

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

**POWYS**

**GWEUNYDD LLECHWEDD-NEWYDD**

**Date of Notification:** 1984, 1990

**National Grid Reference:** SH 960127

**O.S. Maps:** 1:50,000 Sheet number: 125  
1:25,000 Sheet number: SH 91

**Site Area:** 3.2 ha

**Description:**

This site comprises a series of agriculturally unimproved fields lying on gently sloping land in the Banwy valley near Foel. It is one of the larger areas of botanically-rich acidic-neutral grassland remaining in Montgomeryshire. Several locally uncommon plants are present.

Much of the pasture is broadly neutral in nature and is dominated by mixtures of common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus* and Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus*. Common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, common bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata* and red clover *Trifolium pratense* are frequent throughout, along with species such as yarrow *Achillea millefolium*, cat's-ear *Hypochoeris radicata*, autumn hawkbit *Leontodon autumnalis*, field wood-rush *Luzula campestris*, meadow buttercup *Ranunculus acris* and common sorrel *Rumex acetosa*. Locally the sward is characterised by an abundance of tormentil *Potentilla erecta* and devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, along with a wide range of other species, including heath-grass *Danthonia decumbens*, glaucous sedge *Carex flacca*, carnation sedge *C. panicea*, pale sedge *C. pallescens*, flea sedge *C. pulicaris*, heath spotted-orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata* subsp. *ericetorum*, bitter-vetch *Lathyrus montanus*, rough hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus*, fairy flax *Linum catharticum*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica* and the nationally uncommon wood bitter-vetch *Vicia orobus*, which is very rare in Montgomeryshire.

Within the pasture fields steep banks support a sward dominated by common bent and fescues *Festuca* spp., with frequent sweet vernal-grass, crested dog's-tail, common bird's-foot-trefoil, meadow buttercup, ribwort plantain and clovers *Trifolium* spp., and also a range of other characteristic species such as harebell *Campanula rotundifolia*, pignut *Conopodium majus*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile* and tormentil. Heather *Calluna vulgaris* and petty whin *Genista anglica* occur locally within this community. Wet hollows at the southern end of the site support a community dominated by rushes *Juncus*

spp. Associated species here include Yorkshire-fog, carnation sedge, sneezewort *Achillea ptarmica*, meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, greater bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus uliginosus*, bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum*, lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, lesser skullcap *Scutellaria minor*, devil's-bit scabious, marsh violet *Viola palustris* and the locally uncommon northern marsh-orchid *Dactylorhiza purpurella*.

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