



Moth Survey Report

Summary

Location:	Green Cross Cottage, South Garden (TQ3615)
Date:	09/05/2026
Survey Method(s):	MV Light
Recorders(s):	Chris Chapman
Moth Count:	103
Species Count: (see notes)	57 New for Year: 37 New for Location: 4 Total new species for Location this Year: 9 Species Count for Year: 112 Species Total for Location: 534
Non-species Count:	1
Notable Record Count:	19

Full List

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

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Alder Moth (<i>Acronicta alni</i>) ^{NFY}	2	Macro	Fairly Common (665)	Resident. The larvae feed on beech, birch, hazel, oak and sweet chestnut.
Bee Moth (<i>Aphomia sociella</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Micro	Common (4,308)	Resident. Larvae are associated with the nests of wild bees and wasps.
Bird's Nest Moth (<i>Tinea trinotella</i>) ^{NFY NFG}	1	Micro	Fairly Common (626)	Resident. Larvae breed in the old nests of birds.
Black-headed Conch (<i>Cochylichroa atricapitana</i>)	1	Micro	Common (2,252)	Resident. The larvae feed inside the blossoms and stems of ragwort.
Blood-vein (<i>Timandra comae</i>)	1	Macro	Common (5,613)	Resident. Larvae feed on Dock and other unspecified low-growing plants.
Bright-line Brown-eye (<i>Lacanobia oleracea</i>)	1	Macro	Very Common (14,145)	Resident. Larvae feed on a wide variety of plants including bindweed, bracken, primrose, plantain and dock.
Brimstone Moth (<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>)	2	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.
Broken-barred Carpet (<i>Electrophaes corylata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Fairly Common (895)	Resident. Larvae feed on birch, oak and sloe.
Buff-tip (<i>Phalera bucephala</i>) ^{NFY}	2	Macro	Common (6,382)	Flying mainly from mid-May to mid-August, but also an partial second emergence in September/October. Larvae feed on elm, hornbeam, cherry, oak, sallows and willows, hazel, silver birch, sweet chestnut, alder and lime.
Chocolate-tip (<i>Clostera curtula</i>)	1	Macro	Common (1,053)	

