CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS	GWEUNYDD TŶ-BRITH (TŶ-BRITH MEADOWS)
Date of Notification:	1989
National Grid Reference:	SJ 243178
<u>O.S. Maps:</u>	1:50,000 Sheet number: 126 1:25,000 Sheet number: SJ 21
Site Area:	5.5 ha

Description:

An extensive example of unimproved lowland mesotrophic grassland managed as traditional hay meadow. The site comprises four fields on ground that slopes gently to the north-east. Three of the fields support fairly uniform dry grassland plant communities, but the central field shows a gradation from this type, through a damper more acidic community, to a central marshy area associated with a small watercourse.

The dry grassland is largely dominated by common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus* and Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus*, with frequent sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, red fescue *Festuca rubra*, common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, meadow vetchling *Lathyrus pratensis*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, meadow buttercup *Ranunculus acris*, common sorrel *Rumex acetosa* and red clover *Trifolium pratense*. Other locally prominent species include yellow oat-grass *Trisetum flavescens*, yellow-rattle *Rhinanthus minor* and tufted vetch *Vicia cracca*.

The damper grassland is characterised by the presence of glaucous sedge *Carex flacca*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, compact rush *J. conglomerates* and devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*. This grades into a much wetter community dominated by sharp-flowered rush *Juncus acutiflorus*. Associated species here include carnation sedge *Carex panicea*, marsh-marigold *Caltha palustris*, common spotted-orchid *Dactylorhiza fuchsii*, meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, square-stalked St. John's-wort *Hypericum tetrapterum*, ragged-robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi* and water mint *Mentha aquatica*.

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