

Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME: Hill Farm Orchard

GRID REF: S O 4 7 0 0 5 4

SURVEYOR(S): Andv Karran

SIZE (approx.): c.0.14ha

DATE OF SURVEY: 16/09/13

LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:
Monmouthshire

WARD: Trellech United

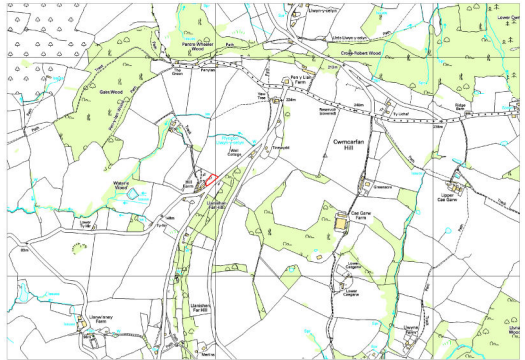
MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)

LBAP PRIORITY HABITATS/SPECIES PRESENT?

Veteran tree & traditional orchards

SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



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FULL DESCRIPTION OF SITE (including topography, adjacent land use, access and boundaries etc.):

This is a small remnant orchard. The orchard is overgrown, rough grassland that slopes downwards to the south and is surrounded by a mix of hedgerow and tree-line. The grass is rank with patches of Nettle, Bracken and Thistles but Bramble has not yet taken over. Sheep occasionally enter the orchard but this would appear to be infrequent. Any herbs present in the grassland are largely smothered by rank grass but Hogweed, Creeping Thistle, Marsh Thistle and Nettle are conspicuous. A few more valuable indicator species persist including Knapweed, Lesser Stitchwort, Red Clover, Meadow Vetchling and Catsear. Most of the original orchard trees are dead and gone. There is one very large Cherry tree with lots of veteran tree features and two veteran plums (one dead and one alive). It is these three trees that provide much of the wildlife value for this site. As well as these trees there are two mid-age Apples, a few mid-age Damsons as well as a younger Apple, Plum and sprouting Damsons.

Orchard:

- 5 or more cultivated fruit or nut trees, crown edges no more than 20m apart - **Y**
- Being of a traditional structure which may currently be or have been managed in a traditional way - **Y**
- Old trees plus two of the following - **Y**
 - Standing deadwood - **Y**
 - Fallen deadwood - **Y**
 - Cavities - **Y**

Note that much of the value is limited to just three trees, one of which is dead.

Official Use Only: Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YES NO Date: 22/10/13

DETAILED SITE INFORMATION

SITE OWNERSHIP: Including names of any tenants/graziers Name(s)

Name(s)			
Addresses			
Tel.no.		Mobile:	

Please log all landowner/tenant contact starting from the initial permission for access to survey

Date	Contact	Discussion subjects/decisions made

Is/are the owner(s)	i) aware of the site's nature conservation value?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>
	ii) managing the land sympathetically?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	iii) willing to manage the land sympathetically?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Describe the access to the site:

Through gap in hedge/wall obscured by Sweet-peas at the southern edge of orchard.

Are there any public rights of way on the site?

No

If so please describe their location:

N/A

What is the current management at the site?

Just left.

Are there any threats to the site?

None known

Are there any invasive species present?

None noted

Are there any protected species present?

None noted

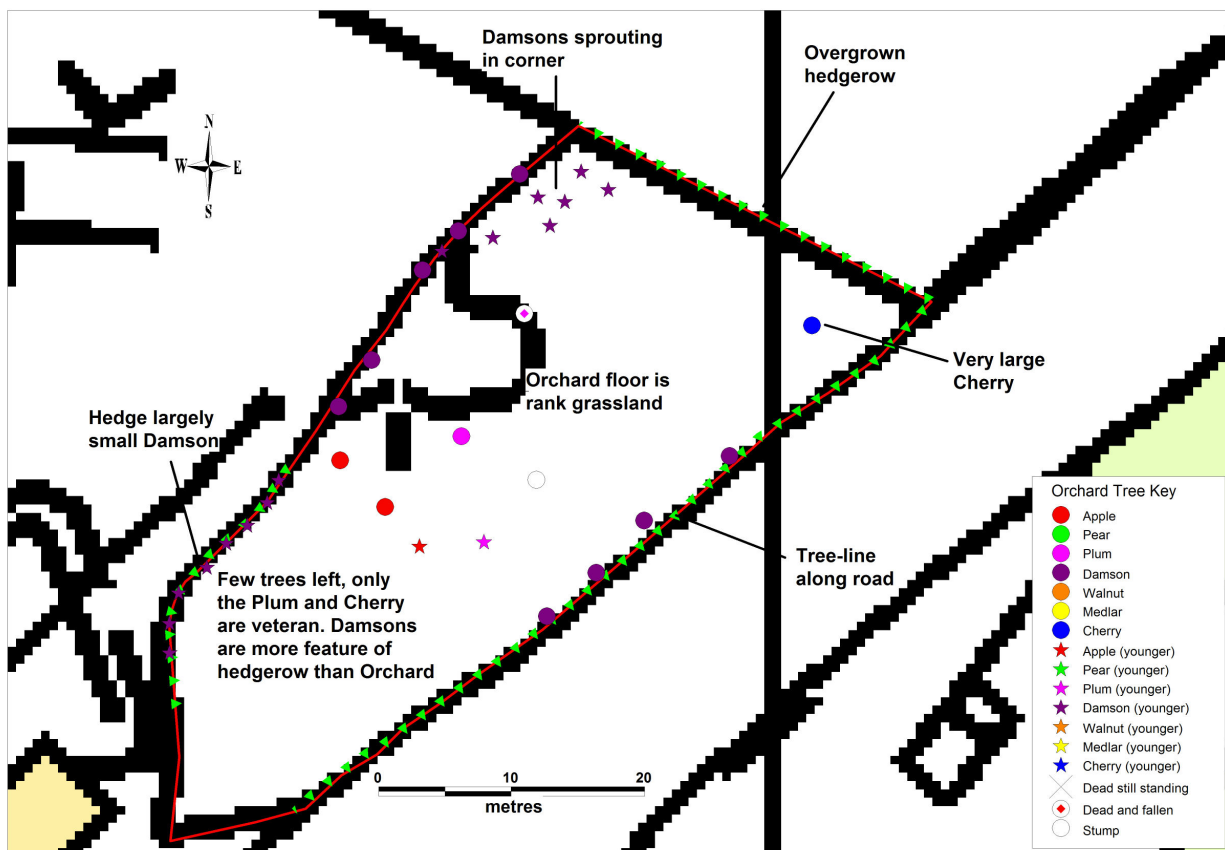
Please state the section(s) of the Wildlife Sites Guidance that this site qualifies under:

H2) Parklands, Orchards and Veteran Trees – (Orchards)

Is the site part of any grant schemes? Yes No Grant Scheme:.....End date:.....

Does the site already have any designations? Yes No Designation:.....

Sketch map of site (including northpoint, scale and areas of the site of particular note):



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Please list all additional survey information both past and present that relates to this site:

- CCW Phase 1, 1991.
- Adventa Orchards Project
- PTES Orchard Project
- Gwent Orchards Project 2010-2012

OFFICE USE ONLY

Site no.: WS/SO40/62

Please note: The data on this form may be held in accordance with the Gwent Wildlife Trust's registration under the Data Protection Act 1996

Summary of information from surveys undertaken during Gwent Orchards Project 2010-2012 supplemented by further information gained during Local Wildlife Site Surveys 2013.

The appendix has been removed as it contains landowner information.