

COUNTY: HEREFORD & WORCESTER

SITE NAME: SEVERN VALLEY  
GRASSLANDS, 4 TUDOR  
COTTAGE MEADOW

DISTRICT: MALVERN HILLS

SITE REF: 15 P5K

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

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

National Grid Reference: SO 781341

Area: 0.53 (ha.) 1.31 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 150

1:10,000: SO 73 SE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): –

Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 15 March 1994

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

New site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

Tudor Cottage Meadow is a small meadow situated on level ground north of Portway, in south Worcestershire. It has been traditionally managed as a hay meadow but without aftermath grazing. The meadow is in the central undulating plain of Worcestershire and overlies Mercia Mudstones of the Triassic Period.

The special interest of the site lies in the richness of the mesotrophic (neutral) grassland characterised by crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus* and common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*. It is typical of the meadow vetchling *Lathyrus pratensis* sub-community with sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, tor grass *Brachypodium pinnatum*, yellow rattle *Rhinanthus minor*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, tufted vetch *Vicia cracca* and common bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*. Locally uncommon species found within the sward are green-winged orchid *Orchis morio*, adder's-tongue fern *Ophioglossum vulgatum*, dyer's greenweed *Genista tinctoria* and saw-wort *Serratula tinctoria*.

The meadow is bounded by hedges dominated by hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* on all sides.