



Moth Survey Report

Summary

Location:	Green Cross Cottage, South Garden (TQ3615)
Date:	24/08/2026
Survey Method(s):	MV Light
Recorders(s):	Chris Chapman
Moth Count:	281
Species Count: (see notes)	66 New for Year: 12 New for Location: 1 Total new species for Location this Year: 29 Species Count for Year: 334 Species Total for Location: 554
Non-species Count:	4
Notable Record Count:	15

Full List

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

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Barred Marble (<i>Celypha striana</i>) NFY	1	Micro	Common (1,639)	
Black-headed Conch (<i>Cochylichroa atricapitana</i>) *	1	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.
Bramble Shoot Moth (<i>Notocelia uddmanniana</i>)	1	Micro	Common (2,737)	Resident. The larvae feed on bramble.
Brimstone Moth (<i>Opisthocraptis luteolata</i>)	8	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.
Centre-barred Sallow (<i>Atethmia centrugo</i>) NFY	2	Macro	Common (2,219)	Resident. The larvae feed on ash.
Cinerous Groundling (<i>Bryotropha terrella</i>)	1	Micro	Common (1,751)	
Cloaked Minor (<i>Mesoligia furuncula</i>)	1	Macro	Common (2,400)	Resident. Larvae feed on unidentified grasses.
Clouded Border (<i>Lomaspilis marginata</i>)	1	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>)	41	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>)	6	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.

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Common Plume (<i>Emmelina monodactyla</i>)	2	Micro	Very Common (12,093)	Resident. Larvae feed on bindweed and on races of the related "Morning Glory".
Common Purple and Gold (<i>Pyrausta purpuralis</i>)	2	Micro	Common (2,280)	Resident. Larvae have been associated with self-heal.
Common Rustic agg. (<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.)	2	Macro		
Common Wainscot (<i>Mythimna pallens</i>)	6	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>)	2	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>)	1	Macro	Common (3,853)	Resident. Primarily single-brooded flying mainly from early May to mid-August. Larvae feed on ash
Dark Bordered Pearl (<i>Evergestis limbata</i>)	1	Micro	Common (1,056)	Resident and suspected occasional immigrant. Larvae feed on the leaves of hedge mustard.
Delicate (<i>Mythimna vitellina</i>) ^{NFY}	2	Macro	Common (2,391)	Immigrant and suspected episodic resident species. Larvae feed on various grasses.
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>)	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.
Dusky Thorn (<i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>)	1	Macro	Common (6,013)	Resident. The larvae feed on ash and wild privet.
Elbow-stripe Grass-veneer (<i>Agriphila geniculea</i>) ^{NFY}	3	Micro	Common (4,472)	Resident. The larval plant in unknown in Sussex but unspecified grasses are noted for elsewhere.
Elder Pearl (<i>Anania coronata</i>) ^{NFY}	2	Micro	Common (3,031)	
Ermine Knot-horn (<i>Phycitodes binaevella</i>) *	1	Micro	Fairly Common (759)	Resident The larvae feed in the seed-heads of spear thistle.
European Corn-borer (<i>Ostrinia nubilalis</i>)	2	Micro	Common (1,940)	Immigrant and resident species. Larvae feed on mugwort.
Flame Shoulder (<i>Ochropleura plecta</i>)	5	Macro	Abundant (19,960)	Resident. Larvae feed on various unidentified wild and cultivated plants that have been listed from elsewhere.
Flounced Rustic (<i>Luperina testacea</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (6,183)	
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>)	1	Micro	Common (2,554)	Resident. Larval foodplant is hawthorn and rowan.
Heart and Dart (<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>)	1	Macro	Abundant (20,709)	Resident. Larval foodplants include a wide variety of unidentified wild and garden plants.
Hook-tipped Grass-veneer (<i>Platytes alpinella</i>) ^{NFY NFG}	1	Micro	Very Scarce (125)	
Large Beech Piercer (<i>Cydia fagiglandana</i>) * ^{NFY NFG}	1	Micro	Very Scarce (195)	
Large Fruit-tree Tortrix (<i>Archips podana</i>)	1	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.
Light Emerald (<i>Campaea margaritaria</i>)	7	Macro	Very Common (9,291)	Resident. Larvae feed on beech, birch, oak, ash, heather and grey willow.
Mocha (<i>Cyclophora annularia</i>)	1	Macro	Fairly Common (714)	Resident. Larvae feed on Maple.
Mother of Pearl (<i>Patania ruralis</i>)	1	Micro	Common (7,180)	
Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia agg. (Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia agg.)	13	Micro		
Notch-wing Button (<i>Acleris emargana</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Micro	Scarce (218)	Resident. Larvae feed on willow.
Oak Hook-tip (<i>Watsonalla binaria</i>)	13	Macro	Common (3,925)	Resident. Larvae feed on oak.
Orange Swift (<i>Triodia sylvina</i>)	5	Macro	Common (3,385)	Resident. Larvae feed on the roots of various plants including bracken, burdock and viper's bugloss.

