

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

CAE COMIN COCH

Date of Notification: 1987

National Grid Reference: SN994548

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 147
1:25,000 Sheet number: SN95

Site Area: 1.2 ha

Description:

A small, but species-rich, unimproved pasture of a type now rare in mid Wales. Grasslands of this kind were probably more widespread in the past, but due to land improvement are now of very limited extent. At least a hundred species of flowering plants have been recorded from this site. The freely drained south-facing slopes of the northern half of the site, with many mounds of the yellow meadow and *Lasius flavus*, support an unusual mixture of both lime-loving and acid-loving plant species. Lime-loving species include cowslip *Primula veris*, not known now from any other pasture in north Brecknock, fairy flax *Linum catharticum* and quaking-grass *Briza media*, whilst more acid-loving species are represented by great burnet *Sanguisorba officinalis* and betony *Stachys officinalis*. Species of more neutral soils include oxeye daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare* and burnet-saxifrage *Pimpinella saxifraga*.

The southern part of the site is damper, with wet flushes supporting such species as devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, pale sedge *Carex pallescens*, heath spotted-orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata subsp. ericetorum* and ragged-robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi*.

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