



## Moth Survey Report

### Summary

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location:                     | TECT Field, North West Corner (TQ3715)                                                                                                                           |
| Date:                         | 12/07/2026                                                                                                                                                       |
| Survey Method(s):             | MV Light                                                                                                                                                         |
| Recorders(s):                 | Chris Chapman, Mark Marsh, Karen Pritty                                                                                                                          |
| Moth Count:                   | 390                                                                                                                                                              |
| Species Count:<br>(see notes) | 75<br>New for Year: 48<br>New for Location: 22<br>Total new species for Location this Year: 55<br>Species Count for Year: 115<br>Species Total for Location: 181 |
| Non-species Count:            | 5                                                                                                                                                                |

### Full List

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

| Species                                                       | Count | Type  | Sussex Status        | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Acleris laterana/comariana (Acleris laterana/comariana)       | 1     | Micro |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Beautiful China-mark (Nymphula nitidulata) <b>NFY NFG</b>     | 1     | Micro | Fairly Common (401)  | Resident. Single-brooded, flying mainly from early June to late August, occasionally to early September. Larvae feed on bur-reed and yellow water-lily.                                                                                     |
| Black Arches (Lymantria monacha) <b>NFY</b>                   | 5     | Macro | Common (2,431)       | Resident. Larvae usually feed on oak, although beech is sometimes utilised                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Black-headed Conch (Cochylischroa atricapitana) *             | 2     | Micro | Common (2,252)       | Resident. The larvae feed inside the blossoms and stems of ragwort.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Box Tree Moth (Cydalima perspectalis) <b>NFY NFG</b>          | 1     | Micro | Common (2,850)       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Bramble Shoot Moth (Notocelia uddmanniana)                    | 1     | Micro | Common (2,737)       | Resident. The larvae feed on bramble.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Bright-line Brown-eye (Lacanobia oleracea)                    | 1     | Macro | Very Common (14,145) | Resident. Larvae feed on a wide variety of plants including bindweed, bracken, primrose, plantain and dock.                                                                                                                                 |
| Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (Noctua fimbriata) <b>NFY</b> | 1     | Macro | Common (5,720)       | Resident. Larvae feed on a wide range of low growing plants and shrubs including hawthorn, willowherb, honeysuckle, goosefoot and ivy.                                                                                                      |
| Brown-tail (Euproctis chrysorrhoea) <b>NFY NFG</b>            | 2     | Macro | Common (2,775)       | Resident. Probably generally distributed along the coastal strip, but only patchily found inland. Single-brooded, flying mainly from early July to mid August, sometimes to late August. Larvae feed on a wide variety of trees and bushes. |
| Buff Arches (Habrosyne pyritoides) <b>NFY</b>                 | 1     | Macro | Common (4,662)       | Resident. Larvae feed on bramble.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Buff Ermine (Spilosoma lutea)                                 | 2     | Macro | Very Common (10,942) | Resident. The larvae feed on the leaves of dock, plantain, plumbage, bedstraw, privet, lesser                                                                                                                                               |

