



Moth Survey Report

Summary

Location:	Green Cross Cottage, South Garden (TQ3615)
Date:	08/08/2026
Survey Method(s):	MV Light
Recorders(s):	Chris Chapman
Moth Count:	187
Species Count: (see notes)	61 New for Year: 8 New for Location: 0 Total new species for Location this Year: 27 Species Count for Year: 319 Species Total for Location: 552
Non-species Count:	4
Notable Record Count:	10

Full List

NFY = New Species For Year

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Alder Kitten (<i>Furcula bicuspis</i>)	1	Macro	Fairly Common (741)	
Ash-bark Knot-horn (<i>Euzophera pinguis</i>)	3	Micro	Common (2,366)	Resident. Larvae feed under the bark of ash
Bird-cherry Ermine (<i>Yponomeuta evonymella</i>) NFY	1	Micro	Common (1,352)	Resident and suspected immigrant. Flying mainly from late June to mid August. Larvae feed on cultivated cherry.
Black-headed Conch (<i>Cochylischroa atricapitana</i>)	1	Micro	Common (2,252)	Resident. The larvae feed inside the blossoms and stems of ragwort.
Bright-line Brown-eye (<i>Lacanobia oleracea</i>)	2	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>)	7	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.
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.
Burnished Brass (<i>Diachrysa chrysis</i>)	1	Macro	Common (5,792)	Resident. Larvae feed on stinging nettle.
Chinese Character (<i>Cilix glaucata</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,424)	Resident. Larvae feed on hawthorn, apple, pear, sloe and oak.
Cineros Groundling (<i>Bryotropha terrella</i>) NFY	1	Micro	Common (1,751)	

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Cloaked Minor (<i>Mesoligia furuncula</i>)	1	Macro	Common (2,400)	Resident. Larvae feed on unidentified grasses.
Clouded Border (<i>Lomaspilis marginata</i>)	14	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 Grass-veneer (<i>Agriphila tristella</i>)	2	Micro	Common (6,855)	Resident. The larvae feed at the base of unspecified grass stems but this has yet to be confirmed in Sussex.
Common Marble (<i>Celypha lacunana</i>)	5	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 Purple and Gold (<i>Pyrausta purpuralis</i>)	4	Micro	Common (2,280)	Resident. Larvae have been associated with self-heal.
Common Rustic agg. (<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.)	15	Macro		
Common Wainscot (<i>Mythimna pallens</i>)	9	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.
Copper Underwing agg. (<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.)	1	Macro		
Coronet (<i>Craniophora ligustri</i>) ^{NFY}	2	Macro	Common (3,853)	Resident. Primarily single-brooded flying mainly from early May to mid-August. Larvae feed on ash
<i>Delplanqueia dilutella/inscriptella</i> (<i>Delplanqueia dilutella/inscriptella</i>)	4	Micro		
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>)	2	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.
Double-striped Pug (<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>)	1	Macro	Very Common (9,937)	Resident. Larvae feed on the flowers of heather, gorse, broom, clematis (traveller's joy), holly and oleander.
Dusky Hook-tip (<i>Drepana curvatula</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Very Rare (43)	Immigrant. Larvae feed on alder in Europe.
Dusky Thorn (<i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>) ^{NFY}	2	Macro	Common (6,013)	Resident. The larvae feed on ash and wild privet.
Grey Knot-horn (<i>Acrobasis advenella</i>)	2	Micro	Common (2,554)	Resident. Larval foodplant is hawthorn and rowan.
Heart and Dart (<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>)	11	Macro	Abundant (20,709)	Resident. Larval foodplants include a wide variety of unidentified wild and garden plants.
Iron Prominent (<i>Notodonta dromedarius</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (4,012)	Resident. Larvae feed on (silver) birch, alder and hazel.
Jersey Tiger (<i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i>)	1	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.
Large Fruit-tree Tortrix (<i>Archips podana</i>)	2	Micro	Common (2,984)	Resident. Larvae feed on deciduous trees in woods and on ivy, hops, <i>Euonymus japonicus</i> , etc., in gardens and parks.
Large Yellow Underwing (<i>Noctua pronuba</i>)	2	Macro	Abundant (32,567)	Resident reinforced by regular immigration. Larvae feed on unspecified garden vegetables and flowers.
Light Emerald (<i>Campaea margaritaria</i>)	3	Macro	Very Common (9,291)	Resident. Larvae feed on beech, birch, oak, ash, heather and grey willow.
Long-horned Flat-body (<i>Carcina quercana</i>)	3	Micro	Common (2,793)	Resident. Larvae feed on the leaves of all kinds of trees and shrubs.
Maiden's Blush (<i>Cyclophora punctaria</i>)	1	Macro	Common (3,783)	A resident and suspected immigrant. Larvae feed on Oak and (silver) Birch.
Marbled Piercer (<i>Cydia splendana</i>)	3	Micro	Common (2,697)	Resident. Larvae feed on oak acorns.
Mother of Pearl (<i>Patania ruralis</i>)	3	Micro	Common (7,180)	
Nut-tree Tussock (<i>Colocasia coryli</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,327)	A fairly common resident species associated with