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Ox-tongue Conch (<i>Neocoehylis molliculana</i>) *	1	Micro	Common (1,059)	Resident. The larvae feed on bristly oxtongue.
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-streak Grass-veneer (<i>Agriphila selasella</i>)	2	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 falcata</i>)	1	Macro	Common (2,739)	Resident and suspected immigrant. Larvae feed on birch and probably alder.
Poplar Hawk-moth (<i>Laethoe populi</i>)	2	Macro	Very Common (9,664)	Resident . Larvae feed on goat willow, grey willow, aspen, poplars, willows and occasionally beech.
Portland Ribbon Wave (<i>Idaea degeneraria</i>)	1	Macro	Fairly Common (469)	
Riband Wave (<i>Idaea aversata</i>)	1	Macro	Very Common (12,367)	
Rosy Rustic (<i>Hydraecia micacea</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (4,785)	Resident. Larvae have been associated with the roots of dock and hop.
Rosy-striped Knot-horn (<i>Oncocera semirubella</i>)	3	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.
Setaceous Hebrew Character (<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>)	14	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 unspici
Single-dotted Wave (<i>Idaea dimidiata</i>)	2	Macro	Common (5,847)	Resident. Larvae feed on Burnet Saxifrage and Beaked Parsley.
Six-striped Rustic (<i>Xestia sexstrigata</i>) ^{NFY}	12	Macro	Common (2,678)	Resident. The larval foodplant has been recorded as unidentified herbaceous plants.
Small Blood-vein (<i>Scopula imitaria</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (1,815)	Resident. Larvae feed on Honeysuckle and Hawthorne.
Small Dusty Wave (<i>Idaea seriata</i>)	1	Macro	Common (2,329)	
Small Mottled Willow (<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>)	11	Macro	Fairly Common (781)	Immigrant. Larvae have not been recorded in Sussex although they have been found on <i>Persicaria</i> elsewhere.
Snout (<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>)	7	Macro	Very Common (11,707)	Resident. Larvae feed on stinging nettle.
Square-spot Rustic (<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>)	12	Macro	Very Common (13,911)	Resident. Larvae feed on unspecified species of ribbon grass.
Straw Underwing (<i>Thalophila matura</i>) ^{NFY}	22	Macro	Common (4,020)	Resident. Larvae feed on unidentified grasses.
Vestal (<i>Rhodometra sacra</i>)	6	Macro	Common (1,013)	An immigrant. Larvae have been associated with Knotgrass and Redshank.
Vine's Rustic (<i>Hoplodrina ambigua</i>)	6	Macro	Very Common (13,502)	Resident and immigrant species. The larval foodplant has not been recorded in Sussex.
White-headed Ermel (<i>Paraswammerdamia albicapitella</i>)	1	Micro	Scarce (359)	
White-point (<i>Mythimna albipuncta</i>)	7	Macro	Common (7,725)	Immigrant and episodic resident. Larvae feed on unspecified grasses.
Willow Beauty (<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>)	3	Macro	Abundant (16,389)	Redsident. Larvae feed on privet, lilac, ivy, honeysuckle, hawthorn, dock, heather and gorse.
Yponomeuta sp. (<i>Yponomeuta</i>)	5	Macro		

Notable Records

Species	Comment
Cineros Groundling (<i>Bryotropha terrella</i>)	Only the 6th time recorded at this location.
Common Grass-veneer (<i>Agriphila tristella</i>)	41 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 23.
Elder Pearl (<i>Anania coronata</i>)	2 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 1.; Only the 3rd time recorded at this location.
Flounced Rustic (<i>Luperina testacea</i>)	Only the 6th time recorded at this location.
Hook-tipped Grass-veneer (<i>Platytes alpinella</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; First time recorded at this location.
Large Beech Piercer (<i>Cydia fagiglandana</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; First time recorded at this location.; Likely to be only the 4th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.
Notch-wing Button (<i>Acleris emargana</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; Likely to be only the 4th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chiltington.
Orange Swift (<i>Triodia sylvina</i>)	5 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 2.
Pebble Hook-tip (<i>Drepana falcatoria</i>)	Only the 5th time recorded at this location.
Rosy-striped Knot-horn (<i>Oncocera semirubella</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; 3 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 2.
Six-striped Rustic (<i>Xestia sexstrigata</i>)	12 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 7.
Small Dusty Wave (<i>Idaea seriata</i>)	Only the 5th time recorded at this location.
Straw Underwing (<i>Thalophila matura</i>)	22 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 9.
Vestal (<i>Rhodometra sacraria</i>)	6 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 4.
White-headed Ermel (<i>Paraswammerdamia albicapitella</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; Only the 5th time recorded at this location.

Images



Barred Marble (*Celypha striana*)



Centre-barred Sallow (*Atethmia centrargo*)



Coronet (*Craniophora ligustri*)



Elder Pearl (*Anania coronata*)



Mocha (*Cyclophora annularia*)



Orange Swift (*Triodia sylvina*)



Pebble Hook-tip (*Drepana falcataria*)



Rosy Rustic (*Hydraecia micacea*)



Rosy-striped Knot-horn (*Oncocera semirubella*)



Small Blood-vein (*Scopula imitaria*)

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 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](#)

Produced by Chris Chapman ([Plumpton & East Chiltington Wildlife Group](#))