

<b>Scientific name</b>	<i>Glyceria maxima</i> swamp
<b>Common name</b>	Reed Sweet-grass swamp
<b>Community code</b>	FW3L

### Vegetation

The tall shoots of *Glyceria maxima* strongly dominate this emergent swamp community forming dense stands. No other species are constants but frequently found here are *Agrostis stolonifera*, *Epilobium hirsutum* and *Iris pseudacorus*.

### Ecology

These stands occur in the lowlands along the margins of lakes, ditches and canals.

### Sub-communities

No sub-communities are currently described.

### Similar communities

This is a distinct community which should be easily recognised.

### Records and distribution

#### Number of records (all)

Clearly assigned:	30
Transitional:	3
Total:	33

#### Number of records (mapped)

2001-2020:	9
1986-2000:	24
1971-1985:	0
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	33

#### Number of hectads (by most recent time period)

2001-2020:	6
1986-2000:	3
1971-1985:	0
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	9

#### Number of hectads (records in each time period)

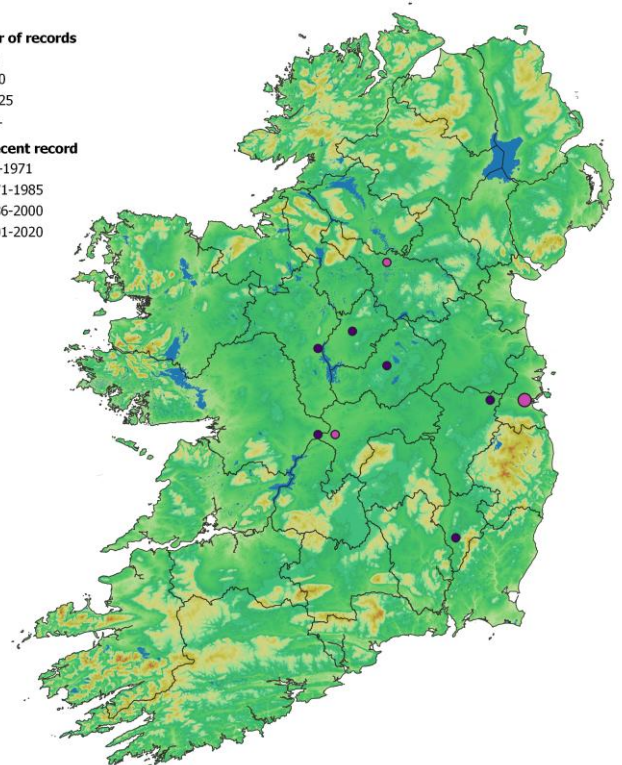
2001-2020:	6
1986-2000:	3
1971-1985:	0
Pre-1971:	0

#### Number of records

- 1-3
- 4-10
- 11-25
- 26+

#### Most recent record

- pre-1971
- 1971-1985
- 1986-2000
- 2001-2020



### Synoptic table (*n* = 9)

Species	Frequency	Cover	Species	Frequency	Cover
	(from I-V)	min (med) max		(from I-V)	min (med) max
<i>Glyceria maxima</i>	V	7-(8)-10	<i>Stellaria palustris</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	III	+- (5)-5	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	I	4-(4)-4
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	III	4-(4)-5	<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	III	4-(7)-8			
<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	II	1-(2)-4			
<i>Galium palustre</i>	II	2-(3)-4			
<i>Lemna minor</i>	II	+- (3)-3			
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	II	+- (3)-3			
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	II	4-(4)-4			
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	I	7-(7)-7			
<i>Berula erecta</i>	I	4-(4)-4			
<i>Carex disticha</i>	I	5-(5)-5			
<i>Equisetum palustre</i>	I	1-(1)-1			
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	I	1-(1)-1			
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	I	+- (+)-+			
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	I	4-(4)-4			
<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	I	1-(1)-1			
<i>Rorippa amphibia</i>	I	5-(5)-5			
<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	I	3-(3)-3			

#### Affinities

GHI: FS1 Reed and large sedge swamps  
 ZM: OD01A Phragmition communis Koch 1926)  
 EUNIS: C3.251 Sweetgrass beds  
 NVC: S5 *Glyceria maxima* swamp (56.9%)  
 Annex I: No significant correspondence

#### Proxy environmental data

Light: 7.0 Reaction: 6.8 Wetness: 9.5 Fertility: 7.4 Salinity: 0.2

#### Conservation value

This is a species-poor plant community but it can support the EU HD Annex II species Desmoulin's whorl snail (*Vertigo moulinsiana*).

#### Management

These swamp stands are essentially unmanaged. The main threats to them are through eutrophication and drainage.

#### Key references

Long, M.P., Brophy, J.T. (2019) Monitoring of sites and habitat for three Annex II species of whorl snail (*Vertigo*). *Irish Wildlife Manuals* No. 104. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin.  
 Conaghan, J. (1999) The vegetation, ecology and conservation of the Lough Oughter lake system, Co. Cavan. (unpublished). The Heritage Council, Kilkenny.  
 O'Neill, F.H., Martin, J.R., Devaney, F.M., Perrin, P.M. (2013) The Irish Semi-natural Grasslands Survey 2007-2012. *Irish Wildlife Manuals* No. 78. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin.

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Photo 1. FW3L *Glyceria maxima* swamp, Louisa Bridge, Kildare (J. Brophy, October 2014)



Photo 2. FW3L *Glyceria maxima* swamp, Kildallan Bridge, Westmeath (J. Brophy, October 2016)