



Moth Survey Report

Summary

Location:	Crossways, Rear Garden (TQ3618)
Date:	14/08/2026
Survey Method(s):	MV Light
Recorders(s):	Chris Chapman, David Phillips
Moth Count:	895
Species Count: (see notes)	78 New for Year: 75 New for Location: 18 Total new species for Location this Year: 16 Species Count for Year: 76 Species Total for Location: 250
Non-species Count:	5

Full List

NFG = New Species For Location/Garden

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Angle Shades (<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>) NFG	5	Macro	Very Common (12,784)	Resident but regularly reinforced by immigration. Larvae will eat "almost any green herb".
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>)	12	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.
Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (<i>Noctua fimbriata</i>)	8	Macro	Common (5,720)	Resident. Larvae feed on a wide range of low growing plants and shrubs including hawthorn, willow (silver) birch, figwort, willowherb, honeysuckle, goosefoot and ivy.
Chinese Character (<i>Cilix glaucata</i>)	3	Macro	Common (4,424)	Resident. Larvae feed on hawthorn, apple, pear, sloe and oak.
Cinereous Groundling (<i>Bryotropha terrella</i>) NFG	1	Micro	Common (1,751)	
Clouded Border (<i>Lomaspilis marginata</i>)	3	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>)	5	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>)	3	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 nubilalis</i>)	12	Micro	Common (2,280)	Resident. Larvae have been associated with self-

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
				heal.
Common Rustic agg. (<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.)	18	Macro		
Common Wainscot (<i>Mythimna pallens</i>)	108	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>) ^{NFG}	1	Macro	Common (3,638)	Resident. Larvae feed on (silver) birch, willow and hazel.
Copper Underwing agg. (<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.)	1	Macro		
Dark Sword-grass (<i>Agrotis ipsilon</i>)	8	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
Delicate (<i>Mythimna vitellina</i>)	29	Macro	Common (2,391)	Immigrant and suspected episodic resident species. Larvae feed on various grasses.
Delplanqueia dilutella/inscriptella (<i>Delplanqueia dilutella/inscriptella</i>)	1	Micro		
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 Dowd (<i>Blastobasis adustella</i>)	4	Micro	Common (7,844)	Resident. Larvae have been found to feed on fresh, decaying or dried vegetable matter.
Dingy Footman (<i>Eilema griseola</i>)	1	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.
Dun-bar (<i>Cosmia trapezina</i>)	2	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.
Elder Pearl (<i>Anania coronata</i>) ^{NFG}	1	Micro	Common (3,031)	
European Corn-borer (<i>Ostrinia nubilalis</i>)	3	Micro	Common (1,940)	Immigrant and resident species. Larvae feed on mugwort.
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 Rose Tortrix (<i>Acleris variegana</i>)	1	Micro	Common (2,994)	Resident. Larvae feed on burnet-rose, sloe and hawthorn and in domestic gardens on rose and the leaves of apple, pear, cherry and apricot.
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>)	37	Macro	Abundant (20,709)	Resident. Larval foodplants include a wide variety of unidentified wild and garden plants.
Iron Prominent (<i>Notodonta dromedarius</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,012)	Resident. Larvae feed on (silver) birch, alder and hazel.
Jersey Tiger (<i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i>)	3	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>)	7	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>)	80	Macro	Abundant (32,567)	Resident reinforced by regular immigration. Larvae feed on unspecified garden vegetables and flowers.
Latticed Heath (<i>Chiasmia clathrata</i>) ^{NFG}	1	Macro	Very Scarce (167)	
Light Crimson Underwing (<i>Catocala promissa</i>)	1	Macro	Scarce (201)	An immigrant and resident. Larvae feed on oak.
Light Emerald (<i>Campaea margaritaria</i>)	14	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>)	6	Micro	Common (2,793)	Resident. Larvae feed on the leaves of all kinds of

