

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

GWAUN CILGWYN

Date of Notification: 1969,1987
National Grid Reference: SN 950796
O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 136
1:25,000 Sheet number: SN 97
Site Area: 7.4 ha

Description:

This site is a good example of unimproved upland acid pasture, consisting predominantly of a mixture of wet grass-heath vegetation types. It is situated on a gentle poorly drained north-facing slope on a peaty substrate. There is locally developed willow scrub and also the remains of pingo ramparts.

Purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea* is the dominant grass species, but in the drier areas bents *Agrostis spp.*, fescues *Festuca spp.* and mat-grass *Nardus stricta* also occur. Tormentil *Potentilla erecta* is characteristic of these drier areas. The more extensive wet areas are the most species-rich, where the vegetation falls into distinct zones. There are wet flushes dominated by sharp-flowered rush *Juncus acutiflorus* and jointed rush *J. articulatus*, and where these follow watercourses this vegetation type is edged with tufted hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*. Herb species are variably represented and include such species as sneezewort *Achillea ptarmica*. The other main vegetation type is wet purple moor-grass heath in which bog-mosses *Sphagnum spp.* may be frequent. Other components include heather *Calluna vulgaris*, cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum* and various sedges *Carex spp.*

Remarks:

The site is registered as common land.

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