

COUNTY: HEREFORD & WORCESTER
GRASSLANDS, 17 TRICKSES HOLE

SITE NAME: SEVERN VALLEY

DISTRICT: REDDITCH

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,
Redditch District Council

National Grid Reference: SP 004639

Area: 2.91 (ha.) 7.19 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 150

1:10,000: SP 06 SW

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:

Trickses Hole is located in the north-west of the central Worcestershire plain, west of Cruise Hill and two kilometres north of Feckenham. The two fields are maintained by traditional management, one as a hay meadow and the other as pasture. They overlie Mercia Mudstones of the Triassic Period.

The special interest of this site lies in the diversity of the semi-natural mesotrophic (neutral) grassland characterised by crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus* and common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*. Both fields support a herb-rich vegetation including devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, cowslip *Primula veris* betony *Stachys officinalis*, sneezewort *Achillea ptarmica*, meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria* and ragged-robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi*.

Locally uncommon species present include saw-wort *Serratula tinctoria* and pepper-saxifrage *Silaum silaus*.

The northern boundary comprises a stream which has alder *Alnus glutinosa*, willow *Salix sp* and hazel *Coryllus avellana* trees. The remaining boundaries have mature hedges consisting of hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, field maple *Acer campestre*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*.

Invertebrates recorded include meadow brown *Maniola jurtina*, gatekeeper *Pyronia tithonus*, small skipper *Thymelicus flavus* and five-spot burnet moth *Zygaena trifolii*.