

Rob Foster's elm notes on SD64 – July 2007

When I was in the Dales recently, I found I was actually staying in Swale Dale in target 10km square **SD99**. So I had the opportunity to look around - just for elms - the weather not being really good enough for there to be much prospect of seeing wlh butterflies. I also had a quick look around the km square SD9166 and tetrad for SD96 on limestone pastureland near Malham Tarn in the Yorkshire Dales and those for km square SD6640 and tetrad for SD64 on farmland and coniferous plantations on Longridge Fell near Clitheroe in Lancashire. Both of these had no elm in the km square but elm in the tetrad.

An account of my visit to SD64. It was fairly perfunctory and compromised a bit by not having good maps of the area with me.

SD64 WLH Survey

SD6640 - Target kilometre square for WLH Survey and its associated 2 km square on farmland surrounding commercial coniferous woodland on Longridge Fell.

I conducted a brief **search for elms on 30 7-07**. The weather was overcast, so **prospects of seeing wlh butterflies were low**.

The kilometre square SD6640 is a pocket of farmland, mostly with barbwire and walls rather than hedgerows, which is surrounded by commercial coniferous woodlands. There are some copses of broad leaf trees, but inspection of these from the roads which pass through the southern edge and footpath on the eastern and western edges of the farmland failed to reveal any elms. Iritatingly, there are small wych elms along the road in the valley 659399 just 50 metres outside the km square, tetrad and 10km square. None of the kilometre square falls below 190 metres and its greatest altitude is 230 metres.

The tetrad : The tetrad covers most of the Longridge Fell ridge and the strips of farmland north and south of it. None of the land in the 2 kilometre square falls below 150 metres and its greatest altitude is 340 metres.

The southern half of the tetrad appears to contain no elms. However, the road that borders the northern edge of the tetrad has elm in its hedgerows mixed in with hazel. This reaches about 20 ft high at its most easterly edge giving a sheltered area behind it that might favour wlh.

I did a short circuit by car along the network of roads which surround the Longridge Fell and those around Chipping. I noticed besides common hedgerow elms a few mature elms. However, the maps I had with me were poor and I am not able to locate many of them accurately now. There was a mature elm (40 ft) at road junction SD 647 427 and hedgerow elm (20ft) along the road close to the junction at SD 696 411

SD64 square can be marked as containing elms found in 2km square/ 1km searched.

I will place some of photos of the km square and tetrad and elms found on the blogsite www.whiteletter.multiply.com

Rob Foster