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
				trees and shrubs.
Maiden's Blush (<i>Cyclophora punctaria</i>)	6	Macro	Common (3,783)	A resident and suspected immigrant. Larvae feed on Oak and (silver) Birch.
Marbled Piercer (<i>Cydia splendana</i>)	10	Micro	Common (2,697)	Resident. Larvae feed on oak acorns.
Marsh Dowd (<i>Blastobasis rebeli</i>) ^{NFG}	3	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>)	1	Micro	Common (7,180)	
Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia agg. (<i>Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia</i> agg.)	23	Micro		
Oak Hook-tip (<i>Watsonalla binaria</i>)	28	Macro	Common (3,925)	Resident. Larvae feed on oak.
Ox-tongue Conch (<i>Neocochylis molliculana</i>)	1	Micro	Common (1,059)	Resident. The larvae feed on bristly oxtongue.
Pale-streak Grass-veneer (<i>Agriphila selasella</i>)	76	Micro	Fairly Common (880)	Resident The larval foodplant is not known in Sussex but is listed elsewhere as unspecified grasses.
Pebble Hook-tip (<i>Drepana falcataria</i>) ^{NFG}	1	Macro	Common (2,739)	Resident and suspected immigrant. Larvae feed on birch and probably alder.
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.
Portland Ribbon Wave (<i>Idaea degeneraria</i>)	3	Macro	Fairly Common (469)	
Purple Argent (<i>Argyresthia albiaria</i>) * ^{NFG}	1	Micro	Rare (91)	Resident. Larvae feed on the shoots of sloe.
Rosy Rustic (<i>Hydraecia micacea</i>) ^{NFG}	6	Macro	Common (4,785)	Resident. Larvae have been associated with the roots of dock and hop.
Rush Veneer (<i>Nomophila noctuella</i>)	44	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>)	7	Micro	Common (7,620)	Immigrant. Larvae feed on hemp agrimony, strawberry and woundwort.
Saltmarsh Knot-horn (<i>Ancylosis oblitella</i>) ^{NFG}	3	Micro	Very Scarce (101)	Resident and suspected immigrant. The larval foodplant has yet to be determined in Sussex, although goosefoot has been listed from elsewhere.
Scalloped Oak (<i>Crocallis elinguaris</i>)	5	Macro	Common (7,076)	Resident. The larvae feed on honeysuckle, plum, ivy, birch, ground ivy, sloe and bramble.
Scarce Bordered Straw (<i>Helicoverpa armigera</i>) ^{NFG}	1	Macro	Fairly Common (784)	
Scarce Oak Knot-horn (<i>Acrobasis tumidana</i>)	7	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>)	2	Macro	Common (1,770)	A resident species. Larvae feed on spindle.
Setaceous Hebrew Character (<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>)	52	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>)	3	Macro	Common (2,159)	Resident. Larvae feed on sloe and sea buckthorn.
Short-cloaked Moth (<i>Nola cucullatella</i>)	1	Macro	Fairly Common (983)	
Shuttle-shaped Dart (<i>Agrotis puta</i>)	2	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 Y (<i>Autographa gamma</i>)	4	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.
Six-striped Rustic (<i>Xestia sexstrigata</i>)	5	Macro	Common (2,678)	Resident. The larval foodplant has been recorded as

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
				unidentified herbaceous plants.
Small Blood-vein (<i>Scopula imitaria</i>) ^{NFG}	1	Macro	Common (1,815)	Resident. Larvae feed on Honeysuckle and Hawthorne.
Small Marbled (<i>Eublemma parva</i>) ^{NFG}	3	Macro	Very Rare (28)	
Small Mottled Willow (<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>) ^{NFG}	115	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>) ^{NFG}	1	Micro	Fairly Common (852)	
Square-spot Rustic (<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>)	5	Macro	Very Common (13,911)	Resident. Larvae feed on unspecified species of ribbon grass.
Straw Conch (<i>Cochylimorpha straminea</i>)	1	Micro	Fairly Common (557)	Resident. The larvae feed on the flowers and seed heads of knapweed.
Straw Grass-veiner (<i>Agriphila straminella</i>)	1	Micro	Common (5,619)	Resident. The larvae feed on unspecified grasses.
Straw Underwing (<i>Thalpophila matura</i>)	10	Macro	Common (4,020)	Resident. Larvae feed on unidentified 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.
Thicket Knot-horn (<i>Acrobasis suavelia</i>) * ^{NFG}	1	Micro	Common (1,108)	Resident. Larvae feed on sloe, hawthorn and cotoneaster.
Tufted Button (<i>Acleris cristana</i>) ^{NFG}	1	Micro	Scarce (258)	Resident. Larvae feed on the flowers and fruit of pear, hawthorn, sloe and apple.
Turnip Moth (<i>Agrotis segetum</i>) ^{NFG}	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>)	1	Micro	Fairly Common (665)	Resident and suspected immigrant. Larvae feed inside acorns, hazel nuts and sweet chestnuts.
Vestal (<i>Rhodometra sacraria</i>)	4	Macro	Common (1,013)	An immigrant. Larvae have been associated with Knotgrass and Redshank.
Vine's Rustic (<i>Hoplodrina ambigua</i>)	39	Macro	Very Common (13,502)	Resident and immigrant species. The larval foodplant has not been recorded in Sussex.
White-headed Ermine (<i>Paraswammerdamia albicapitella</i>)	1	Micro	Scarce (359)	
White-point (<i>Mythimna albipuncta</i>)	13	Macro	Common (7,725)	Immigrant and episodic resident. Larvae feed on unspecified grasses.
Willow Beauty (<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>)	1	Macro	Abundant (16,389)	Resident. Larvae feed on privet, lilac, ivy, honeysuckle, hawthorn, dock, heather and gorse.
Yponomeuta sp. (<i>Yponomeuta</i>)	6	Macro		

Images



Blood-vein (*Timandra comae*)



Delicate (*Mythimna vitellina*)



Elder Pearl (*Anania coronata*)



Latticed Heath (*Chiasmia clathrata*)



Light Crimson Underwing (*Catocala promissa*)



Pebble Hook-tip (*Drepana falcataria*)



Portland Ribbon Wave (*Idaea degeneraria*)



Purple Argem (*Argyresthia albistria*)



Saltmarsh Knot-horn (*Ancylosis oblitella*)



Short-cloaked Moth (*Nola cucullatella*)



Small Blood-vein (*Scopula imitaria*)



Small Marbled (*Eublemma parva*)



Swallow Prominent (*Pheosia tremula*)



Tufted Button (*Acleris cristana*)

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 Chilington Wildlife Group](#))