

**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:  
H9130 - *Asperulo-Fagetum* beech forests**

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: *Asperulo-Fagetum* beech forests

### 1. National level

Habitat Code H9130

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

HALL, J. 1997. An analysis of National Vegetation Classification survey data. JNCC Report 272, Peterborough.

MOUNTFORD, E.P. 2006. Long-term patterns and impacts of grey squirrel debarking in Lady Park Wood young-growth stands (UK). *Forest Ecology and Management* 232, 100-113.

PETERKEN, G.F. 1993. *Woodland Conservation and Management* (2nd Edition). Chapman and Hall, London.

RODWELL, J.S. (ed.) 1991. *British Plant Communities Volume 1: Woodlands and Scrub*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

RODWELL, J. & DRING, J. 2001. European significance of British woodland types. English Nature Research Report No. 460 (Volumes 1-2). English Nature,

	<p>Peterborough.</p> <p>RACKHAM, O. 2003. Ancient Woodland: its History, Vegetation and Uses in England (New Edition). Castlepoint Press, Dalbeattie.</p> <p>SPENCER, J.W. &amp; KIRBY, K.J. 1992. An inventory of ancient woodland for England and Wales. Biological Conservation 62, 77-93.</p> <p>UKBAP Habitat Action Plan for lowland beech and yew woodland. Available via UKBAP website <a href="http://www.ukbap.org.uk/">http://www.ukbap.org.uk/</a></p> <p>WESCHE, S., KIRBY, K.J. &amp; GHAZOUL, J. 2006. Plant assemblages in British beech woodlands within and beyond native range: Implications of future climate change for their conservation, Forest Ecology and Management 236, 385-392.</p> <p>Map Data Sources</p> <p>JNCC International Designations Database. Joint Nature Conservation Committee.</p> <p>NVC Woodland Community Access Database. Joint Nature Conservation Committee.</p>
<b>2.3 Range of the habitat within the Biogeographic or marine region</b>	
2.3.1 Surface area of range in square km	27836
2.3.2 Date of range determination	05/2007
2.3.3 Quality of data concerning range	Good
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
<b>2.4 Area covered by habitat type within the range in the biogeographical region concerned.</b>	
2.4.1 Surface area of the habitat type (sq km)	122.5
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	Stable (=)
2.4.6 Area trend magnitude in %	Not applicable
2.4.7 Area trend period	1994-2006
2.4.8 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable
2.4.9 Justification of % thresholds for trends (optional)	Not applicable

2.4.10 Main pressures	151 - Removal of hedges and copses; 160 - General Forestry management; 161 - Planting; 162 - Artificial planting; 163 - Replanting; 164 - Forestry clearance; 165 - Removal of undergrowth; 166 - Removal of dead and dying trees; 190 - Agriculture and forestry activities not referred to above; 702 - air pollution; 950 - Biocenotic evolution; 954 - invasion by a species; 966 - antagonism arising from introduction of species; 969 - other forms or mixed forms of interspecific faunal competition; 990 - Other natural processes;
2.4.11 Threats	151 - Removal of hedges and copses; 160 - General Forestry management; 161 - Planting; 162 - Artificial planting; 163 - Replanting; 164 - Forestry clearance; 165 - Removal of undergrowth; 166 - Removal of dead and dying trees; 190 - Agriculture and forestry activities not referred to above; 702 - air pollution; 954 - invasion by a species; 966 - antagonism arising from introduction of species; 969 - other forms or mixed forms of interspecific faunal competition; 990 - Other natural processes;
<b>Complementary information</b>	
2.5.1 Favourable reference range (sq km)	
2.5.2 Favourable reference area (sq km)	135
2.5.3 Typical species	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i> ; <i>Campanula trachelium</i> ; <i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i> ; <i>Daphne laureola</i> ; <i>Melica uniflora</i> ; <i>Neottia nidus-avis</i> ;
2.5.4 Typical species assessment	Change in 10 km square occupancy across last 25yrs
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	(U1+) - Inadequate but improving
(2.5) Specific structures and functions (incl. typical species)	(U2+) - Bad but improving
Future prospects	(FV) - Favourable
Overall assessment	(U2+) - Bad but improving