



# HOW FARMERS HELP FARMLAND BIRDS

## SPRING



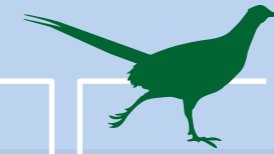
HEDGES ARE NOT CUT AFTER MARCH 1 TO ENCOURAGE BIRDS TO NEST  
MANY BIRDS NEST IN FARM BUILDINGS

## SUMMER/AUTUMN

BARE PIECES OF GROUND LEFT IN THE CENTRE OF FIELDS WHEN NEW CROPS ARE PLANTED ALLOW SKYLARKS TO NEST

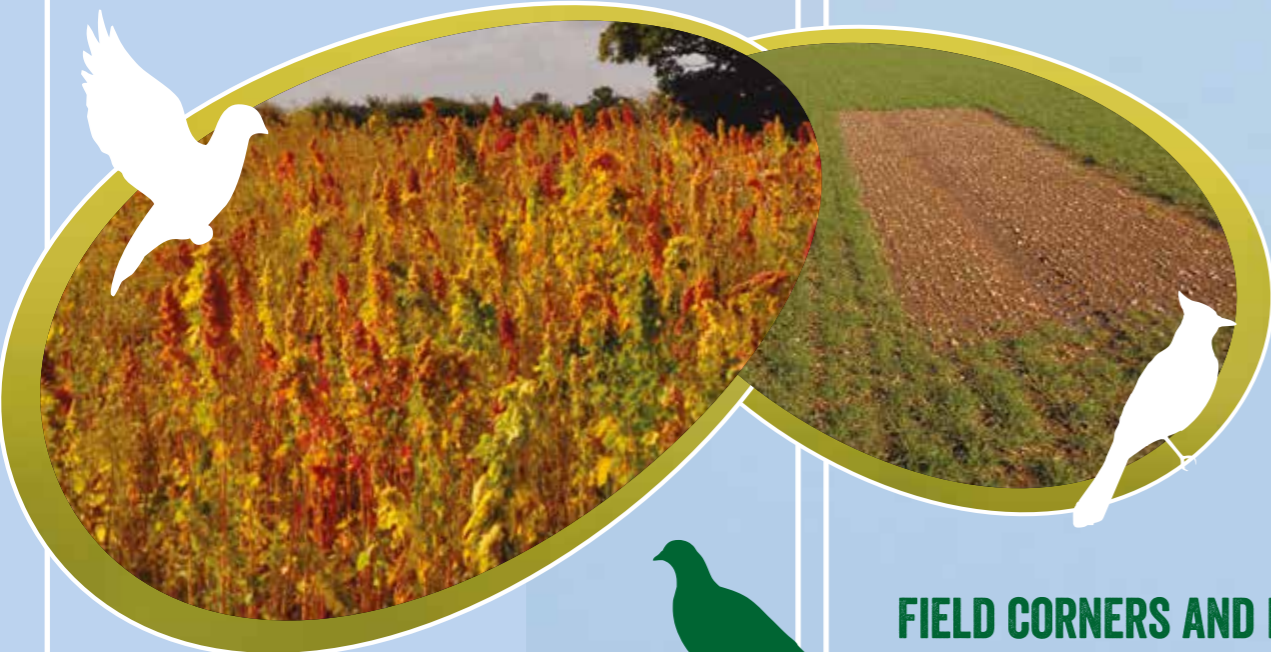
MANY FARMERS WILL OFTEN PLANT A TEMPORARY WINTER COVER CROP, LIKE MUSTARD. THIS CROP PROTECTS THE SOIL BEFORE SPRING PLANTING

## WINTER



'THE HUNGRY-GAP': DURING WINTER, FOOD SUPPLIES ARE SHORT FOR BIRDS. TO PROVIDE WINTER BIRD FOOD FARMERS:

- PLANT SEED-BEARING CROPS IN SPRING AND AUTUMN
- LEAVE AREAS OF FIELDS UNCULTIVATED OR PLANTED WITH A COVER CROP TO ENCOURAGE INSECTS
- LEAVE STUBBLE IN THE FIELDS OVER WINTER TO ENCOURAGE GROWTH OF WEEDS THAT SUPPORT INSECTS
- PURCHASE OR GROW BIRD SEED MIXTURES TO SCATTER ON FIELDS JUST LIKE MANY UK HOUSEHOLDS



DURING SPRING AND AUTUMN SEED BEARING CROPS ARE PLANTED TO PROVIDE VITAL BIRD FOOD OVER WINTER

FIELD CORNERS AND MARGINS ARE LEFT UNCULTIVATED TO ENCOURAGE WILD FLOWERS TO GROW AND INSECTS TO THRIVE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

BEETLE BANKS ARE CREATED

IN AUTUMN, ONCE THE YOUNG BIRDS HAVE FLEDGED THEIR NESTS, HEDGES ARE NOW CUT. THESE ARE OFTEN CUT IN ROTATION TO ALLOW UNCUT HEDGES TO PRODUCE BERRIES

STUBBLE PROVIDES LOOSE SEEDS LEFT OVER FROM HARVEST

ADDITIONAL SHELTER CAN BE CREATED IN BIRD BOXES PUT UP AROUND FARMS

