

**AVON MEADOWS COMMUNITY WETLAND NATURE RESERVE**  
**PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE**

**GRASSLAND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

OBJECTIVE: To enhance the species diversity of the selected Middle Meadow. Currently MG4c/MG9b with approx. 16-18 species per sq m; aim for solid MG4c or even MG4b with 20+ species per sq m

Method: Green hay strewing in July 2017 followed by supplemental seed spreading in September



DONOR: LAZY MEADOW, HAMPTON, EVESHAM.

Floodplain Meadow with the Merrybrook along one boundary. True MG4b arguably should be SSSI.





## AVON MEADOWS HAY CUT

Cut 3<sup>rd</sup> July, Turned 5<sup>th</sup> July, Baled and removed 8<sup>th</sup> July. Fine and hot weather throughout.

Total 136 x 350kg bales = 48 Tons compared with 80 Tons 2016 and 40 Tons 2015 from approx. 12ha



## SOUTH MEADOW



## MIDDLE MEADOW



## NORTH MEADOW



## BALING AND REMOVAL



Baling North  
Meadow

Loading North  
Meadow



And Away across  
Middle Meadow



**PREPARATION:**

Light harrowing with 15ft spring-tine harrow 10th July





**GREEN HAY STREWING ON MIDDLE MEADOW:**

Actual area on Middle Meadow =  $115 \times 70\text{m} = 8,000\text{sq m}$ .

Area cut on Lazy Meadow =  $120 \times 22\text{m} = 2,640\text{sq m}$  (i.e. 1:3 ratio)

Arrival on-site at Lazy Meadow just after 9:00am

**CUTTING:** (BCS Commander type tractor with Bellon Mit 80cm twin disc rotary mower attachment)

Started just after 9:30. Total time taken 1hr





**BALING:** Same Tractor as for cutting with but CAEB Internetal Mini Baler attachment producing 52cm x 55cm round bales weighing some 25kgs each as green hay. Total of 46 bales produced in 1½ hrs.



First Load of 24 bales ready to go at 12:00 noon.



**STREWING AT MIDDLE MEADOW: 13<sup>th</sup> July**



1<sup>st</sup> load arrives 12:15



Rolling out the bales and spreading 8 volunteers working.



2<sup>nd</sup> load positioned





All finished by 14:15.