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Cinnabar (<i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>) ^{NFY}	2	Macro	Common (7,718)	Resident. Larvae feed on ragwort, hoary ragwort and (rarely) on groundsel.
Clouded Border (<i>Lomaspilis marginata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (7,447)	A resident species which is often a common visitor to mv light. It is probably generally distributed. It is single-brooded, flying mainly from mid May to late August. Larval foodplants include willow, grey willow, and sometimes aspen, hazel and birch.
Common Marbled Carpet (<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>) ^{NFY}	3	Macro	Very Common (8,879)	Resident. Larvae have a wide variety of food plants.
Common Pug (<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (3,651)	Resident. Larvae feed on hawthorn, willow, bramble and sea buckthorn.
Common Wave (<i>Cabera exanthemata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (5,193)	Resident. Larvae feed on willow including goat willow, (silver) birch, alder and beech.
Common White Wave (<i>Cabera pusaria</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (3,638)	Resident. Larvae feed on (silver) birch, willow and hazel.
Coxcomb Prominent (<i>Ptilodon capucina</i>)	2	Macro	Common (2,014)	A resident which occurs in a wide range of habitats. Well distributed but high numbers are local. Double-brooded, flying mainly from late April to mid June and again from early July to late August. Larvae feed on beech, hazel, oak, (silver) birch and sweet
Daisy Bent-wing (<i>Bucculatrix nigricomella</i>) ^{NFY NFG}	1	Micro	Rare (69)	Resident. Larvae feed on oxeye daisy.
Diamond-back Moth (<i>Plutella xylostella</i>)	1	Micro	Very Common (8,538)	A resident and immigrant species. Larvae feed on turnips, cabbages and allied plants including sea kale. Also associated with marsh yellow-cress.
Flame Shoulder (<i>Ochropleura plecta</i>)	3	Macro	Abundant (19,960)	Resident. Larvae feed on various unidentified wild and cultivated plants that have been listed from elsewhere.
Great Prominent (<i>Peridea anceps</i>)	1	Macro	Common (1,040)	Resident species. Single-brooded flying mainly from late April to mid-June. Larvae feed on oak.
Green Carpet (<i>Colostygia pectinataria</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,761)	Resident. Larvae feed on bedstraw.
Grey Pine Carpet (<i>Thera obeliscata</i>) ^{NFY NFG}	1	Macro	Common (2,275)	Resident. Larvae feed chiefly on Scots pine and less frequently on Douglas fir.
Grey Pug (<i>Eupithecia subfuscata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Fairly Common (723)	Resident. Larvae feed on almost any tree, shrub or plant.
Knot Grass (<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (5,038)	Resident. Double-brooded, flying mainly from mid-April to mid-June and from mid-July to mid-September. Larvae feed on bramble, willow, unspecified low-growing plants including thistle, hop and poplar.
Large Yellow Underwing (<i>Noctua pronuba</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Abundant (32,567)	Resident reinforced by regular immigration. Larvae feed on unspecified garden vegetables and flowers.
Light Emerald (<i>Campaea margaritaria</i>) ^{NFY}	3	Macro	Very Common (9,291)	Resident. Larvae feed on beech, birch, oak, ash, heather and grey willow.
Maiden's Blush (<i>Cyclophora punctaria</i>) ^{NFY}	6	Macro	Common (3,783)	A resident and suspected immigrant. Larvae feed on Oak and (silver) Birch.
Marbled Minor agg. (<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.)	1	Macro		
May Highflyer (<i>Hydriomena impluviata</i>) ^{NFY}	2	Macro	Fairly Common (855)	Resident. Larvae feed on Alder.
New Oak Slender (<i>Caloptilia robustella</i>) ^{NFY NFG}	1	Micro	Scarce (222)	Resident. Larvae feed on pedunculate oak and turkey oak.
Oak Hook-tip (<i>Watsonalla binaria</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (3,925)	Resident. Larvae feed on oak.
Oak-tree Pug (<i>Eupithecia dodoneata</i>)	3	Macro	Common (1,022)	Resident. Larvae feed on the leaves of Oak and Hawthorn, and on the flowers of evergreen oak.
Orange Footman (<i>Eilema sororcula</i>) ^{NFY}	2	Macro	Common (1,576)	
Pale Prominent (<i>Pterostoma palpina</i>)	1	Macro	Common (3,840)	Resident. The moth usually occurs sparingly or fairly commonly in a wide range of habitats, Well distributed. Double-brooded, flying mainly from late April to early July and again from late July to late August. Larvae feed on poplar and willow.
Pale Tussock (<i>Calliteara pudibunda</i>)	1	Macro	Common (3,338)	Resident. Larvae feed on beech, oak, hazel, hop,

