

Orchard grading system

Grade 1

The orchard trees are of a suitable age and condition for noble chafers with decay present in the form of cavities in trunks that are accessible for surveying and/or fallen branches on the orchard floor.

Sites are judged to be of the highest priority for further investigation.



Grade 2

The orchard trees are old and of a suitable age and condition but there are no signs of fallen deadwood or trunks with obvious decay cavities.

Sites are judged to potentially have noble chafers present but surveying is unlikely to detect it due to the absence of accessible cavities.



Grade 3

The orchard trees appear to be of medium age and probably not yet suitable for colonisation by noble chafers.

Very little or more likely no decaying wood present or trees with cavities.

Sites are judged to have the potential to generate suitable habitat for noble chafers within the next few decades.

