



Moth Survey Report

Summary

Location:	Oakfield Lane, Wildlife Strip (TQ3616)
Date:	25/07/2026
Survey Method(s):	MV Light
Recorders(s):	Chris Chapman, Carole Nicholson
Moth Count:	396
Species Count:	82
Non-species Count:	6

Full List

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Acleris laterana/comariana (Acleris laterana/comariana)	1	Micro		
Bird-cherry Ermine (Yponomeuta evonymella)	1	Micro	Common (1,352)	Resident and suspected immigrant. Flying mainly from late June to mid August. Larvae feed on cultivated cherry.
Black Arches (Lymantria monacha)	5	Macro	Common (2,431)	Resident. Larvae usually feed on oak, although beech is sometimes utilised
Blood-vein (Timandra comae)	5	Macro	Common (5,613)	Resident. Larvae feed on Dock and other unspecified low-growing plants.
Bramble Shoot Moth (Notocelia uddmanniana)	1	Micro	Common (2,737)	Resident. The larvae feed on bramble.
Brimstone Moth (Opisthograptis luteolata)	14	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.
Bud Moth (Spilonota ocellana)	1	Micro	Common (1,517)	Resident. The larvae feed on a great variety of deciduous trees and shrubs including apple, hawthorn, alder, sea-spurge, common dock and sea-buckthorn.
Buff Ermine (Spilosoma lutea)	1	Macro	Very Common (10,942)	Resident. The larvae feed on the leaves of dock, plantain, plumbage, bedstraw, privet, lesser bindweed, ivy, common red valerian, buddleja, wisteria, lilac, tomato and on cucumber fruit.
Burnished Brass (Diachrysis chrysis)	1	Macro	Common (5,792)	Resident. Larvae feed on stinging nettle.
Canary-shouldered Thorn (Ennomos alniaria)	1	Macro	Common (3,502)	Resident. The larvae feed on (silver) birch, alder, willow and lime.
Carrion Moth (Monopis weaverella)	1	Micro	Common (1,195)	
Cineros Groundling (Bryotropha terrella) *	1	Micro	Common (1,751)	
Cloaked Minor (Mesoligia furuncula)	2	Macro	Common (2,400)	Resident. Larvae feed on unidentified grasses.
Clouded Border (Lomaspilis marginata)	5	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.

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Comfrey Ermel (<i>Ethmia quadrillella</i>)	4	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 Marble (<i>Celypha lacunana</i>)	16	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 Plume (<i>Emmelina monodactyla</i>)	1	Micro	Very Common (12,093)	Resident. Larvae feed on bindweed and on races of the related "Morning Glory".
Common Rustic agg. (<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.)	11	Macro		
Common Wainscot (<i>Mythimna pallens</i>)	14	Macro	Very Common (12,382)	Resident. Larvae feed on various grasses.
Common Wave (<i>Cabera exanthemata</i>)	2	Macro	Common (5,193)	Resident. Larvae feed on willow including goat willow, (silver) birch, alder and beech.
Cream-bordered Green Pea (<i>Earias clorana</i>)	1	Macro	Fairly Common (932)	Resident. Sometimes double-brooded flying mainly from late May to late July and again from early August to early September. Larvae feed on osier.
Dark Arches (<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>)	1	Macro	Abundant (16,028)	
Diamond-back Marble (<i>Eudemis profundana</i>) *	1	Micro	Scarce (366)	Resident. Single-brooded, flying mainly from early July to early September. The larvae feed on oak, sometimes on their green oak-apples.
Dingy Dowd (<i>Blastobasis adustella</i>)	1	Micro	Common (7,844)	Resident. Larvae have been found to feed on fresh, decaying or dried vegetable matter.
Dingy Footman (<i>Eilema griseola</i>)	20	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>)	3	Micro	Common (1,412)	Resident. Larvae feed on oak.
Drinker (<i>Euthrix potatoria</i>)	1	Macro	Common (2,790)	
Dun-bar (<i>Cosmia trapezina</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,330)	
Dusky Pearl (<i>Udea prunalis</i>)	1	Micro	Common (1,705)	Resident. Larvae feed on stinging nettle, wood sage and wayfaring-tree
Dusky Sallow (<i>Eremobia ochroleuca</i>)	2	Macro	Common (2,657)	
Early Thorn (<i>Selenia dentaria</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,439)	Resident. The larvae feed on (silver) birch, hawthorn, willow, hazel, bramble, rose, raspberry, sloe and damson.
Elephant Hawk-moth (<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>)	5	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.
Flame Shoulder (<i>Ochroleura plecta</i>)	22	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>)	3	Micro	Very Common (9,548)	
Gold Spot (<i>Plusia festucae</i>)	1	Macro	Common (2,059)	Resident. Larvae feed on unidentified grasses, sedges and marsh plants.
Golden-brown Tubic (<i>Crassa unitella</i>)	1	Micro	Fairly Common (837)	Resident. Elsewhere, larvae have been found feeding on dead wood and fungi under bark (Pratt, 2011).
Grey Knot-horn (<i>Acrobasis advenella</i>)	2	Micro	Common (2,374)	
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.
Jersey Tiger (<i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i>)	5	Macro	Common (1,727)	Immigrant and an occasional temporary resident. Larvae never found in Sussex; elsewhere feed on common nettle, hemp-agrimony, plantain, and other low-growing plants.
Knot Grass (<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>)	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>)	2	Macro	Abundant (32,567)	Resident reinforced by regular immigration. Larvae

