

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

**SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION**

**POWYS**

**COED Y LAWNT A COED OLI**

**Date of Notification:** 1985

**National Grid Reference:** SJ 047131

**O.S. Maps:** 1:50,000 Sheet number: 125  
1:25,000 Sheet number: SJ 01

**Site Area:** 11.4 ha

**Description:**

The site is a good example of a wet hillside woodland characterised by birch, with a significant amount of alder and including a wet moss carpet in the ground layer. It has affinities with mixed deciduous woodland developed on hill plateaux or slopes in which alder is frequent. It also shares some of the characteristics of the more common acid sessile oak woodland.

Coed y Lawnt lies between 183 and 244 metres (600 and 800 feet) above sea level and on north-facing slopes above Nant Cringae. It has a stockproof boundary but is used by stock for grazing and shelter.

Birch is the dominant tree and sessile oak is abundant. Alder and rowan are widely distributed in this rather heterogenous site. The majority of the trees are mature, but there is a small proportion of young trees and saplings. Hazel contributes to a poorly developed shrub-layer.

The ground-layer is very varied. Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* is locally abundant, but flushes with abundant bog-mosses *Sphagnum spp.* are widespread throughout the wood. Moss carpets are locally dominant. Although the herb-layer is not well developed and tends to be grass-dominated mainly *Agrostis/Anthoxanthum/Holcus*, with abundant wood-sorrel *Oxalis acetosella* characterising some areas, the habitat diversity produces a wide variety of species for the site as a whole. Species with a good representation are ferns, notably hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, lady-fern *Athyrium filix-femina* and soft shield-fern *Polystichum setiferum*, and moisture-loving plants such as opposite-leaved golden-saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, bog stitchwort *Stellaria alsine* and marsh violet *Viola palustris*.

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