

## Orchard Enhancements at Idehill Farm

The focus of this project is to re-instate an historic orchard with traditional heritage fruit varieties.

Devon has lost 90% of its orchards since the second world war so their reinstatement with fruit varieties - such as Tom Putt, Pig's Snout and Devonshire Quarrendine apples, Black Mazzard Cherry, Plymouth Pear and Dittisham (Ditsum) Plum - not only enhances the landscape but also preserves these varieties into the future.

Orchards will also act as a source of nectar for pollinators and fruit for wildlife.

There is a very nice historical link with one of these varieties, The Tom Putt:

Part of this farm was once owned by the The Reverend Thomas Putt, who resided at Combe House, Gittisham. He perfected a very popular, general-purpose apple nicknamed the "cottage apple" as it was "the rosy apple that grew in every garden and orchard".

Awarded  
£16,974



Newly planted orchard



The hedge springs back to life with new vigour

The project will also lay some Devon hedge banks. A roadside hedge which will open up views across the Coly Valley for road users and an orchard side hedge.

This traditional management will conserve these landscape features for years to come.

Previously laid hedges had dormice boxes placed within them and owl boxes were placed in mature trees.

### FiPL Outcomes

**CLIMATE** More carbon is stored and/or sequestered.

**NATURE** There is a greater area of wildlife rich habitat. There is greater connectivity between habitats. Existing habitat is better managed. There is an increase in biodiversity.

**PLACE** The quality and character of the landscape is reinforced or enhanced. Historic structures and features are conserved, enhanced, or interpreted more effectively.