

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 9/56	Argoed Woods	ST465 939	2.18 ha	Semi natural woodland	Woodland	<p>This is a linear area of Broadleaved woodland of an approximate east-west orientation. The wood slopes very gently to the west but is generally level. The wood is bordered by improved pasture fields that are flat to the immediate south but slope downwards to the north. A track separates the eastern and western sides of the wood. The eastern half is undisturbed and fully enclosed by fencing. The western half is unfenced along parts of its boundary and a hedge bank runs along its northern edge. Pheasant feeding stations are present. The canopy is largely complete over the whole woodland although a ride opens up the western part to a certain degree. Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>), Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>) and Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>) are the main features of the canopy layer. The understorey is quite well developed with a variety of species present and Hazel coppice present within the eastern section. The ground is uneven and undulating with some small areas of very small scale historical quarrying evident. The ground flora is luxuriant with Ramsons (<i>Allium ursinum</i>) and Dog's Mercury (<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>) being dominant throughout much of the area. Despite the dominance of these two species a good variety of other ancient woodland indicator species are present, which include quite scarce species such as Herb Paris (<i>Paris quadrifolia</i>).</p> <p>A number of interesting features are also present including veteran trees (Field Maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>), Pedunculate Oak and Ash) and hedgebanks.</p>	H1) Woodlands - over 14 indicator species/features