| Species                                                             | Count | Type  | Sussex Status        | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                     |       |       |                      | bindweed, ivy, common red valerian, buddleja, wisteria, lilac, tomato and on cucumber fruit.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 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, willows and hazel, silver birch, sweet chestnut, alder and lime.                                                |
| Bulrush Veneer ( <i>Calamotropha paludella</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup> | 1     | Micro | Common (1,410)       | A Nationally Notable B moth that is widespread, but only patchily distributed. The larvae has been associated with reed mace.                                                                                                                                   |
| Canary-shouldered Thorn ( <i>Ennomos alniaria</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>  | 2     | Macro | Common (3,502)       | Resident. The larvae feed on (silver) birch, alder, willow and lime.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 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> )                      | 2     | 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.     |
| Comfrey Ermel ( <i>Ethmia quadrillella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>         | 2     | 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 Cosmet ( <i>Mompha epilobiella</i> ) * <sup>NFY NFG</sup>    | 1     | Micro | Scarce (382)         | Resident. Single- brooded, flying mainly from mid-July to mid-September, and then again after hibernation to mid-June. Larvae feed on great willowherb.                                                                                                         |
| Common Footman ( <i>Eilema lurideola</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>           | 11    | Macro | Common (7,336)       | Resident The larval foodplants have not been recorded in Sussex but unspecified lichens growing on trees, fences and rocks, have been recorded elsewhere.                                                                                                       |
| Common Marble ( <i>Celypha lacunana</i> )                           | 9     | 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 Rustic agg. ( <i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.)                 | 19    | Macro |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Common Wainscot ( <i>Mythimna pallens</i> )                         | 2     | Macro | Very Common (12,382) | Resident. Larvae feed on various grasses.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Common Yellow Conch ( <i>Agapeta hamana</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>    | 1     | Micro | Common (3,808)       | Resident. The larvae are believed to feed on the roots of thistles.                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Dark Arches ( <i>Apamea monoglypha</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>             | 10    | Macro | Abundant (17,012)    | Resident and suspected episodic immigrant species. Chiefly single-brooded, flying mainly from late May to early September with a sporadic second emergence occurring at any time between late October and mid-December. Larvae feed on the roots and stem-bases |
| Dark Sword-grass ( <i>Agrotis ipsilon</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>      | 1     | Macro | Common (6,450)       | An annual immigrant and suspected occasional temporary resident. Adults have been seen from early February to early December. Larval foodplants have not been recorded in Sussex, though the roots and leaves of many different unidentified wild and cultivate |
| 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.                                                                                                               |
| Dingy Footman ( <i>Eilema griseola</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>             | 10    | Macro | Common (5,895)       | Resident. Larvae feed on commonplace lichen, <i>xanthoria parietina</i> . Also said to feed on bramble, although this may only be in captivity.                                                                                                                 |
| Dotted Oak Knot-horn ( <i>Phycita roborella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>    | 3     | Micro | Common (1,412)       | Resident. Larvae feed on oak.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Drinker ( <i>Euthrix potatoria</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>                 | 3     | Macro | Common (3,076)       | Resident. Larvae feed on various unidentified ribbon grasses and rushes, and on common reed.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Dun-bar ( <i>Cosmia trapezina</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>                  | 3     | Macro | Common (4,987)       | Resident. Single-brooded, flying mainly from late June to early September. Larvae feed on a wide range of deciduous trees and shrubs and on lepidopterous larvae.                                                                                               |
| Dusky Sallow ( <i>Eremobia ochroleuca</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>          | 21    | Macro | Common (3,103)       | Resident. Larvae feed on (the flowers and seeds of)                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

