

File ref:

**County:** Nottinghamshire **Site name:** Normanton Pastures

**District:** Rushcliffe

**Status:** Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

**Local Planning Authority:** Rushcliffe Borough Council

**National Grid Reference:** SK 625332 **Area:** 16.74 (ha) 41.35 (ac)

**Ordnance Survey Sheet 1: 50 000:** 129 **1: 10 000:** SK 63 SW

**Date Notified (Under 1949 Act):** 1981 **Date of Last Revision:**

**Date Notified (Under 1981 Act):** 1983 **Date of Last Revision:** -

**Other Information:**

**Reasons for Notification:**

The site comprises one of the best remaining examples of neutral pasture in Nottinghamshire, and is representative of species-rich grasslands developed on clay-loam soils in Central and Eastern England.

**Biology:**

The pasture lies on ridge and furrow topography, and has developed on soils derived from clays of the Triassic Keuper Marl series. The grassland community is characterised by the abundance of crested dog's tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, cock's foot *Dactylis glomerata*, perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne*, yellow oat-grass *Trisetum flavescens*, common bent *Agrostis tenuis* and quaking grass *Briza media*, and possess a wide range of herbs including pignut *Conopodium majus*, hayrattle *Rhinanthus minor*, cowslip *Primula veris*, sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, lady's mantle *Alchemilla vestita*, meadow saxifrage *Saxifraga granulata* and adder's tongue fern *Ophioglossum vulgatum*. There is evidence that the soils become calcareous locally since in some areas the grassland community changes to include such calcicolous plant species as upright brome *Zerna erectus*, salad burnet *Poterium sanguisorba* and hairy violet *Viola hirta*.