

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

NEWPORT

LANGSTONE – LLANMARTIN MEADOWS

Date of Notification:

1987

National Grid Reference:

ST 385895, ST 382897

O.S. Maps:

1:50,000 Sheet number: 171

1:25,000 Sheet number: ST 38

Site Area:

2.16 ha

Description:

The site is comprised of two unimproved wet meadows located in the same hydrological unit which are the remnants of a formerly more extensive low lying area of meadow and fen. Together they exemplify a wide range of mesotrophic grassland and wetland community types.

The soils are a mixture of loamy clays of the Worcester Series and peat which is near or at the surface. Part of the site is flushed with base rich water originating from Carboniferous Limestone strata located within the catchment.

The two main mesotrophic grassland communities are the typical sub-community of *Holcus lanatus* – *Juncus effusus* rush pasture and *Cynosurus cristatus* – *Caltha palustris* flood pasture. The wetter areas support Fen Meadow and the *Molinia caerulea* mire variant of the Wet Meadow Complex.

The site is also important for the large number of locally rare species which are present, most notably meadow thistle *Cirsium dissectum*, fen orchid *Dactylorhiza praetermissa*, fragrant orchid *Gymnadenia conopsea*, fen bedstraw *Galium uliginosum* and blunt-flowered rush *Juncus subnodulosus*.

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