



## Moth Survey Report

### Summary

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Location:</b>                      | Green Cross Cottage, Kitchen Garden (TQ3615)  |
| <b>Date:</b>                          | 22/05/2026  |
| <b>Survey Method(s):</b>              | MV Light  |
| <b>Recorders(s):</b>                  | Chris Chapman   |
| <b>Moth Count:</b>                    | 240   |
| <b>Species Count:<br/>(see notes)</b> | 70<br>New for Year: 23<br>New for Location: 0<br>Total new species for Location this Year: 12<br>Species Count for Year: 164<br>Species Total for Location: 537 |
| <b>Non-species Count:</b>             | 1   |
| <b>Notable Record Count:</b>          | 19  |

### Full List

NFY = New Species For Year

| Species   | Count | Type  | Sussex Status       | Comment   |
|---|-------|-------|---------------------|---|
| Alder Moth ( <i>Acronicta alni</i> )                          | 7     | Macro | Fairly Common (665) | Resident. The larvae feed on beech, birch, hazel, oak and sweet chestnut.   |
| Bee Moth ( <i>Aphomia sociella</i> )                          | 1     | Micro | Common (4,308)      | Resident. Larvae are associated with the nests of wild bees and wasps.  |
| Black-headed Conch ( <i>Cochylichroa atricapitana</i> )       | 3     | 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.   |
| Brimstone Moth ( <i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i> )            | 5     | 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> )         | 1     | Macro | Fairly Common (895) | Resident. Larvae feed on birch, oak and sloe.   |
| Brown House Moth ( <i>Hofmannophila pseudospretella</i> ) NFY | 1     | Micro | Common (4,691)      |   |
| Buff-tip ( <i>Phalera bucephala</i> )                         | 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. |
| Burnished Brass ( <i>Diachrysis chrysitis</i> ) NFY           | 2     | Macro | Common (5,792)      | Resident. Larvae feed on stinging nettle.   |
| Cinnabar ( <i>Tyria jacobaeae</i> )                           | 1     | Macro | Common (7,718)      | Resident. Larvae feed on ragwort, hoary ragwort and (rarely) on groundsel.  |
| Clouded Border ( <i>Lomaspilis marginata</i> )                | 1     | Macro | Common (7,447)      | A resident species which is often a common visitor  |

| Species  | Count | Type  | Sussex Status        | Comment  |
|--|-------|-------|----------------------|--|
|  |       |       |                      | 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.   |
| Clouded Silver ( <i>Lomographa temerata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>         | 1     | Macro | Common (3,150)       | Resident and occasional autumn immigrant. Single-brooded occurring mainly from early May to early August, occasionally from mid April or to mid August. Larvae feed on sloe and plum.  |
| Codling Moth ( <i>Cydia pomonella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>               | 1     | Micro | Common (2,663)       |  |
| Comfrey Ermel ( <i>Ethmia quadrillella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>          | 3     | Micro | Fairly Common (665)  | Resident. The larvae live in a silken web and feed on the foliage of comfrey ( <i>Symphytum</i> spp.) and lungwort ( <i>Pulmonaria officinalis</i> ).  |
| Common Grey ( <i>Scoparia ambigualis</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>            | 1     | Micro | Common (2,703)       | Resident. Larvae feed on decaying plant material.  |
| Common Marble ( <i>Celypha lacunana</i> )                            | 10    | Micro | Very Common (9,032)  | Resident. Larvae feed in the young shoots of almost any shrubs and plants, including <i>Epilobium</i> and <i>Hypericum</i> species.  |
| Common Marbled Carpet ( <i>Dysstroma truncata</i> )                  | 1     | Macro | Very Common (8,879)  | Resident. Larvae have a wide variety of food plants.   |
| Common Pug ( <i>Eupithecia vulgata</i> )                             | 1     | Macro | Common (3,651)       | Resident. Larvae feed on hawthorn, willow, bramble and sea buckthorn.  |
| Common Purple and Gold ( <i>Pyrausta purpuralis</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup> | 1     | Micro | Common (2,280)       | Resident. Larvae have been associated with self-heal.  |
| Common Swift ( <i>Korscheltellus lupulina</i> )                      | 17    | Macro | Common (2,948)       |  |
| Common Wainscot ( <i>Mythimna pallens</i> )                          | 5     | Macro | Very Common (12,382) | Resident. Larvae feed on various grasses.  |
| Common Wave ( <i>Cabera exanthemata</i> )                            | 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> )                          | 1     | Macro | Common (3,638)       | Resident. Larvae feed on (silver) birch, willow and hazel.   |
| Coxcomb Prominent ( <i>Ptilodon capucina</i> )                       | 1     | 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 |
| Crescent Groundling ( <i>Teleiodes luculella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>    | 1     | Micro | Very Scarce (183)    |  |
| Flame Shoulder ( <i>Ochropleura plecta</i> )                         | 4     | Macro | Abundant (19,960)    | Resident. Larvae feed on various unidentified wild and cultivated plants that have been listed from elsewhere.   |
| Garden Grass-veneer ( <i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup> | 1     | Micro | Very Common (9,548)  |  |
| Gem ( <i>Nycterosea obstipata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>                   | 1     | Macro | Fairly Common (492)  |  |
| Gold Spot ( <i>Plusia festucae</i> )                                 | 1     | Macro | Common (2,059)       | Resident. Larvae feed on unidentified grasses, sedges and marsh plants.  |
| Green Carpet ( <i>Colostygia pectinataria</i> )                      | 2     | Macro | Common (4,761)       | Resident. Larvae feed on bedstraw.   |
| Green Pug ( <i>Pasiphila rectangulata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>           | 1     | Macro | Common (3,387)       |  |
| Green Silver-lines ( <i>Pseudoips prasinana</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>     | 1     | Macro | Fairly Common (719)  |  |
| Heart and Dart ( <i>Agrotis exclamationis</i> )                      | 4     | Macro | Abundant (20,709)    | Resident. Larval foodplants include a wide variety of unidentified wild and garden plants.   |
| Hoary Bell ( <i>Eucosma cana</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>                    | 1     | Micro | Common (1,890)       | Resident. The larvae feed in the seed-heads of <i>Arctium</i> , <i>Carduus</i> and <i>Centaurea</i> spp.   |
| Hook-streak Grass-veneer ( <i>Crambus lathoniellus</i> )             | 8     | Micro | Common (1,683)       |  |
| Knot Grass ( <i>Acronicta rumicis</i> )                              | 3     | 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> )                     | 3     | Macro | Abundant (32,567)    | Resident reinforced by regular immigration. Larvae feed on unspecified garden vegetables and flowers.  |

