

## ECT Tenth Anniversary Celebration at BES2018

The ECT has now been in existence for a decade! To mark this occasion, we will be hosting a unique [interactive thematic session](#) at the BES Annual Meeting in Birmingham, 16-19 December. Titled **Long-term Ecological Experiments Forever! – Unique Challenges and Opportunities**, it will include a keynote presentation from Professor Bridget Emmett (CEH Bangor) on long-term effects of drought and warming on ecosystem processes. Registration opens [here](#) in early July.



### Pwllpeiran – The Brignant Plots

The new grazing season is underway at the Brignant plots near Aberystwyth, and Mariecia Fraser's team are now the proud owners of a group of Herdwick Wethers dedicated to the grazing task! Two PhD projects are currently using the plots for research purposes, and a new MSc project is now underway to investigate the impact of the management regimes on soil microbiology. New instrumentation has recently been added to the plots in the form of micro-climate sensors – through a collaboration with the Computer Science department at Aberystwyth.

[More information](#)

### Oxford Meeting on LTEs: Saturday 27 October - Hosted by Keith Kirby on



behalf of the BES Forest Ecology Group, a one-day meeting looking at the value of long-term observations and experiments. The venue is Wytham Village Hall, Oxford. There is a small registration fee. Registration open to all via this [link](#).

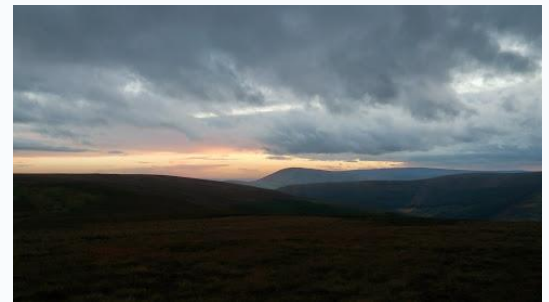


### Moor House – Burning/Grazing Plots

ECT visited the Moor House long-term grazing/burning experiment in Upper Teesdale earlier this month, hosted by Rob Rose from CEH Lancaster. The effects of the different burning and grazing treatments can clearly be seen over the four replicate plots. Rob Marrs at Liverpool has begun some new work investigating the seed banks in the non-grazed plots, after initially being 'snowed off' the plots by the *Beast from the East!* Two new papers have been published recently, one confirming that a no-burn policy leads to the dominance of *Calluna vulgaris* and an increased risk of summer fire over a sixty-year period. [More information](#)

## NEW LTE ADDED TO ECT REGISTER – Upland Peat Bog Research

The ECT is pleased to announce that the Peatland-ES-UK project, championed by Andreas Heinemeyer from the University of York, has recently been added to the ECT's register of long-term ecological experiments.



The experiment has been going for seven years and focuses on the restoration of blanket bog vegetation for biodiversity, carbon sequestration and water regulation. The project comprises three sites in the north of England in Nidderdale, Mossdale and the Forest of Bowland. Look out for a new page on the ECT's website in the near future.

[More information](#)



### Aston Rowant – Ecological Succession Since 1969!

Re-fenced in 2017 with ECT support, the Aston Rowant grassland ecological succession experiment has been going since 1969. There are four replicate plots, incorporating four different treatments. All began as grassland, but the fenced plots (now wooded) have not been grazed for 48 years. The experiment has just attracted a PhD researcher from CEH Bangor who will be using the plots for soil hydrology studies. [More information](#)



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