

Goldfinch Feeding Survey

Instructions

Please read these instructions before starting to collect data for the Goldfinch Feeding Survey.

Welcome to the BTO Goldfinch Feeding Survey! These instructions are designed to answer any questions you might have about the survey, but if you're still not sure, please visit the FAQ page or email us at gbw@bto.org.

Please watch the Goldfinches in your garden for a period of **two minutes**, and record what they are feeding on.

When: 4 November 2015 - 29 February 2016

- If you regularly get Goldfinches in your garden and would like to submit more than one observation, then please feel free to do so, as we are interested in how the feeding behaviour of Goldfinches changes throughout the winter. However, **please do not make more than one submission a week.**
- The time of day doesn't matter, or how many birds are present. However if you are familiar with the numbers of Goldfinches normally seen in your garden, we suggest that you carry out your observation when a typical number are present.

What we would like you to record:

- Date and time
- Total number of Goldfinches in the garden whether they are feeding or not. Please do not include birds that are flying over.
- Whether any Goldfinches were feeding during your two-minute observation, and what they were feeding on. You can include natural foods such as teasel, tree seeds, dandelion and thistle.
- All supplementary and natural foods available at the time of observation. If a feeder is empty, please do not record what was usually in it.
 - If no supplementary food was available, this is fine - you do not have to be feeding Goldfinches to take part.
- Food categories:

Peanuts	Seed mix (no cereal)
Black sunflower seeds	Water
Sunflower hearts	Nyger
Live foods (including mealworms)	Fruit
Fats	Other supplementary food
Scraps	Natural foods
Seed mix (with cereal)	

A log sheet is available from our website or by contacting us at the email address above.

Additional information:

There will be a comments box on the online form if you wish to add any additional information.

If you take any photos or videos of Goldfinches in your garden, and are happy for us to use them, please email them to gbw@bto.org or add them to our Flickr album: www.flickr.com/groups/bto_gbw