

**F-A1 Pink Waxcap *Hygrocybe calyptriformis***  
**SPECIES STATEMENT**

**1. Current Status**

- 1.1 Habitats include lawns, grassy meadows, pastures and woodland margins. Fruiting bodies, which are seldom abundant, generally appear between September and November.
- 1.2 They have attractive pointed caps 5-7 cm tall and a white or pinkish stem up to 10 cm tall. Being a conspicuous species, it is thought that it may be better recorded than other waxcap fungi as they are relatively easily identified by the amateur. This fungus is one of a group of the often brightly-coloured waxcap fungi (*Hygrocybe* spp) which are typically associated with unimproved grassland and which are reported to have declined across Europe.

**2. Current factors causing loss or decline**

- 2.1 Improvement of its grassland habitat through ploughing or addition of fertilisers.
- 2.2 Changes in management practice.
- 2.3 Pressure from built development.
- 2.4 Reduction in the levels of grazing or mowing, leading to growth of rank vegetation and woody species. (Long grass also makes them harder to find and can therefore be overlooked).

**3. Current action**

- 3.1 This species is currently included on several action plans in Wales.
- 3.2 In Monmouthshire this fungus is a key species in the Grassland Fungi project funded by the CCW Species Challenge Fund.

**4. Target**

- 4.1 Maintain the range of the pink waxcap in Monmouthshire.

**5. Proposed Action**

- 5.1 Continue surveying known sites and searching for new sites - 3 year project finishing in 2009. Lead Partner: Gwent Fungus Group.

**6. Links with other action plans**

- Species Rich grassland and floodplain pastures
- Olive earthtongue