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
				sweet chestnut, birch, elm, and lime.
Pebble Prominent (<i>Notodonta ziczac</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,157)	Resident species found in a wide range of habitats. Double-brooded flying mainly in two overlapping emergences between late April and mid June then from mid-July to late August. Larvae feed on willows and sallows, aspen and balsam poplar.
Poplar Grey (<i>Subacronicta megacephala</i>)	1	Macro	Common (3,021)	Resident. The larvae feed on aspen, poplar, black poplar and probably on introduced hybrids.
Poplar Hawk-moth (<i>Laothoe populi</i>) ^{NFY}	3	Macro	Very Common (9,664)	Resident . Larvae feed on goat willow, grey willow, aspen, poplars, sallows and occasionally beech.
Portland Ribbon Wave (<i>Idaea degeneraria</i>) ^{NFY}	2	Macro	Fairly Common (469)	
Red Piercer (<i>Lathronympha strigana</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Micro	Fairly Common (404)	
Red Twin-spot Carpet (<i>Xanthorhoe spadicearia</i>)	4	Macro	Common (3,908)	
Rush Veneer (<i>Nomophila noctuella</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Micro	Very Common (8,199)	Immigrant appearing each year in widely varying numbers. Larvae feed on clover and unspecified grasses.
Rustic Shoulder-knot (<i>Apamea sordens</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (1,167)	
Scalloped Hazel (<i>Odontopera bidentata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Fairly Common (999)	
Scalloped Hook-tip (<i>Falcaria lacertinaria</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (1,239)	Resident. Larvae feed on birch and less frequently, on alder.
Scorched Wing (<i>Plagodis dolabraria</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (3,234)	
Seraphim (<i>Lobophora halterata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Scarce (361)	
Sharp-winged Drill (<i>Dichrorampha acuminatana</i>)	1	Micro	Very Scarce (199)	
Shuttle-shaped Dart (<i>Agrotis puta</i>)	12	Macro	Very Common (10,390)	A common resident species and generally distributed. Double brooded, flying from mid May to mid June and again from late July to late September. An overlapping partial third emergence has become increasingly frequent in late autumn. Larvae feed on unspeci
Silver-ground Carpet (<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Fairly Common (471)	
Small Dusty Wave (<i>Idaea seriata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (2,329)	
Small White Wave (<i>Asthena albulata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Fairly Common (416)	
Swallow Prominent (<i>Pheosia tremula</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,210)	A resident occurring singly or sparingly in a wide range of habitats. Probably generally distributed. Double-brooded, flying mainly from late April to mid June and again from late July to early September. The larvae feed on willow, poplar and aspen.
Treble Lines (<i>Charanyca trigrammica</i>) ^{NFY}	4	Macro	Common (6,181)	
Triple-blotched Bell (<i>Notocelia trimaculana</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Micro	Scarce (386)	
Turnip Moth (<i>Agrotis segetum</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (5,419)	Resident sometimes reinforced by immigration. Larval foodplants are the roots of turnips and swedes and some other garden and farm crops.
White Ermine (<i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>)	6	Macro	Common (7,635)	A resident and occasional immigrant. Previously single-brooded, flying from late April to mid July but, increasingly, from mid August to late September. Larvae feed on ivy flowers, dock, plantain, bindweed, hop, goosefoot and bedstraw

Notable Records

Species	Comment
Seraphim (<i>Lobophora halterata</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex
Daisy Bent-wing (<i>Bucculatrix nigricomella</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex;

Species	Comment
	First time recorded at this location.
New Oak Slender (<i>Caloptilia robustella</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; First time recorded at this location.; Likely to be only the 3rd time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.
Triple-blotched Bell (<i>Notoceleia trimaculana</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; Likely to be only the 5th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.
Sharp-winged Drill (<i>Dichrorampha acuminatana</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex
Grey Pine Carpet (<i>Thera obeliscata</i>)	First time recorded at this location.; Likely to be only the 2nd time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.
Bird's Nest Moth (<i>Tinea trinotella</i>)	First time recorded at this location.
Alder Moth (<i>Acronicta alni</i>)	2 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 1.; Only the 6th time recorded at this location.
Maiden's Blush (<i>Cyclophora punctaria</i>)	6 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 2.
May Highflyer (<i>Hydriomena impluviata</i>)	2 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 1.; Only the 6th time recorded at this location.
Shuttle-shaped Dart (<i>Agrotis puta</i>)	12 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 4.
Small White Wave (<i>Asthena albulata</i>)	Likely to be only the 5th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.
Scalloped Hazel (<i>Odontopera bidentata</i>)	Likely to be only the 3rd time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.
Scalloped Hook-tip (<i>Falcaria lacertinaria</i>)	Only the 4th time recorded at this location.
Small Dusty Wave (<i>Idaea seriata</i>)	Only the 3rd time recorded at this location.
Silver-ground Carpet (<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i>)	Only the 3rd time recorded at this location.
Grey Pug (<i>Eupithecia subfuscata</i>)	Only the 3rd time recorded at this location.
Chocolate-tip (<i>Clostera curtula</i>)	Only the 5th time recorded at this location.
Rustic Shoulder-knot (<i>Apamea sordens</i>)	Only the 4th time recorded at this location.

Images



Bird's Nest Moth (*Tinea trinotella*)



Grey Pine Carpet (*Thera obeliscata*)



May Highflyer (*Hydriomena impluviata*)



Poplar Grey (*Subacronicta megacephala*)



Portland Ribbon Wave (*Idaea degeneraria*)



Rustic Shoulder-knot (*Apamea sordens*)



Scalloped Hazel (*Odontopera bidentata*)



Small Dusty Wave (*Idaea seriata*)



Turnip Moth (*Agrotis segetum*)

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](#))