

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

CAEAU CWMCOYNANT

Date of Notification: 1991

National Grid Reference: SO212379

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 161
1:25,000 Sheet number: SO23

Site Area: 2.5 ha

Description:

This site comprises two small traditionally managed hay fields situated on gently sloping ground at the northern fringe of the Black Mountains near Llanigon. It is an outstanding example of the type of botanically-rich meadow that was once widespread on the Old Red Sandstone in this area. Such sites are now rare as a result of agricultural intensification.

The sward is dominated by mixtures of common bent *Agrostis Capillaris*, sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum Odorum*, crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus Cristatus*, red fescue *Festuca Rubra*, common knapweed *Centaurea Nigra*, eyebright *Euphrasia Officinalis*, rough hawkbit *Leontodon Hispidus*, common bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus Corniculatus*, ribwort plantain *Plantago Lanceolata*, red clover *Trifolium Pratense* and white clover *Trifolium Repens*. Downy oat-grass *Avenula Pubescens*, Yorkshire-fog *Holcus Lanatus*, yellow-rattle *Rhinanthus Minor* and common sorrel *Rumex Acetosa* are frequent throughout, whilst pignut *Conopodium Majus*, bitter-vetch *Lathyrus Montanus* and betony *Stachys Officinalis* are locally prominent. A wide range of other species is present, including common spotted-orchid *Dactylorhiza Fuchsii*, meadow vetchling *Lathyrus Pratensis*, oxeye daisy *Leucanthemum Vulgare*, tormentil *Potentilla Erecta*, cowslip *Primula Veris* and the locally uncommon greater butterfly-orchid *Platanthera Chlorantha*.

Remarks:

The site lies within the Brecon Beacons National Park.

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