

**Table 3.1:** Review of methods used in AE schemes in other UK countries

Endnote ref no.	Country	Scheme	Monitoring organisation	Habitat	Sampling strategy	
100	Scotland	ESA Breadalbane	MLURI	grassland	Stratified random sampling.	Permanent quadrats located at set intervals along transects directed upslope from randomly located origins.
100	Scotland	ESA Breadalbane	MLURI	heathland	Stratified random sampling . Control data were collected from areas outside ESA.	Permanent quadrats located at set intervals along transects directed upslope from randomly located origins.
100	Scotland	ESA Breadalbane,	MLURI	woodland	Stratified random sampling with control areas derived by leaving some parts of the site unfenced.	Permanent quadrats located at set intervals along transects directed upslope from randomly located origins . Total no. quads in proportion to size of wood.
110	Scotland	ESA Loch Lomond,	MLURI	heathland	Stratified random sampling intended but all suitable farms were included. Control data were collected from areas outside ESA.	Permanent quadrats located at set intervals along transects directed upslope from with randomly located origins .

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100	In 1m x 1m: Cover of all spp .to nearest 5% but as DOMIN values below 5%. Heights of grass, forb and ground layers. In 2m x 2m: presence of additional species	1m x 1m within 2m x 2m	1989, 91, 93 Some sites: 90 and 92 also	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management (stocking rates, grazing intensity, etc.).
100	Heather cover, max. & mean height, growth stage, morphology & sp. composition (as for grassland).	1m x 1m	1989, 91, 93 Some sites: 90 and 92 also	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management.
100	Heights of saplings. Nos. and sp. composition (cover of all sp .to nearest 5% generally and as DOMIN values below 5%) and coordinates of seedlings & saplings. Browsing damage.	2m x 2m	1989, 91, 93 Some sites: 90 and 92 also	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management.
110	Paired recently burnt and unburnt stands. Heather height cover and utilisation.	1m x 1m	1989, 91, 93 Some sites: 90 and 92 also	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management (stocking rates, grazing intensity, etc.).

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110	Scotland	ESA Loch Lomond,	MLURI	woodland	Stratified random sampling with control areas derived by leaving some parts of the site unfenced.	Permanent quadrats located at set intervals along transects directed upslope from randomly located origins . Total no. quads in proportion to size of wood.
111	Scotland	ESA Machair of the Uists & Benbecula, Barra & Vatersay	MLURI	grassland (machair)	65 crofts were selected (60 randomly but weighted by farm size, plus 5 small crofts). 1 randomly located permanent quadrat per croft.	
111	Scotland	ESA Stewartry	MLURI	woodland	Stratified random sampling with control areas derived by unfenced sites outwith the ESA.	Permanent quadrats located at set intervals along transects directed upslope from randomly located origins . Total no. quads in proportion to size of wood.
111	Scotland	ESA Stewartry	MLURI	scrub	Using aerial photos, areas of gorse within fields were identified and stratified as 'small' or 'large'. Individual clumps were randomly selected from each stratum. Clumps were monitored at 6 sites within and 3 sites outwith ESA.	

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110	Heights of saplings. Nos. and sp. composition (cover of all sp .to nearest 5% generally and as DOMIN values below 5%) and coordinates of seedlings & saplings. Browsing damage.	2m x 2m	1989, 91, 93	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management.
111	Percentage cover of all species, field layer & bare soil. Heights of forbs & grass layer. The area of cropped land was mapped in 1989 & 1993.	1m x 1m	1989, 91, 93	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management.
111	Heights of saplings. Nos. and sp. composition (cover of all sp .to nearest 5% generally and as DOMIN values below 5%) and coordinates of seedlings & saplings. Browsing damage.	2m x 2m also a limited no. of 10m x 10m	1989, 91, 93 Some sites: 90 and 92 also	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management (stocking rates, grazing intensity, etc.).
111	% cover of gorse within each clump. Mean & max. height.		1989, 91, 93	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management.

