SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: LEAMLARA WOOD

SITE CODE: 001064

This site is situated 6km north-west of Midleton in the steep sided valley of the Leamlara River.

In 1986 An Foras Forbartha provided the following description of the site.

The woodland is dominated by oak (*Quercus* spp.) which reach up to 20-24m in height. While oak is the major canopy species, there are also quite large areas of Hazel (*Corylus avellana*), birch (*Betula* spp.) and willow (*Salix* spp.), especially on the richer ground towards the river. These trees also form an understorey with Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) beneath the oaks. The ground flora consists of Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), Great Wood-rush (*Luzula sylvatica*), Hay-scented Buckler-fern (*Dryopteris aemula*) and Hard Fern (*Blechnum spicant*).

The abundance of Hay-scented Buckler-fern is noteworthy as, although this species is common in Ireland, it is considered vulnerable in European terms.

The main land use occurring within the woodland is shooting.

This area is considered of local importance as there are few areas of semi-natural oak woodland in east Cork and it is a good example of this community.

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