

# Celebrating Cornwall's Mammals - from dormice to dolphins!

## How to attract and deter Foxes and Badgers to and from your garden

It can be a fantastic sight to see a Badger or a Fox visiting your garden, however at certain times of year they can be more of a pest than a pleasure! This sheet provides you with some hints and tips on how to encourage these wonderful creatures to your garden and also how to deter them.

### Attracting Badgers



Badgers love earthworms, they will eat up to 300 in one night, a lawn with short grass will make it easier for the Badgers to find them.

Badgers love unsalted peanuts and will also eat carrots, boiled potatoes and orchard food such as apples and plums.

Extra food is particularly welcome in dry and frosty weather when earthworms and other insects are scarce.

Special Badger feed mix can be purchased from Wildlife feed retailers.

Badgers are nocturnal so it is best to leave food out at dusk or dawn.

### Deterring Badgers and preventing damage caused by Badgers

**Remember:** Badgers are legally protected, it is an offence to intentionally kill or injure a Badger, dig for a Badger, possess a dead Badger or any part of a Badger, interfere with a Badger sett, mark, tag or ring a Badger and sell Badgers. It is advisable to seek professional advice before taking any action which could result in Badgers or their setts being illegally disturbed or harmed.

Badgers are strong and determined animals and can dig and climb well. The most effective method to deter or keep Badgers out are physical barriers.

#### Physical barriers

A high solid wall, strong wooden fence with heavy wire mesh or a heavy wire mesh fence are most effective in the long term. In the short term an electric fence - switched off in the morning and on again in the evening can be a good deterrent. Further advice on dimensions and materials etc can be obtained from the contacts below.

For further advice contact DEFRA 0845 6014523 web-site: [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)  
or the National Federation of Badger Groups 020 7228 6444  
web-site [WWW.badger.org.uk](http://WWW.badger.org.uk)

