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NEWSLETTER No. 48 October 2009

YOUR REGULAR UPDATE TO ISSUES AFFECTING WILD BIRDS & VINE HOUSE FARM BIRD FOODS

Nicholas Watts Farmers Weekly 2009 Countryside farmer of the year!

As many of you are aware Vine House Farm is a thriving family business and family farm. Nicholas Watts, my father, has been farming here since 1966 and has always had a passion for wildlife. Last week he won the Farmers Weekly Countryside farmer of the year award, one of the most prestigious farming awards around! The award has been described as *"Championing progressive farmers who make an outstanding contribution to our natural environment as part of their successful farming enterprise."* All of us here at Vine House Farm are very proud of Nicholas' achievements as we know a great deal of time, effort and investment has gone into creating such fantastic habitat for a wide range of species, which are now showing great dividends in the number of species that are benefitting here at Vine House Farm. Nicholas said of his award *"I am delighted to be the winner of such a well publicised national competition."*



To find out more about the award visit:
[FW Awards 2009 winner: Countryside Farmer of the Year](http://www.farmersweekly.co.uk/awards/2009/country-farmer-of-the-year)

Or alternatively
visit http://www.vinehousefarm.co.uk/acatalog/_conservation.html

for the fantastic work Nicholas Watts has carried out here at Vine House Farm.

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Red Millet



Tree Sparrows on Red Millet

This is one of the crops grown here at Vine House Farm that Nicholas has had great success with in the last few years. We grow all our red millet here at Vine House Farm and this tiny red seed is a real favourite of Tree Sparrows. In the winter of 2008/9 we attracted over 200 Tree Sparrows by feeding them our home grown red millet! If you're lucky enough to have Tree Sparrow in your garden try adding this to your regular seed mix you use. They'll love it!

6kg £12.50 13kg £17 25kg £26

Black Sunflowers

We have been busy harvesting our Black Sunflowers, and are now pleased to say that they are all safely in the shed. The kind weather that we have had in the last month has been great news for the crop and the birds. They are grown, cleaned and packed here at Vine House Farm, reducing food miles to a minimum. A great and cost-effective way of feeding a wide range of species.

5kg £11.50 10kg £15.50 20kg £24.50 2 x 20kg £47



Harvesting Black Sunflowers at VHF

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