| Species   | Count | Type  | Sussex Status       | Comment   |
|---|-------|-------|---------------------|---|
| Least Black Arches ( <i>Nola confusalis</i> )                     | 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 |
| Light Brown Apple Moth ( <i>Epiphyas postvittana</i> )            | 7     | Micro | Abundant (20,303)   | Resident. First recorded in Sussex record in 1984. The species originated from Australia. Larvae feed on a huge variety of flowers, shrubs and crops.   |
| Light Emerald ( <i>Campaea margaritaria</i> )                     | 10    | Macro | Very Common (9,291) | Resident. Larvae feed on beech, birch, oak, ash, heather and grey willow.   |
| Marbled Minor agg. ( <i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.)                | 18    | Macro |                     |   |
| Marsh Grey ( <i>Eudonia pallida</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>              | 1     | Micro | Common (1,505)      |   |
| Middle-barred Minor ( <i>Oligia fasciuncula</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>  | 1     | Macro | Common (1,100)      |   |
| Mottled Rustic ( <i>Caradrina morpheus</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>       | 2     | Macro | Common (5,087)      |   |
| Oak Hook-tip ( <i>Watsonalla binaria</i> )                        | 3     | Macro | Common (3,925)      | Resident. Larvae feed on oak.   |
| Oak-tree Pug ( <i>Eupithecia dodoneata</i> )                      | 1     | 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> )                        | 7     | Macro | Common (1,576)      |   |
| Ox-tongue Conch ( <i>Neocoxyliis molliculana</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup> | 1     | Micro | Common (1,372)      |   |
| 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> )                      | 16    | Macro | Common (3,338)      | Resident. Larvae feed on beech, oak, hazel, hop, sweet chestnut, birch, elm, and lime.  |
| Peach Blossom ( <i>Thyatira batis</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>            | 1     | Macro | Common (2,136)      | Resident. Larvae feed on bramble and raspberry.   |
| 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.                  |
| Plum Tortrix ( <i>Hedya pruniana</i> )                            | 4     | Micro | Common (1,383)      | Resident. Larvae feed on the young shoots of sloe and plum.   |
| Poplar Hawk-moth ( <i>Laothoe populi</i> )                        | 2     | Macro | Very Common (9,664) | Resident . Larvae feed on goat willow, grey willow, aspen, poplars, sallows and occasionally beech.   |
| Portland Ribbon Wave ( <i>Idea degeneraria</i> )                  | 3     | Macro | Fairly Common (469) |   |
| Ringed China-mark ( <i>Parapoynx stratiotata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup> | 1     | Micro | Common (3,504)      | Resident often common around ponds, lakes and dykes. Larvae feed on Canadian waterweed and frog-bit.  |
| Scorched Wing ( <i>Plagodis dolabraria</i> )                      | 11    | Macro | Common (3,234)      |   |
| Setaceous Hebrew Character ( <i>Xestia c-nigrum</i> )             | 2     | Macro | Abundant (20,549)   | Resident species reinforced by episodic immigration. Larvae feed on dock and probably other herbaceous plants.  |
| Sharp-angled Peacock ( <i>Macaria alternata</i> )                 | 1     | Macro | Common (1,749)      |   |
| Sharp-winged Drill ( <i>Dichrorampha acuminatana</i> )            | 2     | Micro | Very Scarce (199)   |   |
| Silver Y ( <i>Autographa gamma</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>               | 1     | Macro | Abundant (20,687)   | An annual immigrant and episodic resident. The moth usually appears from July to September but large numbers of immigrants can be seen at any time between mid May and early November. The larvae feed on a wide variety of plants.                             |
| Silver-ground Carpet ( <i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i> )              | 1     | Macro | Fairly Common (471) |   |
| Sloe Pug ( <i>Pasiphila chloerata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>            | 1     | Macro | Very Rare (29)      |   |
| Small Mottled Willow ( <i>Spodoptera exigua</i> )                 | 4     | Macro | Fairly Common (781) | Immigrant. Larvae have not been recorded in Sussex although they have been found on <i>Persicaria</i> elsewhere.  |
| Straw Dot ( <i>Rivula sericealis</i> )                            | 9     | Macro | Very Common         | Resident sometimes reinforced by migration. Larvae  |

