



HEDGEHOGS

Erinaceous Europeas

Hedgehogs are the UK's most loved small mammal, but their **numbers are in steep decline**. In 2020, they were added to the 'Red List' indicating they are now **Vulnerable to Extinction**. There are many reasons for the decline in numbers, but careless use of garden strimmers has been shown to be a factor.

Numbers have declined from

30 million

in the 1950s

to



less than 1 million

in 2018

Ref. PTES

At least **46%** have been lost in the last 13 years, with **half gone in rural areas**

Ref. hedgehogstreet.org



littlesilverhedgehog

"We have over 60 hedgehog rescues on our database...the consensus is there has been a significant increase in hedgehog casualties and deaths since last spring (2020) caused by strimmers and other garden machinery,"

Val Green, **One Voice for Animals**

Unlike other animals, **hedgehogs don't run away from danger** - they just curl into a ball where they are. This makes them **exceptionally vulnerable to injuries or death from strimming**.



Hedgehog Tips for Success is the **most read wildlife advice page** on

wyevalegardencentres.co.uk



littlesilverhedgehog

Holly was found with her head sliced open from a garden strimmer. Flies laid eggs in the open wound. 6 weeks of intensive care in a voluntary rescue centre, meant she survived. Sadly many don't.

The scale of the problem

In just one month, 5 hedgehogs were admitted to *Prickles and Paws* rescue centre with injuries from strimming. **4 of the 5 didn't make it**. This is happening across the UK, with **hundreds of hedgehogs suffering terrible injuries, or dying from strimming every month**.

"Strimmer injuries are one of the biggest killers for hedgehogs but are, unfortunately, extremely common." **Ann Brummer, Save Me Trust**

You can make a difference...



The UK **domestic garden tools and equipment market** is estimated to be worth over **£5bn** annually*

There are around **27 million gardeners** in the UK**

82% of the British public **want to attract more wildlife into their gardens** and look to help the birds, bees, butterflies and hedgehogs+

ONE Simple Change - putting a sticker on the handle of a garden strimmer, reminding gardeners to check for hedgehogs before they trim, every time, will give hedgehogs a better chance of survival.

**statista.com*

***lovethegarden.com*

+gardenforum.co.uk



Hedgehog Champion, 14 year old *Dylan Allman* lives in Monmouth, South East Wales

Dylan is an **award-winning filmmaker** with *"The Wonderful World of Hedgehogs"*. has been featured in the **Daily Telegraph** (April 2021), and is currently in the **BBC Wildlife magazine** Spring 2021 edition.

www.hedgehogaware.org.uk