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				feed on unspecified garden vegetables and flowers.
Lesser Swallow Prominent (<i>Pheosia gnoma</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,216)	Resident. The larvae feed on (silver) birch.
Light Brown Apple Moth (<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>)	1	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.
Lime-speck Pug (<i>Eupithecia centaureata</i>)	1	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.
Maiden's Blush (<i>Cyclophora punctaria</i>)	3	Macro	Common (3,783)	A resident and suspected immigrant. Larvae feed on Oak and (silver) Birch.
Marbled Minor agg. (<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.)	4	Macro		
Marbled Piercer (<i>Cydia splendana</i>)	1	Micro	Common (2,697)	Resident. Larvae feed on oak acorns.
Mother of Pearl (<i>Patania ruralis</i>)	29	Micro	Common (7,180)	
Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia agg. (<i>Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia</i> agg.)	5	Micro		
Oak Hook-tip (<i>Watsonalla binaria</i>)	1	Macro	Common (3,925)	Resident. Larvae feed on oak.
Oak Processionary (<i>Thaumetopoea processionea</i>)	2	Macro	Rare (66)	
Ox-tongue Conch (<i>Neocochylis molliculana</i>)	2	Micro	Common (1,372)	
Pale Prominent (<i>Pterostoma palpina</i>)	2	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.
Pearl Grass-veneer (<i>Catoptria pinella</i>)	3	Micro	Fairly Common (640)	
Pebble Prominent (<i>Notodonta ziczac</i>)	3	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.
Privet Twist (<i>Clepsis consimilana</i>) *	1	Micro	Common (2,129)	
Riband Wave (<i>Idaea aversata</i>)	6	Macro	Very Common (12,367)	
Ringed China-mark (<i>Parapoynx stratiotata</i>)	1	Micro	Common (3,504)	Resident often common around ponds, lakes and dykes. Larvae feed on Canadian waterweed and frog-bit.
Rosy Footman (<i>Miltochrista miniata</i>)	4	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>)	4	Macro	Common (4,785)	Resident. Larvae have been associated with the roots of dock and hop.
Rosy Tabby (<i>Endotricha flammealis</i>)	1	Micro	Common (5,781)	Resident. Larvae feed on half-decayed leaves of trees and plants.
Ruby Tiger (<i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i>)	1	Macro	Common (3,938)	
Rusty-dot Pearl (<i>Udea ferrugalis</i>)	3	Micro	Common (7,620)	Immigrant. Larvae feed on hemp agrimony, strawberry and woundwort.
Scarce Footman (<i>Eilema complana</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,703)	
Scarce Oak Knot-horn (<i>Acrobasis tumidana</i>)	1	Micro	Rare (81)	Immigrant and suspected episodic resident. Larval foodplant has yet to be determined in Sussex, although oak has been listed elsewhere.
Scorched Carpet (<i>Ligdia adustata</i>)	4	Macro	Common (1,770)	A resident species. Larvae feed on spindle.
Setaceous Hebrew Character (<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>)	1	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>)	5	Macro	Common (1,749)	
Shuttle-shaped Dart (<i>Agrotis puta</i>)	1	Macro	Very Common (10,390)	A common resident species and generally distributed. Double brooded, flying from mid May

