CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS VICARAGE MEADOWS

Date of Notification: 1984

National Grid Reference: SN 849526

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

1:25,000 Sheet number: SN 85

Site Area: 4 ha

Description:

A nationally important example of an upland type of unimproved, herb-rich grassland. The site is presently grazed, but may have been used for hay in the past. The rich flora includes a number of uncommon plants.

The principal grasses are common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, red fescue *Festuca rubra*, heath-grass *Danthonia decumbens* and purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*. Many sedges occur, including the scarce but characteristic soft-leaved sedge *Carex montana*. Some small wet and heathy areas support bog-mosses *Sphagnum* spp. and round-leaved sundew *Drosera rotundifolia*. Notable and uncommon plants in the sward include small-white orchid *Pseudorchis albida*, fragrant orchid *Gymnadenia conopsea*, greater butterfly-orchid *Platanthera chlorantha*, wood bitter-vetch *Vicia orobus* and dyer's greenweed *Genista tinctoria*.

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