

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

GWAUN BWLCH HAFOD-Y-GÔG

Date of Notification: 1990

National Grid Reference: SN 935807

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 136
1:25,000 Sheet number: SN 98

Site Area: 2.6 ha

Description:

A fine example of unimproved pasture with a wide range of plant species reflecting the variations in soil moisture and base status that occur within a relatively small area. The site comprises a single cattle-grazed field that slopes gently south-eastwards. The drier mesotrophic grassland at the top of the slope gives way to a series of flushes of varying base status. There is a more extensive area of low-lying marshy ground at the southern end of the field, and several small areas of more acidic grassland along the south-eastern boundary.

Most of the drier grassland is dominated by common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus* and red fescue *Festuca rubra*. Common associates include sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus*, common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, cat's-ear *Hypochoeris radicata*, autumn hawkbit *Leontodon autumnalis*, oxeye daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare* and common bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*. Glaucous sedge *Carex flacca*, rough hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus* and betony *Stachys officinalis* occur locally within this community. Patches of grassland along the south-eastern edge of the field may be distinguished from the preceding community by the presence of calcifugous species such as heath-grass *Danthonia decumbens*, mat-grass *Nardus stricta*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta* and devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*.

The flushes and wet hollows are largely dominated by rushes *Juncus acutiflorus* and *J. effusus*. Common associates include Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus*, carnation sedge *Carex panicea*, cuckooflower *Cardamine pratensis*, common marsh-bedstraw *Galium palustre*, ragged-robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi* and creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens*. The more base-poor flushes support bog-mosses *Sphagnum* spp., star sedge *Carex echinata*, common cottongrass *Eriophorum angustifolium* and lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*.

*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.*