

# 52. Cors Ian

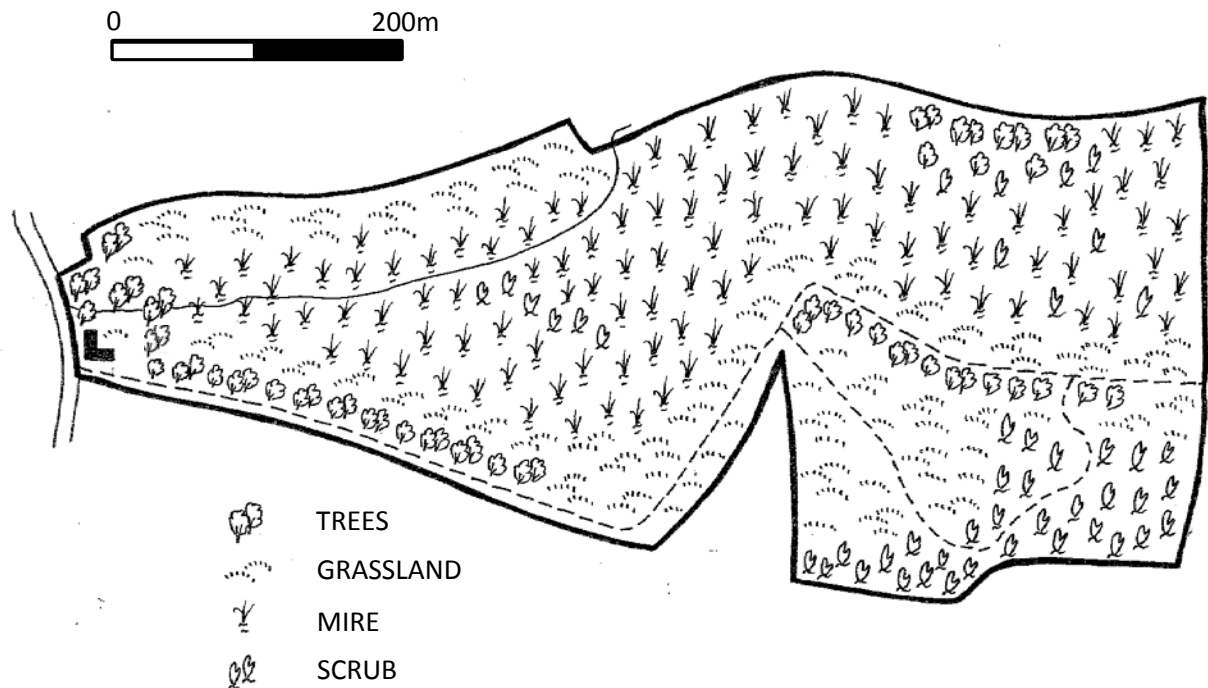
Lledrod, Ceredigion

Grid References	O.S. Explorer map 199 Lampeter. Main entrance: SN669696, Site centre: SN675696
Status	
Tenure	Cors Ian was purchased for the Trust by Mrs Marlene Matthews in memory of her son, a student at Aberystwyth University.
Size	15.4 ha (38.1 acres)
Location and Access Notes	Off road parking for several cars. Not accessible to wheelchairs. A public footpath runs along the southern boundary and permissive paths lead to the hill top.
Public Transport	The T21 Aberystwyth to Tregaron stops in Tynygraig, a 4 km walk along narrow lanes to the reserve or the 585 Aberystwyth to Lampeter, stops in Lledrod, a 3.5km walk to reserve.

**Description:** Valley mire and gorse hillside. Fen plants and Water Voles. Cors Ian is an upland valley mire with an interesting mosaic of habitats, hiding a wide array of marsh plants. Amongst the *Molinia* tufts and rushes a small population of Water Voles is thriving, nesting above ground with their territory extending some way from the central overgrown streambed.

Resident birds on the mire include breeding Grasshopper Warblers and Reed Buntings, with Stonechats, Whinchats and Meadow Pipits on the drier heath. The old hedgerows provide nest sites for Redstarts, Tits and Wrens whilst around the old stables are nesting Spotted and Pied Flycatchers, Swallows and Garden Warblers in the scrub area. Birds of prey that can be seen include Buzzard, Red Kite, tawny owls and occasional Hen Harrier, with corvids including Raven.

Dragonflies, notably the Keeled Skimmer, thrive wherever there is surface water but the most dramatic Golden Ringed Dragonfly can be found hunting amongst the gorse. There are many commoner species of butterflies but also the Marsh Violets support a small population of Small Pearl-bordered Fritillaries.



**Management objectives:** To protect the species of particular conservation interest and to maintain the mosaic of habitats, preventing invasion of scrub through livestock grazing and clearance of gorse and scrub.

#### Good times to visit

Mar-Aug	Mire plants
May-Jul	Breeding birds, dragonflies
Sept-Nov	Fungi, migrant birds