CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS	GWEUNYDD TY'N-Y-LLIDIART
Date of Notification:	1990
National Grid Reference:	SN 909658
<u>O.S. Maps:</u>	1:50,000 Sheet number: 147 1:25,000 Sheet number: SN 96
<u>Site Area:</u>	11.1 ha

Description:

This site comprises a series of rough pasture fields situated on gently sloping ground to the west of Garreg-ddu Reservoir. The site is notable in displaying an excellent example of the range of dry and damp unimproved pasture types once typical of the upland fringe in this part of Wales, but now getting scarce due to land improvement. More than one hundred species of higher plants are known to occur here.

The damp pasture exhibits a transition from a sward dominated by purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea* with bents *Agrostis spp.*, sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina*, Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus* and herbs such as tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, heath spotted-orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, saw-wort *Serratula tinctoria* and devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis* – through a more tussocky community where purple moor-grass is accompanied by tormentil and species such as bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum*, marsh violet *Viola palustris*, ivy-leaved bellflower *Wahlenbergia hederacea* and bogmosses *Sphagnum spp.* – to a series of 'heathy' flushes where deergrass *Trichophorum cespitosum* is abundant, along with frequent cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, common cottongrass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, star sedge *Carex echinata*, carnation sedge *C. panicea* and round-leaved sundew *Drosera rotundifolia*. The drier slopes and bank support a sward dominated by bents, sweet vernal-grass and crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, with frequent heath-grass *Danthonia decumbens*, tormentil, common sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, fairy flax *Linum catharticum*, great burnet *Sanguisorba officinalis*, saw-wort and betony *Stachys officinalis*.

Additional interest is provided by the presence of scattered trees, rock outcrops and old hedgerows within the site.

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