




Managing for bespoke species/assemblages within Countryside Stewardship – guidance template

Species/assemblage name	Conservation status
<p>Barberry Carpet (<i>Pareulype berberata</i>)</p>  <p>Barberry Carpet (Ian Hughes)</p>  <p>Barberry Carpet larva (Wayne Clinch)</p>	<p>Section 41, Schedule 5 (Wildlife & Countryside Act), RDB</p>  <p>Barberry (Mark Parsons/Butterfly Conservation)</p>
<p>Introduction</p> <p>This species is double-brooded. The moth flies at night in May to mid June and the second generation flies in late July to August. It can occasionally be disturbed from its resting place by day. The first generation larvae feed on native barberry from June to early July, those of the second brood feeding from late August to September. It pupates just below the soil surface or in leaf litter. Found on sunny hedgerows on farmland, along roadsides and on the edges of woods.</p> <p>Now confined to Wiltshire and Oxfordshire, with a single site in each of Dorset and Gloucestershire. A recent introduction has taken place at a site on the Wiltshire/Hampshire border.</p>	
<p>Why a bespoke species/assemblage?</p> <p>This species is restricted to barberry, a plant that has been removed from sites in the past. The establishment of new barberry bushes on existing sites or on neighbouring sites is required to build up the potential habitat for this moth. This is an approach that has been demonstrated to work at a few sites. Barberry is fairly slow growing and on some sites post</p>	

planting care may be needed, for example removing competing climbers, such as traveller's joy etc.

Once established, rotational winter trimming can maintain vigorous growth and also help to keep free from competing vegetation.

When and where to apply this guidance

Populations of this moth are known to occur in Dorset, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Oxfordshire, with a recently introduced population on the Hampshire/Wiltshire border. Any planting of native barberry should be undertaken over the winter months, with post planting care undertaken on a case by case basis. If this is needed in the summer months, then this should be undertaken with caution and when larvae are not on the bushes, typically late July/early August depending on the season. Any winter trimming of established hedgerows should be undertaken on rotation and after the leaves have fallen. Mowing of grass under and around bushes/hedgerow should be avoided. Extant sites and sites adjacent or close to existing sites should be prioritised.

On farmland sites or adjacent to farmland sites, care is needed to avoid any spray drift from insecticide and herbicide treatments. A conservation headland of at least 5m adjacent to any hedgerow supporting barberry in fields is likely to be beneficial.

Developing a Countryside Stewardship agreement

Relevant CS options

AB10	Unharvested cereal headland
BE3	Management of hedgerows
BN11	Planting new hedges
WD1	Woodland creation

Prescription guidance for AB10

This option is in place to ensure that no spraying is undertaken that could impact on the Barberry

P2 - Do not apply any fertilisers or manures.

P3 - Do not apply any lime.

P233 - Do not apply any insecticides after 15 March.

P234 - Do not apply any herbicides except those on the list of permitted active ingredients available from Natural England for this option.

P236 – [Leave the area under management unharvested and leave it until 1 February in the year following grain head production before returning to normal rotational management.] – *Higher Tier*

P235 – [Establish a cereal (but not maize) crop between February and April in strips

between 6m and 24m wide or on a part field or field scale.] - *Higher Tier*

Prescription guidance for BE3

P71(Higher tier) –Allow [hedge X / hedges XXXX] to reach and then maintain a minimum height of [3 m] and a minimum width of [3 m] by year [5]. [Sections that have been gapped up with native Barberry, ~~laid or coppiced~~ during the term of the agreement are excluded].

P73 (Higher tier) –

[Cut [hedgerow X / hedgerows XXXX] no more than one year in three between [1 November] and [28 February] or [1 September] and [31 December]. Leave at least two thirds of hedges untrimmed each year.]

P88 – Do not supplementary feed within 2 m of the centre of the hedge.

P622 – Gap up any length of hedge with more than 10% gaps within the first two years. (Some post planting management may be needed to remove competing vegetation whilst barberry becomes established)

Prescription guidance for CA item BN11

S6 Plant two-year old transplants, at least 450-600 mm high and of the following species [Barberry *Berberis vulgaris* and other slow growing shrubs], with no one species comprising more than [70%] of the total. – *Higher Tier*

S7 Plant in a [staggered double row [60] cm apart/single row] with a minimum of [3] plants per metre. – *Higher Tier*

S8 Keep plants clear of weeds until they are established by [hand weeding/mulching/cutting]. – *Higher Tier*

S9 Prevent damage from livestock and grazing animals. Set fencing at least 1.2 m from the centre of the hedge or where a bank is present, as close to the base of the bank as possible.

S10 Remove individual guards/tree shelters once the plants are established. Probably won't be supplied with guards so is this appropriate?

S11 Replace all failures in the following planting season.

BN7 should be used where appropriate for gapping up with Barberry

Prescription guidance for WD1

Following a woodland management plan (PA3), in target areas Barberry should be planted along woodland edges and surrounding permanent open areas within the woodland.

Planting should follow prescriptions described for BN11(S8-S11).

Prescription guidance for SP9

This supplement could be used to assist with additional costs of native barberry and the

need for some post planting management which may be helpful to remove competing vegetation whilst barberry becomes established.

Monitoring

Larval survey using a beating tray. This should be undertaken by a specialist with a licence covering work on a Schedule 5 species under the Wildlife & Countryside Act. Ideally each extant site should be surveyed annually, but as a minimum at least once every five generations (the species is double-brooded).

Further information

A factsheet is available at: http://butterfly-conservation.org/files/barberry_carpet.pdf. See also Waring, P. & Townsend M. 2009. *Field Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland*. British Wildlife Publishing, Gillingham. (Second edition).

Authorship/version control

Mark Parsons (Butterfly Conservation), Katie Cruickshanks (BC) & Tony Davis (BC), April 2015 2nd draft