

CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

CORS CEFN LLWYD

Date of Notification: 1999

National Grid Reference: SJ 122094

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 125
1:10,000 Sheet number: SJ10SW

Site Area: 2.1 ha

Description:

Cors Cefn Llwyd is of special interest as a carr woodland which has developed in a defined basin. The site lies at an altitude of around 125 m and is situated close to the Afon Banwy, approximately 3 km NE of Llanfair Caereinion in central Montgomeryshire.

The site lies on shales which belong to the Nant-y-Ysgollon Shale Formation, the lowest division of the Wenlock-Silurian in this part of the Welsh sedimentary basin. The shales here have a generally slightly acid to neutral pH. The soils are made up of peats and silts, and are characterised by relatively high fertility and impeded drainage.

The majority of the site can be assigned to a single wet woodland community, with the canopy dominated by alder *Alnus glutinosa*, grey willow *Salix cinerea* and occasional crack willow *Salix fragilis*. Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* is also locally frequent.

The field layer is characterised by plants which are indicative of the high nutrient status of the soil and include reed canary-grass *Phalaris arundinacea*, common nettle *Urtica dioica*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, bittersweet *Solanum dulcamara* and meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*.

In the wetter areas, marsh-marigold *Caltha palustris* and water mint *Mentha aquatica* are present. Uncommon plants here include fine-leaved water-dropwort *Oenanthe aquatica*.

A population of elongated sedge *Carex elongata*, which is only known from two other locations in Wales, is also present.

A small area of tall fen occurs at the eastern corner of the woodland.

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