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				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 Y (<i>Autographa gamma</i>)	3	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.
Small Dusty Wave (<i>Idaea seriata</i>)	1	Macro	Common (2,329)	
Small Mottled Willow (<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>)	40	Macro	Fairly Common (781)	Immigrant. Larvae have not been recorded in Sussex although they have been found on <i>Persicaria</i> elsewhere.
Small Seraphim (<i>Pterapherapteryx sexalata</i>)	1	Macro	Very Scarce (178)	
Snout (<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>)	1	Macro	Very Common (11,707)	Resident. Larvae feed on stinging nettle.
Spindle Knot-horn (<i>Nephopterix angustella</i>)	1	Micro	Fairly Common (852)	
Straw Dot (<i>Rivula sericealis</i>)	24	Macro	Very Common (10,829)	Resident sometimes reinforced by migration. Larvae feed on unidentified grasses.
Straw Grass-veneer (<i>Agriphila straminella</i>)	11	Micro	Common (5,619)	Resident. The larvae feed on unspecified grasses.
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.
Tree-lichen Beauty (<i>Cryphia algae</i>)	1	Macro	Fairly Common (661)	
Turnip Moth (<i>Agrotis segetum</i>)	2	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.
Uncertain/Rustic (<i>Hoplodrina octogenaria/blanda</i>)	20	Macro		
Vagrant Piercer (<i>Cydia amplana</i>)	13	Micro	Fairly Common (665)	Resident and suspected immigrant. Larvae feed inside acorns, hazel nuts and sweet chestnuts.
Vestal (<i>Rhodometra sacraria</i>)	1	Macro	Common (1,013)	An immigrant. Larvae have been associated with Knotgrass and Redshank.
White-headed Ermel (<i>Paraswammerdamia albicapitella</i>) *	1	Micro	Scarce (359)	
White-point (<i>Mythimna albipuncta</i>)	3	Macro	Common (7,725)	Immigrant and episodic resident. Larvae feed on unspecified grasses.
Willow Beauty (<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>)	1	Macro	Abundant (16,389)	Redsident. Larvae feed on privet, lilac, ivy, honeysuckle, hawthorn, dock, heather and gorse.
Yellow-triangle Slender (<i>Caloptilia alchimiella</i>)	1	Micro		
Yponomeuta sp. (<i>Yponomeuta</i>)	11	Macro		

Images



Canary-shouldered Thorn (*Ennomos alniaria*)



Carrion Moth (*Monopis weaverella*)



Comfrey Ermel (*Ethmia quadrillella*)



Cream-bordered Green Pea (*Earias clorana*)



Dingy Footman (*Eilema griseola*)



Early Thorn (*Selenia dentaria*)



Gold Spot (*Plusia festucae*)



Jersey Tiger (*Euplagia quadripunctaria*)



Lime-speck Pug (*Eupithecia centaureata*)



Oak Processionary (*Thaumetopoea processionea*)



Pearl Grass-veneer (*Catoptria pinella*)



Rosy Rustic (*Hydraecia micacea*)



Scarce Oak Knot-horn (*Acrobasis tumidana*)



Small Mottled Willow (*Spodoptera exigua*)



Swallow Prominent (*Pheosia tremula*)



Tree-lichen Beauty (*Cryphia algae*)



Yellow-triangle Slender (*Caloptilia alchimiella*)

Notes

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 4 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](#)