it?*

Yes            No

*Have you had illegal hare coursers on your land?*

Yes            No

*If yes, when and how often?*

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*Did you contact the police about the illegal hare coursers?*

Yes            No

*Do you control hare numbers on your land?*

Yes            No

*If yes, what is the main reason for control?*

Crop damage            Deter coursers

Other (please specify).....

*Is there anything else you would like to add?*

.....  
.....  
.....

Please tick here if you **do not** want us to store your contact details on our database :-

***Thank you for taking part in this survey.***