

Debbie Lewis – FMP ambassador for: Oxfordshire, Meadow Farm debbielewis@bbowt.org.uk



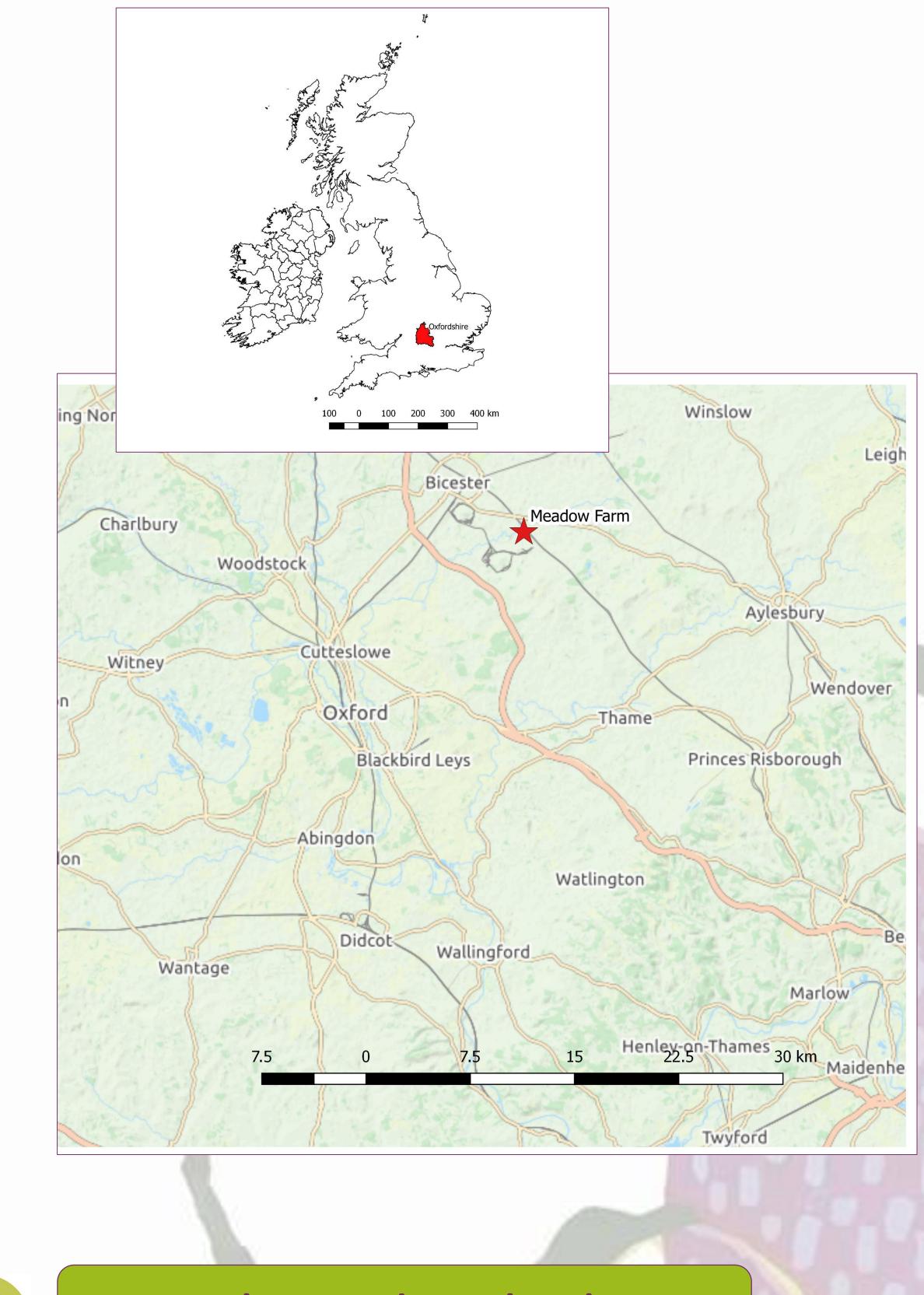
Berkshire Buckinghamshire Oxfordshire





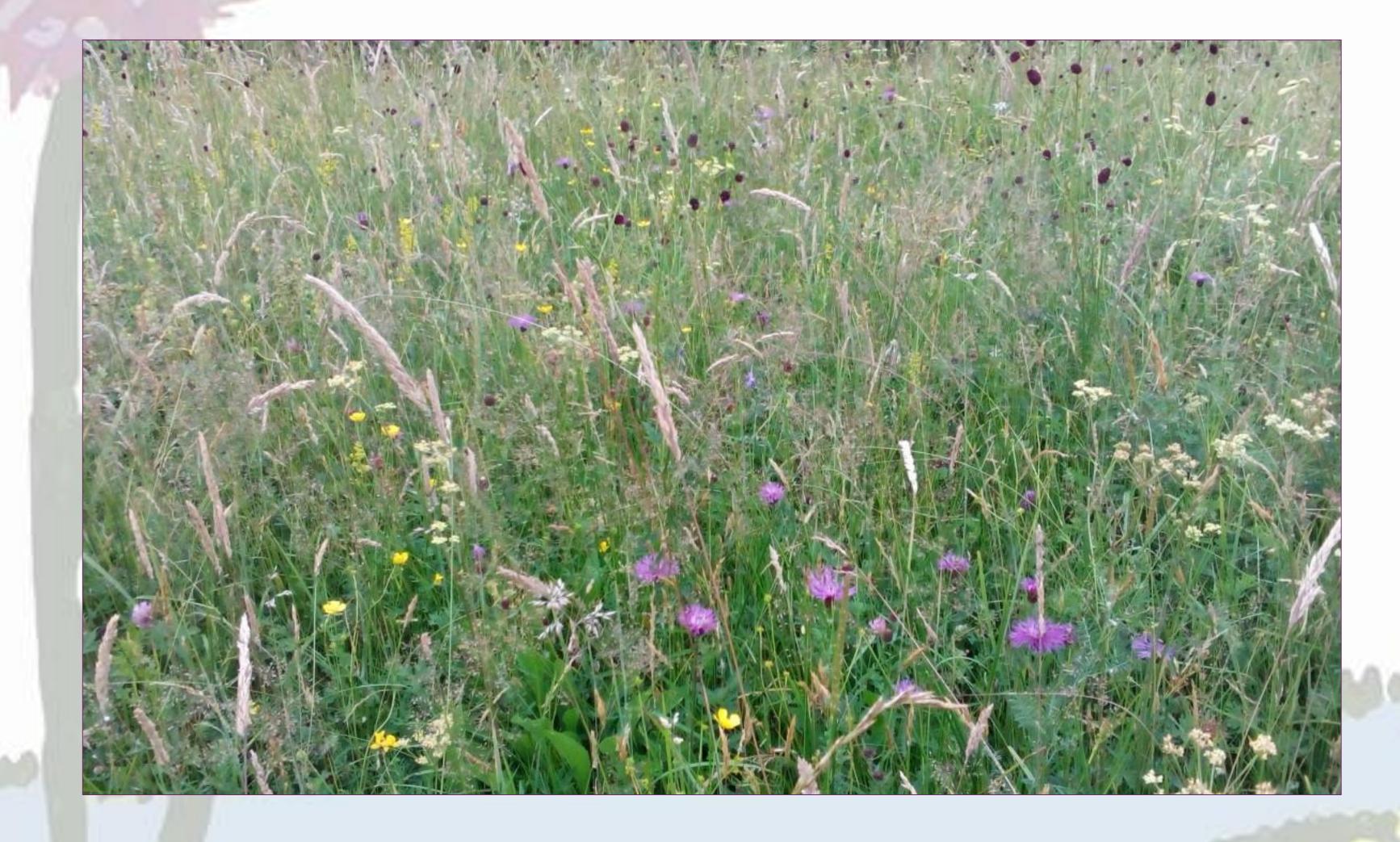
Debbie studied Ecology at the University of East Anglia. She started working for the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust in 2002, where she developed their reserve monitoring programme. Debbie now heads up the Ecology Team at the Trust.





? About the site:

My study site is Meadow Farm, part of the Upper Ray complex of meadows to the east of Bicester. The site has deep a network of ridge and furrows, with MG4 dominating the higher ridges and a more 'sedgy' MG9 community found in the wetter furrows. The site has low fertility and a long tradition of hay cut followed by aftermath grazing with sheep.





My ambassador role will involve providing internal advice to Wildlife Trust staff who manage meadows across the three counties, as well as ensuring a high level of monitoring continues on these sites. The role will also be able to provide ad hoc advice to other landowners as a when they approach the trust for advice on managing (or monitoring) their own



meadows.

Meadow Farm is currently monitored using a dipwell to record the hydrological regime, and a series of fixed point quadrats to assess the floral community. The quadrats are located on the edge of a ridge in order to see any fluctuation between the drier and wetter communities. Habitat condition assessments are also under taken every three years.