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111	Scotland	ESA Stewartry	MLURI	wetland	Sites were randomly selected - 8 within the ESA and 4 outwith.	Permanent quadrats were located at set intervals along transects with randomly located origins.
111	Scotland	ESA Whitelaw/Eildon	MLURI	grassland (semi-natural)	8 sites were randomly selected.	Permanent quadrats were located at isolated points and along subjectively located transect.
111	Scotland	ESA Whitlaw/Eildon	MLURI	arable/grassland (wildlife strips)	51 quads along 3 strips on one farm in 1989. 17 quads along 2 strips on one farm in 1990.	2 or 3 permanent quadrats were located along a transect placed at right angles to the strip.
111	Scotland	ESA Whitlaw/Eildon	MLURI	arable (conservation headlands )	Not reported.	2 permanent quadrats were located along a transect placed at right angles to the headland.
111	Scotland	ESA Whitlaw/Eildon	MLURI	basin mires	Both the available sites were selected.	Permanent quadrats were located at isolated points and along a subjectively located transect.

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111	Percentage cover of all species. Heights of forbs & grass layer.	2m x 2m	1989, 91, 93	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management.
111	Percentage cover of all species. Heights of forbs & grass layer.	2m x 2m (12 quads at 6 sites established 1989). 1m x 1m (25 quads at 2 sites established 1990).	1989, 91, 93	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management.
111	Percentage cover of all species. Heights of forbs & grass layer.	2m x 2m	1989, 91, 93	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management.
111	Percentage cover of all species.	2m x 2m	1989, 91, 93	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management.
111	Percentage cover of all species. Heights of forbs & grass layer.	2m x 2m	1989, 91, 93	4	Slope, aspect, soil type, farm management.

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Endnote ref no.	Country	Scheme	Monitoring organisation	Habitat	Sampling strategy	
65, 73, 72, 71, 69, 68, 67, 66	Scotland	ESAs Argyll Islands, Breadalbane, Cairngorms Straths, Central Borders, Loch Lomond, Shetland, Machair of the Uists & Benbecula, Barra & Vatersay, Stewartry	MSURI, CEH, BioSS	grassland (herb-rich )	<b>Background monitoring:</b> 26 sample units (single or paired 1km squares) were randomly selected (according to Countryside Survey protocols). A permanent plot was randomly located in one example per sample of each key vegetation type (KVT).	<b>Prescription monitoring:</b> For a KVT, up to 30 samples were selected from all possible Tier 2 areas. Farms were selected in proportion to area of KVT on farm and sample sites selected in proportion to farm size. Permanent site established at random point.
65, 67	Scotland	ESAs Argyll Islands, Machair of the Uists & Benbecula, Barra & Vatersay	MSURI, CEH, BioSS	grassland and dunes (machair)	<b>Background monitoring:</b> As above	<b>Prescription monitoring.</b> As above
65, 72, 71, 68, 66	Scotland	ESAs Argyll Islands, Cairngorms Straths, Central Borders, Shetland, Stewartry	MSURI, CEH, BioSS	wetland	<b>Background monitoring:</b> As above	<b>Prescription monitoring.</b> As above

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65, 73, 72, 71, 69, 68, 67, 66	<b>Background monitoring:</b> Land cover mapped in 1km squares. Cover of all species was recorded in 2 nested plots, in 5% categories. Dung counts. All plots photographed.	<b>Prescription monitoring:</b> Botanical recording, plot photography and dung count procedures identical to background monitoring. Broad description of surrounding vegetation polygon.	1m x 1m within 2m x 2m	1994-1999	5	Farm management (e.g. stocking rates, recent and proposed changes in management).
65, 67	<b>Background monitoring;</b> Land cover mapped in 1km squares. Cover of all spp. recorded in 2 nested plots, in 5% categories. Dung counts. All plots photographed.	<b>Prescription monitoring:</b> As above	1m x 1m within 2m x 2m	1994-1999	5	Farm management.
65, 72, 71, 68, 66	<b>Background monitoring;</b> Land cover mapped in 1km squares. Cover of all spp. recorded in 2 nested plots, in 5% categories. Dung counts. All plots photographed.	<b>Prescription monitoring:</b> As above	1m x 1m within 2m x 2m	1994-1999	5	Farm management.

