



Moth Survey Report

Summary

Location:	Green Cross Cottage, South Garden (TQ3615)
Date:	21/09/2026
Survey Method(s):	MV Light
Recorders(s):	Chris Chapman
Moth Count:	274
Species Count: (see notes)	39 New for Year: 10 New for Location: 3 Total new species for Location this Year: 36 Species Count for Year: 373 Species Total for Location: 567
Non-species Count:	1
Notable Record Count:	14

Full List

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

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Black Rustic (<i>Aporophyla nigra</i>) NFY	4	Macro	Common (4,084)	Resident. Larvae feed on heather, petty whin, dock, dandelion and foxglove.
Brimstone Moth (<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>)	3	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.
Brown Knot-horn (<i>Matilella fusca</i>) NFY NFG	1	Micro	Very Rare (20)	
Centre-barred Sallow (<i>Atethmia centrargo</i>)	9	Macro	Common (2,219)	Resident. The larvae feed on ash.
Deep-brown Dart (<i>Aporophyla lueneburgensis</i>) NFY	4	Macro	Scarce (371)	Resident. Larvae feed on unspecified grasses.
Elbow-stripe Grass-veneer (<i>Agriphila geniculea</i>)	1	Micro	Common (4,472)	Resident. The larval plant in unknown in Sussex but unspecified grasses are noted for elsewhere.
Flame Shoulder (<i>Ochropleura plecta</i>)	1	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.
Green-brindled Crescent (<i>Allophyas oxyacanthae</i>) NFY	1	Macro	Common (2,191)	Resident. Larvae feed on hawthorn, sloe and garden apple.
L-album Wainscot (<i>Mythimna l-album</i>)	5	Macro	Common (4,228)	An immigrant and episodic resident. Larvae feed on unspecified grasses.
Large Yellow Underwing (<i>Noctua pronuba</i>)	40	Macro	Abundant (32,567)	Resident reinforced by regular immigration. Larvae feed on unspecified garden vegetables and flowers.
Light Brown Apple Moth (<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>)	1	Micro	Abundant (20,303)	Resident. First recorded in Sussex record in 1984.

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
				The species originated from Australia. Larvae feed on a huge variety of flowers, shrubs and crops.
Light Emerald (<i>Campaea margaritaria</i>)	1	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>)	1	Micro	Common (2,793)	Resident. Larvae feed on the leaves of all kinds of trees and shrubs.
Lunar Underwing (<i>Anchoscelis lunosa</i>) ^{NFY}	85	Macro	Common (7,852)	Resident. The larval foodplants are grasses (as yet unspecified).
Meal Moth (<i>Pyralis farinalis</i>)	1	Micro	Fairly Common (602)	
Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia agg. (Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia agg.)	5	Micro		
Orange Sallow (<i>Tiliacea citrago</i>)	1	Macro	Very Scarce (155)	Resident. The larvae feed on lime.
Ox-tongue Conch (<i>Neocoehylis molliculana</i>) *	1	Micro	Common (1,059)	Resident. The larvae feed on bristly oxtongue.
Pinion-streaked Snout (<i>Schrankia costaestrigalis</i>) *	1	Macro	Common (1,450)	Resident. The larval foodplant in the wild is not known in this country.
Pink-barred Sallow (<i>Xanthia togata</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Common (1,163)	Resident. The larvae feed firstly on the catkins of willow and then move on to the leaves of other (unspecified) low growing plants.
Plumed Fan-foot (<i>Pechipogo plumigeralis</i>) ^{NFY NFG}	1	Macro	Fairly Common (614)	A suspected occasional immigrant and recent episodic resident. The larval foodplant in the wild is not known in this country.
Rhomboid Tortrix (<i>Acleris rhombana</i>) ^{NFY}	1	Micro	Scarce (360)	
Rosy Rustic (<i>Hydraecia micacea</i>)	2	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.
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>)	3	Micro	Very Common (8,199)	Immigrant appearing each year in widely varying numbers. Larvae feed on clover and unspecified grasses.
Sallow (<i>Cirrhia icteritia</i>) ^{NFY}	7	Macro	Common (2,741)	Resident. The larvae feed at first on willow catkins, latter on willow leaves and finally on low-growing plants.
September Thorn (<i>Ennomos erosaria</i>) ^{NFY NFG}	1	Macro	Fairly Common (525)	
Setaceous Hebrew Character (<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>)	3	Macro	Abundant (20,549)	Resident species reinforced by episodic immigration. Larvae feed on dock and probably other herbaceous plants.
Sharp-winged Drill (<i>Dichrorampha acuminatana</i>) *	1	Micro	Very Scarce (199)	
Small Blood-vein (<i>Scopula imitaria</i>)	1	Macro	Common (1,815)	Resident. Larvae feed on Honeysuckle and Hawthorne.
Small Mottled Willow (<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>)	5	Macro	Fairly Common (781)	Immigrant. Larvae have not been recorded in Sussex although they have been found on <i>Persicaria</i> elsewhere.
Square-spot Rustic (<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>)	55	Macro	Very Common (13,911)	Resident. Larvae feed on unspecified species of ribbon grass.
Thicket Knot-horn (<i>Acrobasis suavelia</i>)	1	Micro	Common (1,108)	Resident. Larvae feed on sloe, hawthorn and cotoneaster.
Turnip Moth (<i>Agrotis segetum</i>)	3	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.
Vestal (<i>Rhodometra sacraria</i>)	5	Macro	Common (1,013)	An immigrant. Larvae have been associated with Knotgrass and Redshank.
Vine's Rustic (<i>Hoplodrina ambigua</i>)	1	Macro	Very Common (13,502)	Resident and immigrant species. The larval foodplant has not been recorded in Sussex.
White-point (<i>Mythimna albipuncta</i>)	3	Macro	Common (7,725)	Immigrant and episodic resident. Larvae feed on unspecified grasses.

