

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

**SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION**

**CARMARTHENSHIRE**

**CAEAU LOTWEN**

**Date of Notification:** 1984

**National Grid Reference:** SN 582113

**O.S. Maps:** 1: 50,000 Sheet number: 159  
1: 25,000 Sheet number: SN 51

**Site Area:** 8.7 ha

**Description:**

In Britain unimproved grasslands containing an abundance of the umbelliferous plant, whorled caraway *Carum verticillatum*, appear to be concentrated on the Carmarthen Coalfield and its environs.

These grasslands vary from wet species-rich types to dry, heathy examples with a somewhat restricted flora. The grassland at this site is intermediate between these two extremes, the soil conditions tending towards the dry side. The fields are usually used as pasture, but some are cut for hay on occasions.

The principal grasses are bents *Agrostis* spp., sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum* and Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus*, and because of the drier conditions, sedges are scarce. Noteworthy herbs occurring in the sward are heath-spotted orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata* subsp. *ericetorum*, meadow thistle *Cirsium dissectum* and ragged-robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi*.

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