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65, 73, 72, 70, 69, 68	Scotland	ESAs Argyll Islands, Breadalbane, Cairngorms Straths, Central Southern Uplands and Western Southern Uplands, Loch Lomond, Shetland	MSURI, CEH, BioSS	heathland (includes moorland, over grazed, over burned, maritime & inland heather)	<b>Background monitoring:</b> As above	<b>Prescription monitoring.</b> As above
65	Scotland	ESA Argyll Islands (1 year only)	MSURI, CEH, BioSS	blanket bog	<b>Background monitoring:</b> As above	<b>Prescription monitoring.</b> As above
65, 73, 72, 70, 69, 66	Scotland	ESAs Argyll, Breadalbane, Cairngorms Straths, Central Southern Uplands and Western Southern Uplands, Loch Lomond, Stewarty	MSURI, CEH, BioSS	woodland (includes native coniferous, native deciduous)	<b>Background monitoring:</b> As above	<b>Prescription monitoring.</b> As above

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65, 73, 72, 70, 69, 68	<p><b>Background monitoring.</b> Land cover mapped in 1km squares. All spp. recorded in smallest plot, additional spp. in subsequent nests. % cover in whole plot. Heather height. Dung counts. All plots photographed.</p>	<p><b>Prescription monitoring:</b> As above</p>	14.1m x 14.1m with 5 concentric nested sub-plots	1994-1999	5	Farm management.
65	<p><b>Background monitoring.</b> Land cover mapped in 1km squares. All spp. recorded in smallest plot, additional spp. in subsequent nests. % cover in whole plot. Heather height. Dung counts. All plots photographed.</p>	<p><b>Prescription monitoring:</b> As above</p>	14.1m x 14.1m with 5 concentric nested sub-plots	1994-1999	5	Farm management.
65, 73, 72, 70, 69, 66	<p><b>Background monitoring.</b> Land cover mapped in 1km squares. Species and no. of trees and saplings recorded in 10m sections, also damage and height on tallest sapling. Dung counts. All plots photographed.</p>	<p><b>Prescription monitoring:</b> As above</p>	50m x 1m (tree density) 2m x 2m (ground veg)	1994-1999	5	Farm management.

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72, 71, 66	Scotland	ESAs Cairngorms Straths, Central Borders, Stewartry	MSURI, CEH, BioSS	water margins	<b>Background monitoring:</b> As above	<b>Prescription monitoring.</b> As above
67	Scotland	ESA Machair of the Uists & Benbecula, Barra & Vatersay	MSURI, CEH, BioSS	dunes (stabilisation measures)		<b>Prescription monitoring.</b> As above
62	Wales	ESA Cambrian Mountains	ADAS	grassland (hay meadows)	Sites randomly selected in anticipation that sufficient sites would come under ESA agreement prior to resurvey.	41 ADAS plots.
62	Wales	ESA Cambrian Mountains	ADAS	woodland (broadleaved)	In 1995, 22 sites randomly selected from all potential sites. 10 of these had also been used in 1988 previous monitoring programme.	
60	Wales	ESA Clwydian Range	ADAS	grassland (calcareous )	Sites randomly selected in anticipation that sufficient sites would come under ESA agreement prior to resurvey.	2 ADAS plots located alongside each butterfly transect.

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72, 71, 66	<b>Background monitoring;</b> Land cover mapped in 1km squares. Photograph plot. Bare ground cover and tree cover estimated.	<b>Prescription monitoring;</b> As above	10m x 1m along water edge	1994-1999	5	Farm management.
67		<b>Prescription monitoring;</b> Site specific methods - photographs taken, area of bare sand, vegetation cover.	2m x 2m	1994-1999	5	Farm management.
62	ADAS plot method. Vegetation height.		8m x 4m	1995, 99	4	Farm management, soil.
62	In 1995: 2 transects placed in woodland (placement dependent on accessibility). 20 permanent quadrats per transect placed at 5m intervals. All saplings in 100m x 2m counted, identified, put into height class. All seedlings in 1m x 1m counted & identified.	In 1999: 1995 measurements were repeated. In addition, NVC assessments taken in quads in centre of each transect	transects: 100m x 2m quadrats: 1m x 1m NVC quadrats: 50m x 50m	1995, 99 (previous monitoring from 1988)	4 (11)	
60	ADAS plot method. Vegetation height.		8m x 4m	1995, 98	3	Farm management.

