



# E-moth update June 2025

Welcome to the June edition of E-moth.

As some of you may already be aware, there have been some changes to our team here at Butterfly Conservation. In February, we said goodbye to our Senior Surveys Officer, Zoë Randle, after an incredible 18-year career at BC. Consequently, I took up the role of Recording Schemes Officer in April, picking up the baton from Zoë. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Zoë for all her tireless efforts in supporting the network of County Recorders and Verification Assistants as well as her exceptional promotion of the recording of butterflies and moths across the country.



For the past 18 months, I have been working as the Landscape Officer for Surrey and Sussex, with responsibility for our reserves; Oaken Wood in Surrey and Rowland Wood and Park Corner Heath in Sussex. I've had previous experience in a Surveys Officer role, when I worked for The Mammal Society, leading the Mini Mammal Monitoring Scheme and delivering the lottery funded Mammal Watch South East project. I was responsible for the coordination of the surveys, providing appropriate training courses and managing volunteers. The project culminated in the first south east Mammal Atlas. I am thrilled to have started in this new role.

Sadly, we have also said goodbye to our GIS Officer, Karen Purdy. We are immensely grateful for her hard work in supporting both staff and volunteers in using Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping software, developing training materials and assisting key conservation projects and wish Karen the best of luck in her new role. We will be recruiting for a new GIS Officer soon. We have recently completed the recruitment process for our Biological Data Officer role and a new member of staff will in post soon to lead on managing the national recording scheme databases.

The National Moth Recorders Meeting took place online on Saturday 25 January. Attendees enjoyed the following presentations:

- National Moth Recording Scheme Update by Zoë Randle,
- Charismatic Clearwings in mid Wales by Norman Lowe
- Can we measure the impact of insect change on bird and bat populations? By Luke Evans
- Surveying Argyll's rare moths by David Hill
- Understanding why artificial lights trap flying insects using high-speed videography by Dr Sam Fabian
- Moths and light pollution by Dr Avalon Owens.

The meeting was recorded, and the presentations are available to watch here

It has been a much more encouraging start to our recording season this year, compared to recent years. Below, data from iRecord have been used to determine what moths have been recorded so far since the beginning of May. These data (verified and accepted as correct) show that Heart & Dart has the most records (5053), followed by Cinnabar (3820) and Treble Lines (2985). The top ten recorded moth species for this period are as follows:

| Common name            | Scientific name          | No. of records |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Heart & Dart           | Agrotis exclamationis    | 5053           |
| Cinnabar               | Tyria jacobaeae          | 3820           |
| Treble Lines           | Charanyca trigrammica    | 2985           |
| Flame Shoulder         | Ochropleura plecta       | 2209           |
| Brimstone Moth         | Opisthograptis luteolata | 2130           |
| White Ermine           | Spilosoma lubricipeda    | 1988           |
| Common Marble Carpet   | Dysstroma truncata       | 1943           |
| Buff Ermine            | Spilosoma lutea          | 1914           |
| Light Brown Apple Moth | Epiphyas postvittana     | 1814           |
| Shuttle-shaped Dart    | Agrotis puta             | 1772           |



White Ermine Spilosoma lubricipeda Garry Barlow



Cinnabar Tyria jacobaeae Rachel Scopes



Treble Lines
Charanyca trigrammica
Unknown

On behalf of the Recording Team, we are very grateful to County Moth Recorders (CMRs) for continuing to submit their 2024 datasets to us – please continue to send your datasets to recording@butterfly-conservation.org

I would also like to say a big thank you to all of you for welcoming me to this new role. I am looking forward to continuing working with you all.

Richard Austin

Recording Schemes Officer, Butterfly Conservation

## Farmer-led moth monitoring, UKCEH



Moth trapping on farmland – LED traps like this captured, on average, 11 moths per night.

Over 5200 records of moths were captured over three months. All photographs were verified by Dr Marc Botham at UKCEH and he confirmed 204 species of macro-moth and 8 species aggregates, plus 67 micro-moth species. They included scarcer species like Scarce Forester *Jordanita globulariae* and Lappet *Gastropacha quercifolia*.

We assessed the accuracy of the AI identifications – for this analysis we only considered the macro-moths. AI provided a species identification for 9 out of 10 photos - and when it did, the AI was correct for an impressive 93% of photos. Crucially, the AI was only clearly wrong for 2% of photos - the remaining 4% of photos were impossible to confirm one way or the other. AI isn't perfect, but this shows its potential when engaging non-experts in gathering good quality data and, of course, there's always a photo attached to the record.

Farmland covers around 70% of the landscape, meaning essential for nature recovery, remains under-recorded biodiversity data. During the summer of 2024, the UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH) recruited 21 farmers in southern England to take part in a pilot project to monitor moths on their land using battery-powered LED light traps. The aim was to collect moth records from these underrecorded areas, and to explore the of farmers engagement directly involved in biodiversity monitoring. Farmers were encouraged to put the traps out weekly, capture and photograph and identify moths using an Al-based phone app, and complete surveys about their experience.



