

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

HILLINGTON PASTURE

Date of notification: 1984

National grid reference: SO 318971

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 137
1:25,000 Sheet number: SO 39

Site area: 1.3 ha

Description:

An area of damp unimproved acid pasture developed on a peaty soil, with many small outcrops of rocks and some scrub encroachment. Small undulations in the predominantly flat ground result in the presence of drier areas. The site is used as rough grazing for horses.

The plant species present are, in general, representative of this type of acid pasture in Montgomery, but with the addition of petty whin *Genista anglica* and dyer's greenweed *G. tinctoria*, both of which are now very localised in their distribution and occur here in some quantity. This plant community is however unusual in the east of Montgomery and this site is a particularly outstanding example of its type in this part of the former District and also in neighbouring Shropshire.

The grassland is of bents and fescues *Agrostis/Festuca* with small quantities of heather *Calluna vulgaris* also occurring. Heath spotted-orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata* is well represented and yellow rattle *Rhinanthus minor* and lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica* are locally abundant.

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