

COUNTY: HEREFORD & WORCESTER SITE NAME: ORCHID BANK, WINSLOW
MILL

DISTRICT: MALVERN HILLS

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

Local Planning Authority: HEREFORD & WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL, Malvern Hills District Council

National Grid Reference: SO 625362 Area: 0.485 (ha.) 1.2 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 149 1:10,000: SO 63 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1975 Date of Last Revision: 1975

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1985 Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

Orchid Bank, Winslow Mill is a steep south facing pasture lying on the Silurian limestone of the Woolhope Dome.

The site is noted for the richness and variety of its vegetation, the calcareous nature of the soils and southerly aspect. The dominant grasses are red fescue *Festuca rubra*, sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum* and creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera*, whilst glaucous sedge *Carex flacca* and spring sedge *Carex caryophyllea* are also abundant.

The herbaceous flora contains a number of locally uncommon species such as milk-vetch *Astragalus glycyphyllos*, green-winged orchid *Orchis morio*, great butterfly orchid *Platanthera chlorantha*. Other orchid species include common spotted orchid *Dactylorhiza fuchsii*, twayblade *Listera ovata* and early purple orchid *Orchis mascula*.

The site is also noted for the presence of wild daffodil *Narcissus pseudo narcissus*.