

Kingerby Beck Meadows



Location & Access

OS: 112 • **GR:** TF 051 941 • 9.00ha (22.30 acres) • Freehold 1989

Habitat type: Grassland

Lying between the Kingerby Beck and North Owersby near Market Rasen, the meadows are reached from the village of North Owersby by taking the turning in a westerly direction signposted to Glenthams. A small parking area can be found on the left verge after about 1 km (0.6 miles). The entrance is via a gate from the car park. Alternatively, the green lane adjoining the first meadow may be used to reach the lower meadows.

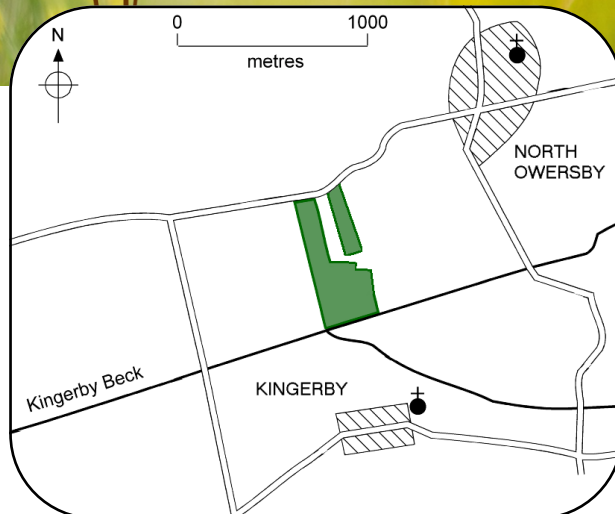
Please take care to avoid trampling hay. Appropriate footwear is advised as it may be very wet along the line of the field drain crossing the centre of the meadow. Locks on gates prevent access to the two eastern meadows.

Description & Management

The seven interconnected meadows slope gently towards the beck and are situated on sandy soils, which become heavier towards the beck. Kimmeridge Clay underlying the soils is near the surface and exposed in places along the banks of the beck. The composition of the flora varies from meadow to meadow, but there is a herb-rich sward, which includes bugle, fairy flax, yellow rattle, tufted vetch, cowslip, adder's tongue, oxeye daisy, crosswort, pignut and many others, and associated insects.

A particular speciality is a colony of frog orchids - a very rare species in Lincolnshire. Snipe may be seen in winter. Some of the boundary hedges are old and tall with species such as midland hawthorn, ash, crab apple and field rose.

The fields are cut for hay from mid July onwards. Once the hay is taken the aftermath is grazed by sheep in the autumn, during which time no wildflowers will be present for viewing.



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GR at E TF 051941

