

COUNTY: SUFFOLK SITE NAME: POTTON HALL FIELDS,
WESTLETON

DISTRICT: SUFFOLK COASTAL

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended

Local Planning Authority: SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL, Suffolk Coastal District
Council

National Grid Reference: TM 457706 Area: 16.91 (ha.) 41.78 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50 000: 156 1:10000: TM 47 SE

Data Notified (Under 1949 Act): – Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1992 Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

A new site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

Potton Hall Fields are of special interest for their populations of the nationally rare Red-tipped Cudweed *Filago lutescens*, several thousand of which have been recorded there. The plant occurs in only two other counties in Britain and, being listed on Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, is protected under the provisions of Section 13 of the Act.

The site comprises two gently sloping fields with a narrow watercourse running between them. The soils, being derived from glaciofluvial drift, are well drained and sandy.

The land has been utilised for arable cropping until recently and is still predominantly bare ground. The Red-tipped Cudweed occurs in large patches throughout the site along with various ruderals including Scarlet Pimpernel *Anagallis arvensis*, Common Ragwort *Senecio jacobea* and Hare's-foot Clover *Trifolium arvense*.