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61	Wales	ESA Lleyn Peninsula	ADAS	grassland (coastal )	Sites randomly selected in anticipation that sufficient sites would come under ESA agreement prior to resurvey.	
61	Wales	ESA Lleyn Peninsula	ADAS	wetland	Sites randomly selected in anticipation that sufficient sites would come under ESA agreement prior to resurvey.	
59	Wales	ESA Preseli	ADAS	grassland (hay meadows)	Sites randomly selected in anticipation that sufficient sites would come under ESA agreement prior to resurvey.	
58	Wales	ESA Preseli	ADAS	heathland	20 sites selected at random, stratified by agreement/ non agreement & dominant/sub-dominant heather. Another 20 sites randomly selected to relate botanical sites to other monitoring activities.	In each grazing unit a central point was located from which 3 randomly located transects radiated. At 20 random points along the transect, a quadrat was placed.
56	Wales	ESA Radnor	ADAS	grassland (hay meadows)	Sites randomly selected in anticipation that sufficient sites would come under ESA agreement prior to resurvey.	35 ADAS plots.
56	Wales	ESA Radnor	ADAS	wetland	Sites randomly selected in anticipation that sufficient sites would come under ESA agreement prior to resurvey.	35 ADAS plots.
57	Wales	ESA Ynys Mon	ADAS	grassland (normal or short, species rich grassland)	Sites randomly selected in anticipation that sufficient sites would come under ESA agreement prior to resurvey.	21 ADAS plots (grass: 15, species rich grass: 6).

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61	ADAS plot method. Vegetation height.		8m x 4m	1995, 98	3	Farm management.
61	ADAS plot method. Vegetation height.		8m x 4m	1995, 98	3	Farm management.
59	ADAS plot method. Vegetation height.		8m x 4m	1995, 99	4	Soil, farm management, met data.
58	4 heather stems were collected from each quadrat corner. GI/BU method. Also recorded: distance to palatable grasses, streams, paths, fences, heather cover, age, height, growth form.	Frequency & dominance of all species.	0.5m <sup>2</sup>	1995?	0?	Slope, aspect, altitude, farm management.
56	ADAS plot method. Vegetation height.		8m x 4m	1994, 97	3	Farm management, soil, met data.
56	ADAS plot method. Vegetation height.		8m x 4m	1994, 97	3	Soil.
57	ADAS plot method. Vegetation height.		grassland: 8m x 4m species rich grass: 4m x 2m	1994, 97	3	Farm management, soil, met data.

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57	Wales	ESA Ynys Mon	ADAS	heathland	Sites randomly selected in anticipation that sufficient sites would come under ESA agreement prior to resurvey.	19 ADAS plots
74 64	Wales	Tir Cymen	Entec, CEH		140 farms identified, 70 were yr.1 entrants and 70 yr. 2. 90 of these formed the 'structured' sample (45 each yr.) 50 the 'targeted' sample (25 each yr.). Not random, but intended to be representative of population.	25 control farms (all that were available) were selected. 3 out of 140 were withdrawn from scheme.
63	Wales	Tir Gofal	ADAS	woodland & scrub, heathland, grassland, terrestrial wetland, coastland, rock, arable, linear habitats	To be decided.	
54	Northern Ireland	ESA West Fermanagh & Erne Lakeland	Queen's University Belfast (QUB)	grassland (hay meadow, wet, improved, unimproved) & limestone grassland	The scheme was not officially launched when monitoring commenced. A list of farmers likely to join the scheme was drawn up. Farms were selected randomly from these lists.	Sub-sample only re-surveyed in 1996 - selected using stratified random sampling.

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57	ADAS plot method. Vegetation height.		16m x 8m	1994, 97	3	Farm management, soil, met data.
74 64	<p><b>Cover plots:</b> height cover &amp; dominant species in each of 8 vegetation strata.</p> <p><b>Species plots:</b> Species composition &amp; % cover recorded in central 2m x 2m. For 200 sqm plots, additional species were recorded in successive larger nests. % cover for whole plot.</p>	<p><b>Boundary plots:</b> various variables measured e.g. heights, dominant tree &amp; shrub species.</p> <p><b>Heather shoot counts:</b> in cover plot area, 100 random shoots were assessed for grazing.</p>	<p><b>Species plots</b></p> <p>2 plot sizes - 4 m<sup>2</sup> and 200 m<sup>2</sup> depending on veg. texture.</p>	1993 & 96 or 1994 & 97	3	
63	W-shaped walk to be taken across area to be evaluated. 20 equally spaced sampling points (5 or 10 in woodland). Unrepresentative features to be ignored.	Species cover, vegetation height, other. Cover to nearest 10 % (>25%) or 5% (<25%)	1m x 1m (usually) ca 50m x 50m (woodland)			
54	In each field, 5 permanent quadrats (4 in limestone grassland) were located at equidistant points along a transect. Cover of all species was recorded in inner quadrat and presence of additional species in outer.		1m x 1m within 2m x 2m	1993, 96, 99	6	Management, soil.

