SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: BROWN'S FARM, TOGHER CROSS ROADS

SITE CODE: 001169

Brown's Farm is located c. 1.75km west of the village of Glanworth and some 10km north-west of Fermoy town in east County Cork. This site is just west of the Glanworth Ponds site (000085), also on the Glanworth to Shanballymore road.

It is a small site comprising 4 fields and at the intersection of their hedges in the middle, is a small area of exposed mud whose vegetation is trampled and grazed. Here the Red Data Book species Golden Dock (*Rumex maritimus*) is found in association with Nodding Bur-marigold (*Bidens cernua*), water-starworts (*Callitriche* spp.) and Water-purslane (*Lythrum portula*). This is another new record for the Golden Dock in East Cork found in a rare Plant Survey of the area in 1992/3.

Golden Dock is a Red Data Book species whose occurrence is apparently in decline. Often its appearance is only fleeting as it depends on low water levels to provide the right conditions and stimulus for seed germination. This site contains hundreds of immature plants and should be considered for conservation and NHA status to protect this rare plant, to monitor its growth and health and to protect it in future years from threats such as field drainage.

17.11.2009