

**European Community Directive  
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats  
and of Wild Fauna and Flora  
(92/43/EEC)**

**Second Report by the United Kingdom under  
Article 17  
on the implementation of the Directive  
from January 2001 to December 2006**


**Conservation status assessment for  
Habitat:**

**H6410 - *Molinia* meadows on calcareous, peaty or  
clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*)**

The information in this assessment corresponds to the "habitat fact sheet" submitted by the UK to the European Union in February 2008 (second and final submission). Please note that this is a section of the UK's report. For the complete report visit <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/article17>

Please cite as: Joint Nature Conservation Committee. 2007. *Second Report by the UK under Article 17 on the implementation of the Habitats Directive from January 2001 to December 2006*. Peterborough: JNCC. Available from: [www.jncc.gov.uk/article17](http://www.jncc.gov.uk/article17)

**Habitat Name: *Molinia* meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils  
(*Molinion caeruleae*)**

1. National level	
Habitat Code	H6410
Member State	UK
Biogeographic regions concerned within the MS	ATL
1.1 Habitat range map	

## 1.2 Habitat distribution map



## 2. Biogeographic level

2.1 Biogeographic region or marine region

ATL

2.2 Published sources and/or websites

BLACKSTOCK, T.H., RIMES, C.A., STEVENS, D.P., JEFFERSON, R.G., ROBERTSON, H.J., MACKINTOSH, J. & HOPKINS, J.J. 1998.. The extent of semi-natural grassland communities in lowland England and Wales: a review of conservation surveys 1978-96. *Grass & Forage Science*, 54, 1-18.

BLACKSTOCK, T.H., STEVENS, D.P. & YEO, M.J.M 1997. Conservation and management of *Molinia* and *Juncus* pastures in Wales, with reference to agri-environment schemes. In: R.D. Sheldrick ed. 1997. *Grassland Management in the Environmentally Sensitive Areas*. British Grassland Society, Occasional Symposium No.32, 150-159.

BLACKSTOCK, T.H., STEVENS, D.P., STEVENS, P.A., MOCKRIDGE, C.P. & YEO, M.J.M. 1998.. Edaphic relationships among *Cirsio-Molinietum* and related wet grassland communities in lowland Wales. *Journal of Vegetation Science*, 9, 431-444.

	<p>BRAITHWAITE, M.E., ELLIS, R.W. &amp; PRESTON, C.D. 2006. Change in the British Flora 1987-2004. Botanical Society of the British Isles, London, UK.</p> <p>EUROPEAN COMMISSION DG ENVIRONMENT (2003) Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. EU25.  <a href="http://www.ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/nature_conservation/eu_enlargement/2004/pdf/habitats_im_en.pdf#search=%22Interpretation%20manual%20of%20European%20habitats%22">www.ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/nature_conservation/eu_enlargement/2004/pdf/habitats_im_en.pdf#search=%22Interpretation%20manual%20of%20European%20habitats%22</a></p> <p>HEWINS, E.J., PINCHES, C., ARNOLD, J., LUSH, M., ROBERTSON, H. &amp; ESCOTT, S. 2005. The condition of lowland BAP priority grasslands: results from a sample survey of non-statutory stands in England. English Nature Research Report No 636. Peterborough: English Nature.</p> <p>JACKSON, DL &amp; MCLEOD, CR (eds.) 2000. Handbook on the UK status of EC Habitats Directive interest features: provisional data on the UK distribution and extent of Annex I habitats and the UK distribution and population size of Annex II species. JNCC Report, No. 312. Version 2. <a href="http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2447">www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2447</a></p> <p>JOINT NATURE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE 2005. Common Standards Monitoring (CSM). Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough  <a href="http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2217">www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2217</a></p> <p>MCLEOD, CR, YEO, M, BROWN, AE, BURN, AJ, HOPKINS, JJ, &amp; WAY, SF (eds.) 2007. The Habitats Directive: selection of Special Areas of Conservation in the UK. 2nd edn. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough  <a href="http://www.jncc.gov.uk/SACselection">www.jncc.gov.uk/SACselection</a></p> <p>PRESTON, C D, PEARMAN, D A, &amp; DINES, T. D. 2002. New Atlas of the British and Irish flora. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.</p> <p>RODWELL, J.R., MOSS, D., MORGAN, V. &amp; JEFFERSON, R.G. 2007. The European Context of British Lowland Grasslands. JNCC Report</p> <p>Map data sources  Data used to compile J.S. Rodwell, V. Morgan, R.G. Jefferson &amp; D. Moss (2007) The European context of British Lowland Grasslands. JNCC Report No. 394. Joint Nature Conservation Committee</p> <p>JNCC International Designations Database. Joint Nature Conservation Committee</p>
--	---

### 2.3 Range of the habitat within the Biogeographic or marine region

2.3.1 Surface area of range in square km	81903
2.3.2 Date of range determination	05/2007
2.3.3 Quality of data concerning range	Moderate
2.3.4 Range trend	Stable (=)
2.3.5 Range trend magnitude in %	Not applicable
2.3.6 Range trend period	1994-2006
2.3.7 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable

### 2.4 Area covered by habitat type within the range in the biogeographical region concerned.

2.4.1 Surface area of the habitat type (sq km)	38.5
2.4.2 Date of area estimation	05/2007
2.4.3 Method used for area estimation	1 - Only or mostly based on expert opinion
2.4.4 Quality of data on area	Moderate
2.4.5 Area trend	Decreasing (-)
2.4.6 Area trend magnitude in %	>1% per annum
2.4.7 Area trend period	1990-2002
2.4.8 Reasons for reported trend	3 - Direct human influence; 4 - Indirect anthropo or zoogenic influence;
2.4.9 Justification of % thresholds for trends (optional)	Not applicable
2.4.10 Main pressures	101 - Modification of cultivation practices; 120 - Fertilisation; 140 - Grazing; 141 - Abandonment of pastoral systems; 162 - Artificial planting; 701 - water pollution; 950 - Biocenotic evolution;
2.4.11 Threats	101 - Modification of cultivation practices; 120 - Fertilisation; 140 - Grazing; 141 - Abandonment of pastoral systems; 162 - Artificial planting; 701 - water pollution; 702 - air pollution; 950 - Biocenotic evolution;
<b>Complementary information</b>	
2.5.1 Favourable reference range (sq km)	81903
2.5.2 Favourable reference area (sq km)	45
2.5.3 Typical species	<i>Carex hostiana</i> ; <i>Carex pulicaris</i> ; <i>Cirsium dissectum</i> ; <i>Crepis paludosa</i> ; <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> ; <i>Succisa pratensis</i> ;
2.5.4 Typical species assessment	Change in 10km square occupancy over past 25 yrs
2.5.5 Other relevant information	
<b>2.6 Conclusions (assessment of conservation status at end of reporting period)</b>	
(2.3) Range	(FV) - Favourable
(2.4) Area	(U2-) - Bad and deteriorating
(2.5) Specific structures and functions (incl. typical species)	(U2+) - Bad but improving
Future prospects	(U1) - Inadequate
Overall assessment	(U2-) - Bad and deteriorating