



## Moth Survey Report

### Summary

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Location:</b>                      | Green Cross Cottage, South Garden (TQ3615)   |
| <b>Date:</b>                          | 07/04/2026   |
| <b>Survey Method(s):</b>              | MV Light   |
| <b>Recorders(s):</b>                  | Chris Chapman  |
| <b>Moth Count:</b>                    | 92   |
| <b>Species Count:<br/>(see notes)</b> | 20<br>New for Year: 9<br>New for Location: 1<br>Total new species for Location this Year: 1<br>Species Count for Year: 41<br>Species Total for Location: 526 |
| <b>Non-species Count:</b>             | 0  |
| <b>Notable Record Count:</b>          | 7  |

### Full List

NFG = New Species For Location/Garden NFY = New Species For Year

| Species   | Count | Type  | Sussex Status       | Comment  |
|---|-------|-------|---------------------|--|
| Barred Tooth-striped ( <i>Trichopteryx polycommata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup> | 1     | Macro | Very Scarce (108)   |  |
| Blossom Underwing ( <i>Orthosia miniosa</i> )                           | 2     | Macro | Scarce (230)        | A relatively scarce resident and occasional immigrant. Single brooded flying mainly from mid-March to mid-May. Larvae feed on Oak. Has had a chequered history in Sussex with the species disappearing and then re-colonising areas of Sussex. |
| Brimstone Moth ( <i>Opisthocraptis luteolata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>       | 1     | Macro | Abundant (17,349)   | A common, resident species. Double brooded, flying from late April to mid July and then again from early August to early October. The larvae feed on hawthorn, apple, plum, hazel and sloe.  |
| Brindled Beauty ( <i>Lycia hirtaria</i> )                               | 3     | Macro | Common (1,801)      | This relatively common species is single brooded occurring from early February to mid-May. Larvae feed on lime, oak & silver birch   |
| Brindled Pug ( <i>Eupithecia abbreviata</i> )                           | 7     | Macro | Common (4,025)      | A relatively common resident species that generally flies from early March to late May. The larvae feed on oak.  |
| Clouded Drab ( <i>Orthosia incerta</i> )                                | 2     | Macro | Common (5,043)      | A resident species generally well distributed. Single-brooded, flying mainly from late February to late May. Larvae feed on oak, willow, apple, white helleborine and hop.   |
| Common Quaker ( <i>Orthosia cerasi</i> )                                | 11    | Macro | Very Common (9,110) | A very common, resident species found in a wide range of habitats. Single-brooded, flying mainly from early February to late May. Larvae feed on birch, willow, oaks, lime, elm, bramble, rose, sweet chestnut, hawthorn and ash.              |
| Early Grey ( <i>Xylocampa areola</i> )                                  | 2     | Macro | Common (6,249)      | A common resident species found in a wide range  |

| Species   | Count | Type  | Sussex Status        | Comment   |
|---|-------|-------|----------------------|---|
|   |       |       |                      | of habitats. Primarily flies from late February to mid May. Larvae feed on honeysuckle.   |
| Frosted Green ( <i>Polyploca ridens</i> )                           | 36    | Macro | Fairly Common (776)  | A fairly common resident that is associated with Oak woods. Single-brooded, flying mainly from early April to mid May. Larvae feed on Oak.  |
| Hebrew Character ( <i>Orthosia gothica</i> )                        | 7     | Macro | Very Common (10,295) | A very common species. Single-brooded and flies mainly from early March to early June. Larvae feed on a large range of trees, shrubs and low-growing plants.  |
| Lead-coloured Drab ( <i>Orthosia populeti</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>      | 2     | Macro | Scarce (271)         |   |
| Least Black Arches ( <i>Nola confusalis</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>        | 1     | Macro | Fairly Common (917)  | This resident species occurs in a wide range of habitats. Well distributed on the chalk. Single-brooded, flying mainly from the third week of April to mid June. Larvae are said to feed on oak leaves in Sussex, although oak-loving lichens have been noted f |
| Lesser Swallow Prominent ( <i>Pheosia gnoma</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>    | 1     | Macro | Common (4,216)       | Resident. The larvae feed on (silver) birch.  |
| Lunar Marbled Brown ( <i>Drymonia ruficornis</i> )                  | 6     | Macro | Common (1,170)       | A common, resident species. Single-brooded, flying mainly from early April to late June, occasionally from late March or to mid July. Larvae feed on oak.   |
| Nut-tree Tussock ( <i>Colocasia coryli</i> )                        | 4     | Macro | Common (4,327)       | A fairly common resident species associated with deciduous. Double-brooded with the largest from the second week of July to the third week of August. Also a significant brood flying mid-April to late May. Larvae feed on beech.                              |
| Oak-tree Pug ( <i>Eupithecia dodoneata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>         | 1     | Macro | Fairly Common (852)  |   |
| Small Quaker ( <i>Orthosia cruda</i> )                              | 2     | Macro | Common (4,821)       | A common species associated with deciduous woods. Single-brooded, flying from mid-February to late April. Larvae feed on oak, silver birch, willow, lime and rose.  |
| Tissue ( <i>Triphosa dubitata</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>              | 1     | Macro | Very Rare (23)       |   |
| Twenty-plume Moth ( <i>Alucita hexadactyla</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>     | 1     | Micro | Common (3,196)       |   |
| White-spotted Pug ( <i>Eupithecia tripunctaria</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup> | 1     | Macro | Common (1,465)       | Resident. Larvae feed on the flowers of hogweed, angelica and wild parsnip.   |

## Notable Records

| Species   | Comment   |
|---|---|
| Tissue ( <i>Triphosa dubitata</i> )                     | A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex;<br>First time recorded at this location.   |
| Blossom Underwing ( <i>Orthosia miniosa</i> )           | A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex   |
| Lead-coloured Drab ( <i>Orthosia populeti</i> )         | A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex;<br>2 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 1.;<br>Likely to be only the 3rd time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington. |
| Barred Tooth-striped ( <i>Trichopteryx polyommata</i> ) | A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex;<br>Likely to be only the 4th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.   |
| Frosted Green ( <i>Polyploca ridens</i> )               | 36 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 12.   |
| White-spotted Pug ( <i>Eupithecia tripunctaria</i> )    | Only the 5th time recorded at this location.  |
| Lesser Swallow Prominent ( <i>Pheosia gnoma</i> )       | Only the 6th time recorded at this location.  |

## Images



Barred Tooth-striped (*Trichopteryx polycommata*)



Blossom Underwing (*Orthosia miniosa*)



Lead-coloured Drab (*Orthosia populeti*)



Least Black Arches (*Nola confusalis*)



Lesser Swallow Prominent (*Pheosia gnoma*)



Lunar Marbled Brown (*Drymonia ruficornis*)



Tissue (*Triphosa dubitata*)

## Notes

The numbers in the **Species Count** section of the **Summary** section only include moths that have been identified to species level.

You can see more details of each species from the [UK Moths website](#) by clicking on the name of the species. This doesn't apply to records at genus level or aggregates.

The Sussex Status is an **unofficial** indication of the likelihood of encountering the species in Sussex based on data sourced from the [Sussex Moth Group](#) website. The number in brackets is the minimum number of times the moth has been recorded in Sussex.

The species comments are primarily sourced from the excellent volumes of **A Revised History of the Butterflies and Moths of Sussex** by C R Pratt.

For further details of the records see [Green Cross Nature](#)

Produced by Chris Chapman ([Plumpton & East Chiltington Wildlife Group](#))