

Monmouthshire County Council SINC

Site Code	Site Name	Grid Reference	Size	Main Habitats	LBAP Priority Habitats / Species	Full description	Wildlife Site Qualifying Features
WS/SO50/74	Hale End Cottage	SO519002	0.86ha	Neutral Grassland Species Rich MG5	Lowland Species-Rich Grassland (HAP)	<p>One large field to north of Hale End Cottage, adjacent to Lower Hale Wood can be roughly divided into 3 sections (see map). The whole field is steeply sloping and facing south. Sections 1 and 3 have moderate to severe Bracken and Bramble encroachment, particularly at woodland edges. Field/Area 2 has had sub-soil/rubble dumped on it from recent excavations for a garage and as a result has a flora reflecting disturbance. Consisting of frequent <i>Verbena officinalis</i> and <i>Elytrigia repens</i>, but some neutral indicator species are present, including <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>, <i>Centaurea nigra</i> and <i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>. <i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i> is locally frequent, reflecting damp conditions from adjacent stream or pond. Area 3 is slightly rank in the lower, flatter part, but the steeper bank towards the woodland edge contains locally frequent <i>Centaurea nigra</i>, <i>Stachys officinalis</i>, <i>Centaureum erythraea</i>, <i>Leontodon hispidus</i>. <i>Potentilla erecta</i> and <i>Trifolium medium</i> were locally occasional. Field 1 comprises similar species, but is severely encroached by scrub. Additional occasional species include <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>, <i>Succisa pratensis</i>, <i>Lathyrus pratensis</i> and rare <i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>.</p>	H4 Neutral Grassland