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Willow Beauty (<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>)	11	Macro	Abundant (16,389)	Redsident. Larvae feed on privet, lilac, ivy, honeysuckle, hawthorn, dock, heather and gorse.

Notable Records

Species	Comment
Brown Knot-horn (<i>Matilella fusca</i>)	Likely first record for Plumpton & East Chilmington. No records prior to 2025.; A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex
Deep-brown Dart (<i>Aporophyla lueneburgensis</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; Only the 6th time recorded at this location.
Lunar Underwing (<i>Anchoscelis lunosa</i>)	85 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 70.
Meal Moth (<i>Pyralis farinalis</i>)	Likely to be only the 6th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chilmington.
Orange Sallow (<i>Tiliacea citrigo</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex
Pinion-streaked Snout (<i>Schrankia costaestrigalis</i>)	Only the 6th time recorded at this location.
Pink-barred Sallow (<i>Xanthia togata</i>)	Only the 6th time recorded at this location.
Plumed Fan-foot (<i>Pechipogo plumigeralis</i>)	First time recorded at this location.
Rhomboid Tortrix (<i>Acleris rhombana</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; Only the 4th time recorded at this location.
Rosy-striped Knot-horn (<i>Oncocera semirubella</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex
September Thorn (<i>Ennomos erosaria</i>)	First time recorded at this location.; Likely to be only the 3rd time recorded in Plumpton & East Chilmington.
Sharp-winged Drill (<i>Dichrorampha acuminatana</i>)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex
Thicket Knot-horn (<i>Acrobasis suavella</i>)	Only the 4th time recorded at this location.
Turnip Moth (<i>Agrotis segetum</i>)	3 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 2.

Images



Black Rustic (*Aporophyla nigra*)



Brown Knot-horn (*Matilella fusca*)



Garden Rose Tortrix (*Acleris variegana*)



L-album Wainscot (*Mythimna l-album*)



Long-horned Flat-body (*Carcina quercana*)



Meal Moth (*Pyralis farinalis*)



Ox-tongue Conch (*Neocochylis molliculana*)



Pink-barred Sallow (*Xanthia togata*)



Plumed Fan-foot (*Pechipogo plumigeralis*)



Rhomboid Tortrix (*Acleris rhombana*)



Rosy Rustic (*Hydraecia micacea*)



Sharp-winged Drill (*Dichrorampha acuminatana*)



Small Blood-vein (*Scopula imitaria*)



Thicket Knot-horn (*Acrobasis suavella*)

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](#))