

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

GWAUN EFAIL-LLWYDIARTH

| | |
|--|--|
| <u>Date of Notification:</u> | 1990 |
| <u>National Grid Reference:</u> | SJ 069169 |
| <u>O.S. Maps:</u> | 1:50,000 Sheet number: 125 1:25,000 Sheet number: SJ 01 |
| <u>Site Area:</u> | 2.4 ha |

Description:

The site comprises a single damp pasture field near Llanfihangel-yng-Ngwynfa. It supports one of the finest stands of marsh vegetation known in Montgomeryshire, along with areas of species-rich neutral grassland.

A small brook runs down the centre of the field. Marshy ground on either side is characterised by an abundance of sharp-flowered rush *Juncus acutiflorus* and jointed rush *J. articulatus*, along with frequent sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, quaking-grass *Briza media*, crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, common sedge *Carex nigra*, marsh-marigold *Caltha palustris*, water horsetail *Equisetum fluviatile*, greater bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus uliginosus*, creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens* and the locally uncommon northern marsh-orchid *Dactylorhiza purpurella*. Other associated species include carnation sedge *Carex panicea*, marsh willowherb *Epilobium palustre*, wood horsetail *Equisetum sylvaticum*, common marsh-bedstraw *Galium palustre*, ragged-robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi*, water mint *Mentha aquatica*, meadow buttercup *Ranunculus acris* and marsh arrowgrass *Triglochin palustris*. This community grades into drier grassland on the banks above, dominated by common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, sweet vernal-grass, crested dog's tail and red fescue *Festuca rubra*, with frequent common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, meadow buttercup and clovers *Trifolium* spp., and a range of other species such as intermediate lady's-mantle *Alchemilla xanthochlora*, pignut *Conopodium majus*, autumn hawkbit *Leontodon autumnalis*, rough hawkbit *L. hispidus*, common bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, bulbous buttercup *Ranunculus bulbosus* and common sorrel *Rumex acetosa*. Certain banks support a variant of this community with frequent mat-grass *Nardus stricta*, carnation sedge, tormentil *Potentilla erecta* and devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*. Additional associates here include bugle *Ajuga reptans*, heath spotted-orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata* subsp. *ericetorum*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica* and yellow-rattle *Rhinanthus minor*. The more level areas of dry pasture have been affected by nutrient enrichment and cattle poaching – they support a modified sward type in which

perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne*, thistles *Cirsium spp.* and docks *Rumex spp.* are common.

*This document is **NOT** a definitive legal version and has been formatted, updated and partially edited for use on the CCW Web site. This document should not be used in any legal proceedings, public enquiry or any other hearing or appeal. If you require a full legal copy of the document please contact CCW in writing.*