

## Small mammal trapping in Coton Orchard as part of a bioblitz event 30 June 2023 to 1 July 2023

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Twenty (20) Longworth traps were set up with bedding (hay) and bait (nut muesli, diced apple and casters) in three groups consisting of seven, (7), seven (7) and six (6) traps. Seven traps were placed along a line of fruit trees surrounded by long grass, seven traps were placed along a hedge line and the remaining six traps were placed in random locations on the path leading to the meadow. Traps were set from 7pm on 30 June 2023. They were checked from 8:30am on 1 July 2023. Each animal caught was weighed and sexed. All the traps were then removed.

Overnight the weather was dry, mild and cloudy.

### Results:

Trap no.	Species	Sex M/F	Reproductive condition	Weight (g)	Notes
55					Empty
63					Empty
53					Empty
62					Empty
56					Empty
67					Empty
57					Empty
68					Empty
52					Empty
64					Empty
58	Wood mouse	F	Adult	25.5g	
60					Empty
69	Wood mouse	M	Adult	29g	
61	Bank vole	M	Adult	25g	
70	Bank vole	M	Adult	27.5g	
66					Empty
59					Empty
65					Empty
74	Wood mouse	M	Adult	18g	
71	Wood mouse	F	Adult	18g	

### Conclusions:

Over the 20 trap nights a total of 6 captures were made – four wood mice and two bank voles. The traps placed around the fruit trees were all empty and the traps around along the hedgerow had a much higher capture rate.

**Lorraine Jenkins**

9 July 2023