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### **Bra134. Foxborough Farm (13.8 ha) TL 794318**

This site comprises a poorly restored landfill, now supporting a sparse, weedy grassland flora with many areas of bare sand and clay and with areas of building debris, as is typical of such brownfield sites. The principal interest of the site lies in its invertebrate populations, with several nationally rare (Red Data Book, RDB) and scarce species, plus many other species of county significance.

Species of particular note include the UK BAP digger wasp *Cerceris quinquefasciata* (RDB 3 – rare). This site represents a significant northerly extension of its known range on Essex, with most other records coming from the Thames estuary and Colchester environs. Other notable species include the digger wasp *Didineis lunicornis*, known from only three other locations in north Essex; the digger wasp *Nysson dimidiatus*; and the woodlouse *Armadillidium nasatum*. Other insects of interest include leaf-beetles, ladybirds and flies.

Retention of this interesting invertebrate fauna will depend on maintaining the nutrient-poor, open and flower-rich grassland and herbage.

**Selection criteria:** SCr11; SCr12