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
				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.
Ox-tongue Conch (<i>Neocoehylis molliculana</i>)	3	Micro	Common (1,372)	
Pale Mottled Willow (<i>Caradrina clavipalpis</i>)	1	Macro	Common (6,659)	Resident. Larvae feed on bramble, willow, unspecified low-growing plants including thistle, hop, poplar and in captivity oak.
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.
Pale-streak Grass-veneer (<i>Agriphila selasella</i>)	5	Micro	Fairly Common (880)	Resident The larval foodplant is not known in Sussex but is listed elsewhere as unspecified grasses.
Poplar Hawk-moth (<i>Laethoe populi</i>)	4	Macro	Very Common (9,664)	Resident . Larvae feed on goat willow, grey willow, aspen, poplars, willows and occasionally beech.
Red Piercer (<i>Lathronympha strigana</i>)	1	Micro	Fairly Common (404)	
Rosy-striped Knot-horn (<i>Oncocera semirubella</i>)	1	Micro	Scarce (372)	Nationally Notable Class B. Suspected immigrant and episodic resident. Larvae feed in the shoots of birds-foot trefoil.
Rush Veneer (<i>Nomophila noctuella</i>)	8	Micro	Very Common (8,199)	Immigrant appearing each year in widely varying numbers. Larvae feed on clover and unspecified grasses.
Rusty-dot Pearl (<i>Udea ferrugalis</i>)	3	Micro	Common (7,620)	Immigrant. Larvae feed on hemp agrimony, strawberry and woundwort.
Sallow Kitten (<i>Furcula furcula</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (1,406)	Resident. Larvae feed on willow and other willows.
Setaceous Hebrew Character (<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>)	4	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 (2,159)	Resident. Larvae feed on sloe and sea buckthorn.
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 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
Single-dotted Wave (<i>Idaea dimidiata</i>)	1	Macro	Common (5,847)	Resident. Larvae feed on Burnet Saxifrage and Beaked Parsley.
Small Mottled Willow (<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>)	10	Macro	Fairly Common (781)	Immigrant. Larvae have not been recorded in Sussex although they have been found on <i>Persicaria</i> elsewhere.
Small Rufous (<i>Coenobia rufa</i>)	1	Macro	Fairly Common (647)	Resident. Larvae feed on the stems of jointed rush and soft rush.
Spindle Knot-horn (<i>Nephopterix angustella</i>)	1	Micro	Fairly Common (852)	
Straw Grass-veneer (<i>Agriphila straminella</i>)	3	Micro	Common (5,619)	Resident. The larvae feed on unspecified grasses.
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.
Vagrant Piercer (<i>Cydia amplana</i>)	3	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.
Vine's Rustic (<i>Hoplodrina ambigua</i>)	4	Macro	Very Common (13,502)	Resident and immigrant species. The larval foodplant has not been recorded in Sussex.
Willow Beauty (<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>)	3	Macro	Abundant (16,389)	Redsident. Larvae feed on privet, lilac, ivy, honeysuckle, hawthorn, dock, heather and gorse.

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Yellow Shell (Camptogramma bilineata) ^{NFY}	2	Macro	Common (3,191)	
Yponomeuta sp. (Yponomeuta)	2	Macro		

Notable Records

Species	Comment
Alder Kitten (Furcula bicuspis)	Likely to be only the 5th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.
Bird-cherry Ermine (Yponomeuta evonymella)	Only the 4th time recorded at this location.
Cineros Groundling (Bryotropha terrella)	Only the 5th time recorded at this location.
Clouded Border (Lomaspilis marginata)	14 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 7.
Dusky Hook-tip (Drepana curvatula)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; Only the 5th time recorded at this location.
Long-horned Flat-body (Carcina quercana)	3 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 2.
Rosy-striped Knot-horn (Oncocera semirubella)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex
Sallow Kitten (Furcula furcula)	Only the 5th time recorded at this location.
Small Rufous (Coenobia rufa)	Only the 3rd time recorded at this location.
Spindle Knot-horn (Nephopterix angustella)	Only the 2nd time recorded at this location.

Images



Alder Kitten (Furcula bicuspis)



Black-headed Conch (Cochylichroa atricapitana)



Coronet (*Craniophora ligustri*)



Dusky Hook-tip (*Drepana curvatula*)



Marbled Piercer (*Cydia splendana*)



Red Piercer (*Lathronympha strigana*)



Spindle Knot-horn (*Nephoterix angustella*)



Vestal (*Rhodometra sacraria*)

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](#)