| Species                                                                 | Count | Type  | Sussex Status        | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                         |       |       |                      | false oat-grass, cock's-foot and spear thistle.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Elephant Hawk-moth ( <i>Deilephila elpenor</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>         | 9     | Macro | Very Common (8,073)  | Resident. Single brooded until recently, flying mainly from late May to mid-August. Larvae feed on garden godetia, fuchsia, willowherb, bedstraw, bogbean and balsam.                                                                                |
| Engrailed ( <i>Ectropis crepuscularia</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>          | 1     | Macro | Common (2,815)       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Flame Shoulder ( <i>Ochropleura plecta</i> )                            | 6     | 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> )                   | 5     | Micro | Very Common (10,982) | Resident. Autumnal sightings may be due to a partial overlapping second emergence. The larvae feed on unspecified grasses.                                                                                                                           |
| Hoary Footman ( <i>Eilema caniola</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>              | 2     | Macro | Fairly Common (855)  | Resident and suspected immigrant. Larvae not discovered in Sussex, but elsewhere they feed on unidentified lichens growing on rocks, and the roof-slates of domestic housing, and also on bird's-foot trefoil, kidney vetch, and white clover.       |
| Iron Prominent ( <i>Notodonta dromedarius</i> )                         | 1     | Macro | Common (4,012)       | Resident. Larvae feed on (silver) birch, alder and hazel.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Kent Black Arches ( <i>Meganola albula</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>         | 1     | Macro | Common (1,213)       | Resident. Larvae feed on dewberry and raspberry.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Large Emerald ( <i>Geometra papilionaria</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>       | 2     | Macro | Common (1,004)       | Resident. Larvae feed on (silver) Birch and Sallow.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Large Yellow Underwing ( <i>Noctua pronuba</i> )                        | 9     | Macro | Abundant (32,567)    | Resident reinforced by regular immigration. Larvae feed on unspecified garden vegetables and flowers.                                                                                                                                                |
| Least Carpet ( <i>Idaea rusticata</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>              | 1     | Macro | Common (2,129)       | Resident and suspected occasional immigrant. The larval foodplant has not been determined in Sussex, although Traveller's Joy and Ivy have been listed elsewhere.                                                                                    |
| Least Yellow Underwing ( <i>Noctua interjecta</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>  | 2     | Macro | Common (2,251)       | Resident. The larval foodplants have not been recorded in Sussex although various unidentified grasses and herbaceous plants have been mentioned elsewhere.                                                                                          |
| Lime-speck Pug ( <i>Eupithecia centaureata</i> )                        | 6     | Macro | Common (7,228)       | Resident. Larvae have been specifically found on flowers of ragwort, knapweed, yarrow, burnt saxifrage, ornamental garden races of Canadian golden-rod, scabious and lantana.                                                                        |
| Marbled Bell ( <i>Eucosma campoliliana</i> ) <sup>* NFY</sup>           | 8     | Micro | Fairly Common (402)  | Resident. The larvae feed on the seed-heads of hoary ragwort and on the roots-stems and flowerheads of common ragwort.                                                                                                                               |
| Marbled Piercer ( <i>Cydia splendana</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>               | 1     | Micro | Common (2,697)       | Resident. Larvae feed on oak acorns.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Marsh Dowd ( <i>Blastobasis rebeli</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>                 | 1     | Micro | Fairly Common (769)  | Resident first recorded in Sussex in 2004. Flies mainly from the second week of July to early August. Larvae foodplants are unknown.                                                                                                                 |
| Mother of Pearl ( <i>Patania ruralis</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>               | 3     | Micro | Common (7,180)       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Mottled Rustic ( <i>Caradrina morpheus</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>         | 1     | Macro | Common (5,716)       | Resident. The larval foodplant has not been recorded in Sussex although sting nettle and dandelion have been listed elsewhere.                                                                                                                       |
| Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia agg. (Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia agg.) | 1     | Micro |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Nut-tree Tussock ( <i>Colocasia coryli</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>             | 1     | 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 Hook-tip ( <i>Watsonalla binaria</i> )                              | 1     | Macro | Common (3,925)       | Resident. Larvae feed on oak.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Orange Crest ( <i>Helcystogramma rufescens</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>         | 1     | Micro | Fairly Common (922)  | Resident. Flies mainly from mid June to mid August. Larvae feed on grasses such as tall fescue.                                                                                                                                                      |
| Ox-tongue Conch ( <i>Neocoehylis molliculana</i> )                      | 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. |

