

Monmouthshire County Council SINC

Site Code	Site Name	Grid Reference	Size	Main Habitats	LBAP Priority Habitats / Species	Full description	Wildlife Site Qualifying Features
WS/ST4 9/11	Chapel Farm Grassland	ST450 947	1.89 ha	Neutral Grassland (MG5c) Neutral Grassland (MG6) Marshy Grassland (M23) Bracken	Species Rich Grassland (HAP)	The site is located near the Hamlet of Earlswood, approx 6km west of Shirenewton. It comprises a single, large, NE-facing, moderate-steeply sloping field, which is bordered by overgrown hedgerow and fences. Bracken and scrub have spread throughout the southern part of the field. Much of the vegetation is dry although there is a small flushed area in the centre of the field with wetter <i>Juncus</i> pasture. The drier grassland on the upper part of the field contains herb-poor MG6 dominated by grasses (especially <i>Holcus lanatus</i> & <i>Lolium perenne</i>) and agricultural weeds such as <i>Urtica dioica</i> , <i>Cirsium arvense</i> & <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> . The central part of the field contains an area of MG5 with <i>Succisa pratensis</i> , <i>Potentilla erecta</i> , <i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i> and <i>Lotus corniculatus</i> . The stand grades into bracken, which has been opened up in places by grazing ponies and reveals an MG5c flora below. The flushed vegetation contains <i>Juncus acutiflorus</i> , <i>Agrostis canina</i> & <i>Ranunculus repens</i> indicative of M23.	H4 Neutral Grassland