

CITATION

**DALVEICH MEADOW
SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST**
Stirling

Site code: 493

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NN 608245

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series 51
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series 365

AREA: 36.66 hectares

NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

**Biological: Lowland grasslands: Lowland calcareous grassland
: Lowland neutral grassland**

DESCRIPTION

Dalveich Meadow Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) lies on a steeply south-facing slope on the north shore of Loch Earn, about a mile east of Lochearnhead village. The site supports one of the largest areas of unimproved lowland grassland habitat in the Stirling Council area.

The grassland has developed on nutrient-rich soils associated with the Loch Tay Limestone. A range of soil conditions, from dry nutrient-poor soils to mineral-enriched groundwater flushes, occur on steep south-facing slopes. In response to these varied soil conditions a variety of grassland plant communities have developed, including species-rich communities. The mosaic of communities present includes extensive areas of lowland neutral grassland, characterised by species such as crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, meadow vetchling *Lathyrus pratensis*, and yellow-rattle *Rhinanthus minor*. Where underlying soils are more base-rich or wetter, the mosaic also includes smaller areas of calcareous grassland with frequent quaking-grass *Briza media*, carnation sedge *Carex panacea*, fairy flax *Linum catharticum*, wild thyme *Thymus polytrichus*, common dog-violet *Viola riviniana* and devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis* with scattered greater butterfly-orchid *Platanthera chlorantha*, fragrant orchid *Gymnadenia conopsea* and Scottish asphodel *Tofieldia pusilla*.

NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the 1981 Act: 26 February 1987
Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act: 16 September 2010

REMARKS

Measured area of site corrected (from 37.1 ha)