



Moth Survey Report

Summary

Location:	Green Cross Cottage, South Garden (TQ3615)
Date:	23/09/2026
Survey Method(s):	MV Light
Recorders(s):	Chris Chapman
Moth Count:	138
Species Count: (see notes)	33 New for Year: 4 New for Location: 0 Total new species for Location this Year: 36 Species Count for Year: 377 Species Total for Location: 567
Non-species Count:	1
Notable Record Count:	6

Full List

NFY = New Species For Year

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Ash-bark Knot-horn (<i>Euzophera pinguis</i>)	1	Micro	Common (2,366)	Resident. Larvae feed under the bark of ash
Barred Sallow (<i>Tiliacea aurago</i>) NFY	1	Macro	Common (2,335)	Resident. The larval foodplants are maple and beech.
Beaded Chestnut (<i>Agrochola lychnidis</i>) NFY	1	Macro	Common (2,459)	Resident. The larvae feed on unspecified grasses and low growing plants.
Black Rustic (<i>Aporophyla nigra</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,084)	Resident. Larvae feed on heather, petty whin, dock, dandelion and foxglove.
Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (<i>Noctua fimbriata</i>)	1	Macro	Common (5,720)	Resident. Larvae feed on a wide range of low growing plants and shrubs including hawthorn, sallow (silver) birch, figwort, willowherb, honeysuckle, goosefoot and ivy.
Centre-barred Sallow (<i>Atethmia centrargo</i>)	2	Macro	Common (2,219)	Resident. The larvae feed on ash.
Chestnut (<i>Conistra vaccinii</i>)	1	Macro	Common (4,297)	Resident. The larvae feed on oak, elm and sallow.
Deep-brown Dart (<i>Aporophyla lueneburgensis</i>)	2	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 is unknown in Sussex but unspecified grasses are noted for elsewhere.
Four-spotted Footman (<i>Lithosia quadra</i>) NFY	1	Macro	Fairly Common (823)	Immigrant and resident. Larvae feed on unidentified lichens which grow on the branches of oak trees.
Green-brindled Crescent (<i>Allophyas oxyacanthae</i>)	2	Macro	Common (2,191)	Resident. Larvae feed on hawthorn, sloe and garden apple.
L-album Wainscot (<i>Mythimna l-album</i>)	3	Macro	Common (4,228)	An immigrant and episodic resident. Larvae feed on unspecified grasses.

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Large Fruit-tree Tortrix (Archips podana)	1	Micro	Common (2,984)	Resident. Larvae feed on deciduous trees in woods and on ivy, hops, Euonymus japonicus, etc., in gardens and parks.
Large Yellow Underwing (Noctua pronuba)	17	Macro	Abundant (32,567)	Resident reinforced by regular immigration. Larvae feed on unspecified garden vegetables and flowers.
Lesser Yellow Underwing (Noctua comes)	2	Macro	Very Common (12,869)	A resident species reinforced by episodic immigration. Larvae feed on dock, primrose, nettle, honeysuckle, willowherb and garden arum.
Light Emerald (Campaea margaritaria)	1	Macro	Very Common (9,291)	Resident. Larvae feed on beech, birch, oak, ash, heather and grey willow.
Lunar Underwing (Anchoscelis lunosa)	41	Macro	Common (7,852)	Resident. The larval foodplants are grasses (as yet unspecified).
Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia agg. (Noctua janthe/janthina/tertia agg.)	1	Micro		
Orange Sallow (Tiliacea citrigo)	2	Macro	Very Scarce (155)	Resident. The larvae feed on lime.
Privet Twist (Clepsid consimilana)	1	Micro	Common (1,626)	Resident. Larvae are said to feed on privet.
Rosy Tabby (Endotricha flammealis)	1	Micro	Common (5,781)	Resident. Larvae feed on half-decayed leaves of trees and plants.
Sallow (Cirrha icteritia)	4	Macro	Common (2,741)	Resident. The larvae feed at first on willow catkins, latter on willow leaves and finally on low-growing plants.
Scarce Silver-lines (Bena bicolorana) ^{NFY}	1	Macro	Scarce (382)	Single-brooded flying mainly from early June to mid August. Larvae feed on oak.
September Thorn (Ennomos erosaria)	2	Macro	Fairly Common (525)	
Setaceous Hebrew Character (Xestia c-nigrum)	1	Macro	Abundant (20,549)	Resident species reinforced by episodic immigration. Larvae feed on dock and probably other herbaceous plants.
Small Dusty Wave (Idaea seriata)	1	Macro	Common (2,329)	
Small Square-spot (Diarsia rubi)	1	Macro	Common (7,203)	Resident. Larval foodplants are a variety of unidentified herbaceous plants.
Square-spot Rustic (Xestia xanthographa)	30	Macro	Very Common (13,911)	Resident. Larvae feed on unspecified species of ribbon grass.
Straw Dot (Rivula sericealis)	2	Macro	Very Common (10,829)	Resident sometimes reinforced by migration. Larvae feed on unidentified grasses.
Thicket Knot-horn (Acrobasis suavelia)	1	Micro	Common (1,108)	Resident. Larvae feed on sloe, hawthorn and cotoneaster.
Turnip Moth (Agrotis segetum)	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 (Rhodometra sacraria)	6	Macro	Common (1,013)	An immigrant. Larvae have been associated with Knotgrass and Redshank.
White-point (Mythimna albipuncta)	1	Macro	Common (7,725)	Immigrant and episodic resident. Larvae feed on unspecified grasses.
Willow Beauty (Peribatodes rhomboidaria)	1	Macro	Abundant (16,389)	Redsident. Larvae feed on privet, lilac, ivy, honeysuckle, hawthorn, dock, heather and gorse.

Notable Records

Species	Comment
Deep-brown Dart (Aporophyla lueneburgensis)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex
Orange Sallow (Tiliacea citrigo)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex
Scarce Silver-lines (Bena bicolorana)	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; Only the 3rd time recorded at this location.
September Thorn (Ennomos erosaria)	2 is now the highest number recorded during a single survey at this location. The previous highest count was 1.; Likely to be only the 4th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chilmington.
Small Dusty Wave (Idaea seriata)	Only the 6th time recorded at this location.

Species	Comment
Thicket Knot-horn (<i>Acrobasis suavella</i>)	Only the 5th time recorded at this location.

Images



Ash-bark Knot-horn (*Euzophera pinguis*)



Beaded Chestnut (*Agrochola lychnidis*)



Four-spotted Footman (*Lithosia quadra*)



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



Orange Sallow (*Tiliacea citrigo*)



Privet Twist (*Clepsis consimilana*)



Scarce Silver-lines (*Bena bicolorana*)



Small Square-spot (*Diarsia rubi*)



Thicket Knot-horn (*Acrobasis suavella*)



Turnip Moth (*Agrotis segetum*)

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](#)

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