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53, 112	Northern Ireland	ESAs Mournes & Slieve Croob, Antrim Coast, Glens & Rathin, Slieve Gullion., Sperrins, West Fermanagh & Erne Lakeland	QUB	heathland	See above (19.1)	Sub-sample only re-surveyed in 1996/7 - selected using stratified random sampling.
54	Northern Ireland	ESAs Antrim Coast & Glens, West Fermanagh & Erne Lakeland	QUB	woodland	See above (19.1)	Sub-sample only re-surveyed in 1996/7 - selected using stratified random sampling.
54	Northern Ireland	ESA West Fermanagh & Erne Lakeland	QUB	hedges & field margins	See above (19.1)	Sub-sample only re-surveyed in 1996 - selected using stratified random sampling.

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53, 112	In each field, 4 permanent quadrats were located at equidistant points along a 60m long transect. Cover of all species was recorded in inner quadrat and presence of additional species in outer.	Heather consumption was measured on 30 sample plants, roughly 1m apart, along transect. Species & bare ground recorded at each point. On heather plant: age of heather estimated, height of leading shoot and amount of grazing (MLURI method).	1m x 1m within 2m x 2m	1994, 97, 00 (except W. Fermanagh & Erne Lakeland: 93, 96, 99).	6	Management, soil (W. Fermanagh & Erne Lakeland only).
54	Cover of all species was recorded in inner quadrat (permanent) and presence of additional species in outer. Diameters of trees at 1.2m. Height.		14m x 14m with 3 nested quadrats (14m <sup>2</sup> , 7m <sup>2</sup> and 2m <sup>2</sup> )	1994, 97, 00 (Antrim Coast & Glens) 1993, 96, 99 (W. Fermanagh & Erne Lakeland)	6	Management, soil.
54	The hedge comprised 4 major components: (1) tree and shrub layer (2) hedge bank hedge base (3) ditch (4) field margin. These components formed successive permanent plots.	Cover of all species. Hedge structure, average height & width. Percentage of gaps.	10m x 1m	1993, 96, 99	6	Management, soil.

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87	Northern Ireland	Countryside Management Scheme	QUB	grassland	160 sites to be selected on a random stratified basis, to ensure that all counties, common habitats, sites of high conservation value are represented. Where numbers are low (ie conservation sites) site will be treated as case study.	
89	Republic of Ireland	Rural Environment Protection Scheme (REPS)	Jane Feehan, Trinity College, Dublin	arable (tillage) & grassland - field edges (hedges & watercourses).	60 farms selected across 3 counties. 30 field pairs; REPS selectd randomly and non-REPS selected subjectively.	
55	Netherlands	(no name specified)	Wageningen University	grassland - field edges	9 areas (3 clay, 3 peat & 3 sandy soil) randomly selected from all available. In each area 3-7 field pairs (agreement & non-agreement) selected - total 78.	

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87	<p><b>Grassland</b> 5 permanent quads to be located equidistantly along 100m transect across diagonal of field. Cover of all species to be recorded in inner quadrat &amp; presence of additional species in outer. Veg. height, bare ground, litter, dung. Rare spp.</p>	<p>Variations to method <b>moorland, bog:</b> &gt; 1 transect, heather cover, height, growth phase, morphology <b>woodland</b> tree &amp; shrub cover, height saplings (2m), seedlings pres. in 14m x 14m. Ground flora, seedlings &amp; saplings in 2m x 2m <b>other habitats</b> varying according to habitat</p>	<p><b>grassland, moorland, bog:</b> 1m x 1m within 2m x 2m. <b>wetland:</b> 4m x 4m <b>woodland, scrub:</b> 2m x 2m quadrat/s within 14m x 14m <b>riparian land:</b> strips 5-25m wide, or &gt; 1m</p>	2002/3, 05/06, 08/09.	6	Management, soil.
89	<p>1.5m wide strip along field boundary and the 1.5m wide strip beyond that were surveyed. Cover of all species was recorded in inner quadrat &amp; presence of additional species in outer.</p>		<p>3m x 1m within 5m x 3m quadrat. Inner and outer quadrats split into hedge-side &amp; field-side, therefore each half was 1m x 1.5m.</p>	grassland: 1999 tillage: 2000	0	Management, soil, other.
55	<p>In each field 20 quadrats, bordering and parallel to the field boundary ditches, were assessed for species composition. In addition, all the species present in the field were recorded during a walk around the field.</p>		2m x 10m	2000	0	