

www.ninevehtrust.org.uk

Questionnaire
Ecological Continuity Trust
£2000 donated in November 2022

Tell us about the Funds

Has the project we helped to fund been completed? If so, how is it maintained? We used your grant to support our core operating costs. As a result, and with others' support, we were able to extend the short-term contract of our Fundraising Manager by an additional six months, which has enabled us to initiate more diverse income streams and further research into potential sources of restricted and unrestricted income.

• **If not completed yet, why not? Are plans in place to finalise the project?** The 'project', in terms of your support, is our continued ability to operate. So we hope that the 'project' will never be completed!

• **Did the funds provided by us prove adequate, or was there an over- or under-spend?** We used all of the funding provided to support our core operating costs.

• **How were any surplus funds used, or was further funding made available?** There were no surplus funds and we used other charitable trusts' donations to augment your support.

Tell us about the project

• **Has the project been successful and well received by the beneficiaries?** The impact of our work – using the evidence produced by our experiments to influence changes to ecological policy and practice – is very long term, but our experiments are already yielding useful results, such as the **economic benefits** of liming acidified grassland demonstrated through improved herbage yields, the **societal benefits** demonstrated through improved biodiversity, **scientific benefits** demonstrated through molecular changes to plant reproduction and development traits in the face of climate change simulations. Our work also creates a 'proving ground' for the impacts of policies to reduce acid rain, manifest through improved biodiversity, to name but a few.

Are you satisfied with the outcome, or, with hindsight, would some modifications have been appropriate? We are satisfied with the outcomes achieved thus far, but our ambitious development plans will require additional support.

• **Was funding for this project made available from any other sources?** Yes – we secured unrestricted funding to support our core operating costs from a number of other private charitable trusts.

Feedback about us

• **How did you find our own process of selection and payment?** Great! We make a lot of applications to private charitable trusts and your application and reporting processes are significantly better than most trusts. They are clear, easy to understand, spell out precisely what you are looking for and easy to manage, all of which makes our job so much easier. You are to be congratulated on a job very well done.

• **Have you considered providing us with an update on the activities for which our Trust provided the funding?** Yes – I hope that this report meets that objective.

• **Would you welcome a visit by our Trustees?** Yes – we would be delighted to meet your trustees.

• **Have you any other comments?** Your support has enabled us to make tentative steps towards significant change at ECT, allowing us to support the role of part-time fundraising manager to leverage further, substantial funding from a diverse range of potential funders. It has given us the confidence to stretch our ambitions and initiate bolder thinking, knowing that securing funding to support bold ambitions need not be the challenge it always has been. For this, we are eternally grateful.



Tim Rowland
Fundraising Manager
September 2023

Working in partnership with



Ecological Continuity Trust – registered charity (England & Wales) no. 1126122
3 Queen's Square, Chalford Hill, Stroud, Glos. GL6 8EG

www.ecologicalcontinuitytrust.org

tim.rowland@ecologicalcontinuitytrust.org

07833 691259