| Species                                                                   | Count | Type  | Sussex Status        | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pebble Hook-tip ( <i>Drepana falcataria</i> )                             | 1     | Macro | Common (2,739)       | Resident and suspected immigrant. Larvae feed on birch and probably alder.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Pebble Prominent ( <i>Notodonta ziczac</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>               | 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> )                                | 4     | Macro | Very Common (9,664)  | Resident . Larvae feed on goat willow, grey willow, aspen, poplars, sallows and occasionally beech.                                                                                                                                                       |
| Ribwort Slender ( <i>Aspilapteryx tringipennella</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup> | 1     | Micro | Scarce (247)         | Resident. Larvae feed on ribwort plantain.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Rosy Footman ( <i>Miltochrista miniata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>               | 6     | Macro | Common (6,345)       | Resident. Larval foodplants have not been recorded in Sussex, but <i>peltigera canina</i> and other unidentified lichens, growing on trees are mentioned elsewhere.                                                                                       |
| Rosy Rustic ( <i>Hydraecia micacea</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>                   | 3     | Macro | Common (4,785)       | Resident. Larvae have been associated with the roots of dock and hop.                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Rosy Tabby ( <i>Endotricha flammealis</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>            | 1     | Micro | Common (5,781)       | Resident. Larvae feed on half-decayed leaves of trees and plants.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Ruby Tiger ( <i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>              | 3     | Macro | Common (6,331)       | Resident. Number of broods varies between one and three in Sussex, flying most numerous in a single emergence from mid July to late August. Larvae feed on ragwort, bedstraw, bramble and hounds-tongue.                                                  |
| Satin Grass-veneer ( <i>Crambus perlella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>             | 1     | Micro | Common (3,970)       | Resident and suspected immigrant. The larval foodplant in unknown in Sussex but is unspecified grasses elsewhere.                                                                                                                                         |
| Scarce Footman ( <i>Eilema complana</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>              | 8     | Macro | Common (4,558)       | Resident. The larval foodplants are unspecified lichens (not noted in Sussex).                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Sharp-angled Peacock ( <i>Macaria alternata</i> )                         | 2     | Macro | Common (2,159)       | Resident. Larvae feed on sloe and sea buckthorn.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Single-dotted Wave ( <i>Idaea dimidiata</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>          | 2     | Macro | Common (5,847)       | Resident. Larvae feed on Burnet Saxifrage and Beaked Parsley.                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Small Fan-footed Wave ( <i>Idaea biselata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>            | 1     | Macro | Common (3,610)       | Resident. Larvae feed on Dandelion, Knotgrass, Plantain and Bramble.                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Small Grey ( <i>Eudonia mercurella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>                   | 1     | Micro | Common (4,016)       | Resident. Larvae feed on unspecified mosses on walls. rocks etc.                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Small Mottled Willow ( <i>Spodoptera exigua</i> )                         | 8     | Macro | Fairly Common (781)  | Immigrant. Larvae have not been recorded in Sussex although they have been found on <i>Persicaria</i> elsewhere.                                                                                                                                          |
| Smoky Wainscot ( <i>Mythimna impura</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>                  | 18    | Macro | Very Common (9,838)  | Resident. Larvae feed on various grasses including cock's-foot.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Straw Dot ( <i>Rivula sericealis</i> )                                    | 5     | Macro | Very Common (10,829) | Resident sometimes reinforced by migration. Larvae feed on unidentified grasses.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Straw Grass-veneer ( <i>Agriphila straminella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>        | 39    | Micro | Common (5,619)       | Resident. The larvae feed on unspecified grasses.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Swallow Prominent ( <i>Pheosia tremula</i> )                              | 7     | 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. |
| Thicket Knot-horn ( <i>Acrobasis suavella</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>        | 2     | Micro | Common (1,108)       | Resident. Larvae feed on sloe, hawthorn and cotoneaster.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Uncertain/Rustic ( <i>Hoplodrina octogenaria/blanda</i> )                 | 80    | Macro |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Waste Grass-veneer ( <i>Pediasia contaminella</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>    | 1     | Micro | Fairly Common (403)  | Resident. The larval foodplant is unknown in Sussex but is unspecified grasses elsewhere.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| White-line Snout ( <i>Schrankia taenialis</i> ) <sup>NFY NFG</sup>        | 1     | Macro | Rare (50)            | Resident. The larval foodplant in the wild is not known in this country.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Yellow-tail ( <i>Euproctis similis</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>                   | 2     | Macro | Common (2,951)       | Resident and suspected occasional immigrant. Larvae feed on hawthorn, apple leaves and skins, sloe, rose, hazel, birch, alder buckthorn, and bramble.                                                                                                     |



| Species                     | Count | Type  | Sussex Status | Comment |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|---------------|---------|
| Yponomeuta sp. (Yponomeuta) | 3     | Macro |               |         |

## Images



Beautiful China-mark (*Nymphula nitidulata*)



Black Arches (*Lymantria monacha*)



Buff Ermine (*Spilosoma lutea*)



Buff-tip (*Phalera bucephala*)



Canary-shouldered Thorn (*Ennomos alniaria*)



Drinker (*Euthrix potatoria*)



Elephant Hawk-moth (*Deilephila elpenor*)



Marbled Bell (*Eucosma campoliliana*)



Pebble Hook-tip (*Drepana falcataria*)





Rosy Footman (*Miltchrista miniata*)



Swallow Prominent (*Pheosia tremula*)



Thicket Knot-horn (*Acrobasis suavella*)



Yellow-tail (*Euproctis similis*)

**Notes**

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

An \* by the name of the species indicates that the species has not been verified by the County Recorders yet. In total this applies to 3 records for this survey.

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](#))