| Species  | Count | Type  | Sussex Status       | Comment  |
|--|-------|-------|---------------------|--|
|  |       |       | (10,829)            | feed on unidentified grasses.  |
| Treble Brown Spot ( <i>Idaea trigeminata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>    | 1     | Macro | Common (1,991)      |  |
| Treble Lines ( <i>Charanyca trigrammica</i> )                    | 10    | Macro | Common (6,181)      |  |
| Turnip Moth ( <i>Agrotis segetum</i> )                           | 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 |
| Willow Beauty ( <i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i> )                | 8     | Macro | Abundant (16,389)   | Resident. Larvae feed on privet, lilac, ivy, honeysuckle, hawthorn, dock, heather and gorse.   |
| Winter Groundling ( <i>Scrobipalpa costella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup> | 1     | Micro | Fairly Common (437) |  |

## Notable Records

| Species   | Comment  |
|---|--|
| Crescent Groundling ( <i>Teleiodes luculella</i> )        | A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; Likely to be only the 4th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.   |
| Sharp-winged Drill ( <i>Dichrorampha acuminatana</i> )    | A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; 2 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 1. |
| Sloe Pug ( <i>Pasiphila chloerata</i> )                   | A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; Only the 3rd time recorded at this location.  |
| Black-headed Conch ( <i>Cochylichroa atricapitana</i> )   | 3 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 2.  |
| Hook-streak Grass-veneer ( <i>Crambus lathoniellus</i> )  | 8 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 5.  |
| Common Swift ( <i>Korscheltellus lupulina</i> )           | 17 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 9.   |
| Small Mottled Willow ( <i>Spodoptera exigua</i> )         | 4 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 2.  |
| Alder Moth ( <i>Acronicta alni</i> )                      | 7 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 2.; Only the 6th time recorded at this location.      |
| Pale Tussock ( <i>Calliteara pudibunda</i> )              | 16 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 5.   |
| Gem ( <i>Nycterosea obstipata</i> )                       | Likely to be only the 3rd time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.  |
| Green Silver-lines ( <i>Pseudoips prasinana</i> )         | Likely to be only the 3rd time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.  |
| Winter Groundling ( <i>Scrobipalpa costella</i> )         | Likely to be only the 5th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.  |
| Brown House Moth ( <i>Hofmannophila pseudospretella</i> ) | Only the 6th time recorded at this location.   |
| Codling Moth ( <i>Cydia pomonella</i> )                   | Only the 5th time recorded at this location.   |
| Treble Brown Spot ( <i>Idaea trigeminata</i> )            | Only the 5th time recorded at this location.   |
| Silver-ground Carpet ( <i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i> )      | Only the 3rd time recorded at this location.   |
| Common Grey ( <i>Scoparia ambigualis</i> )                | Only the 6th time recorded at this location.   |
| Comfrey Ermel ( <i>Ethmia quadrillella</i> )              | Only the 6th time recorded at this location.   |
| Marsh Grey ( <i>Eudonia pallida</i> )                     | Only the 5th time recorded at this location.   |

## Images



Alder Moth (*Acronicta alni*)



Blood-vein (*Timandra comae*)



Burnished Brass (*Diachrysia chrysitis*)



Comfrey Ermel (*Ethmia quadrillella*)



Crescent Groundling (*Teleiodes luculella*)



Gem (*Nycterosea obstipata*)



Green Pug (*Pasiphila rectangulata*)



Green Silver-lines (*Pseudoips prasinana*)



Peach Blossom (*Thyatira batis*)



Portland Ribbon Wave (*Idaea degeneraria*)



Treble Brown Spot (*Idaea trigeminata*)



Winter Groundling (*Scrobipalpa costella*)

## 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](#))