

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

CARMARTHEN

WAUN-FAWR

Date of Notification: 1979, 1983

National Grid Reference: SN 497134

O.S. Maps: 1: 50,000 Sheet number: 159
1: 25,000 Sheet number: SN 41

Site Area: 5.5 ha

Description:

This enclosed wet pasture is a particularly diverse example of the sedge-rich heathy grasslands that are such a feature of the Carmarthen portion of the south Wales Coalfield.

The site occupies most of a small basin which is lined by shallow peat developed over clay. Parts are dominated by purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea* and rushes *Juncus* spp., whilst the most species-rich areas are characterised by whorled caraway *Carum verticillatum* and up to eight species of sedges *Carex* spp..

Notable plants of these more, open swards are meadow thistle *Cirsium dissectum*, devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis* and quaking-grass *Briza media*. Acidic flushes have the insect-eating common butterwort *Pinguicula vulgaris* and round-leaved sundew *Drosera rotundifolia*, as well as many-stalked spike-rush *Eleocharis multicaulis*, bog pimpernel *Anagallis tenella* heather *Calluna vulgaris*, cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix* and common cottongrass *Eriophorum angustifolium*.

The marbled white butterfly *Melanargia galathea* has been recorded from the site, near its northernmost limits in Britain, and there is a strong colony of the scarce marsh fritillary butterfly *Euphydryas aurinia*. The scarlet tiger moth *Callimorpha dominula* is also present.

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