Most of the moths caught by farmers were common species – but they added to our knowledge of moths on farmland, and it was nice to see a few scarcities like this Scarce Forester, *Jordanita globulariae* 



Farmers who signed up to take part participated in a training session to receive guidance on how to use the light traps and mobile app.

The feedback from farmers was overwhelmingly positive, with many commenting on how much they enjoyed the monitoring. Many were surprised by the diversity of moths found on their land, and nearly all reported that they learned more about moths as a result of the project. One farmer said "It was great to see the diversity of moths on the farm that you don't see naturally from the very small to large hawk moths that gave a wow factor! It was also good to see what others had trapped [on the project Whatsapp] and gave a sense of moth community!".

Following the pilot project, we have been further improving the moth trap design to make it cheaper and more robust – so it can be rolled out to even more farmers and landowners. The verified records from this project will be available for the NMRS. Butterfly Conservation will be discussing the best approach for the verification of these records with UKCEH and local CMRs before acceptance into the NMRS. Contributed by Dr Abigail Lowe, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology

### Eggs, Larvae, Pupae and Adult Butterflies and Moths, Reg Fry

Reg Fry has left a fantastic legacy: a website containing photographs of the "Eggs, Larvae, Pupae and Adult Butterflies and Moths". If you haven't seen it then you are strongly encouraged to have a look and make good use of it. The website address is <a href="http://ukleps.org/">http://ukleps.org/</a> You should be aware that by default Chrome and other browsers will try and use the encrypted https protocol, but the way the website is set up this won't then allow the images to be displayed. So, you are likely to have to manually edit the website address to the http address given above and you may need to accept a warning issued by your browser saying that the site is insecure. As the information on the website isn't confidential then it is perfectly secure to use.

Mark Cubitt, County Moth Recorder for the Lothians.



### The Devil's Hole and Formby Point, Formby National Trust.

Richard Walker describes the joys and challenges of recording at this special site in Merseyside.

#### Part one.

The Devil's Hole (SD 278054) blow out now on Formby National Trust land began to form in 1940/41 after what was thought to be a German land mine explosion. Wind erosion over eight decades has deepened the hole to around twelve metres leaving steep and high sandy sides. Plants began to colonise the main slack in 2003, and standing water was observed following the winter's rain.



Formby Point, Merseyside, 2025 R Walker

Analysis of the vegetation reflects the early stages of slack development and regular monitoring of this has been undertaken by Dr Phil Smith, some of whose comments I've paraphrased here. The area continues to show yearly increases of new vascular and non-vascular plants

Where a variety of plants colonise so will follow insects to enjoy the nectar or for their larvae to feed on. Monitoring moths in the "hole" is difficult; its position in the middle of a wide dune demands a lengthy walk and a slog up and over the steep sand hills. For much of the year sizeable pools of water cover the area. In the summer it becomes a magnet for adults, children and their dogs who have little understanding of the scientific significance of the area.

In 2017, five afternoon visits using a sweep net in the "hole" produced the first list of 21 different specimens. Of these the majority were micro-moths, only Cinnabar (*Tyria jacobaeae*), Narrow-bordered 5 Spot Burnet (*Zygaena lonicerae jocelynae*) and Silver Y (*Autographa gamma*) were macro-moths. It is reasonable to presume that as these three moths are abundant across the dunes on either side of the "hole" that they were more likely to be "visitors".

In 2018, two visits produced four new micro specimens alongside many micros seen from the previous year. Yellow Shell became the fourth macro and, again could have flown over and "dropped in".

In 2019 and 2020, I visited the area eight times with 21 new examples found. Many of the usually common micros from both the Tortrices and Pyradae groups appeared well established by now.

On a night time visit in 2023 with Gary Hedges (LWM staff member), we managed to get a Honda generator over the sand ridge and set up an MV light to sheet situation. See photo. This produced a very respectable list of 15 different moths of which 11 new specimens were all macros. Poplar Hawk-moth (*Laothoe populi*) and Puss Moth (*Cerura vinula*) were included but in both cases their larvae had been seen on the poplars growing on the outside of the dune ridges. 57 different moth species have been recorded by the end of 2024.

More time spent observing leaf mines, larval searches, sweeping and MV light to sheet will probably build up an interesting picture of moth colonization within the Devil's Hole over the coming months and years.



Formby Point, Merseyside, 2021, R Walker

#### Part two.

North of Victoria Road car park.

The unstoppable forces of nature, in this case the powerful winds coming over the Irish sea produced the Devil's Hole. However, a mile or so northwards (SD274083) and within the dune system, the opposite effect has taken place. Repeated and heavy gale force winds have shifted hundreds of tons of sand inland from both the shore and frontal dunes through low and unprotected gaps in the frontal dunes.

A very usable but sandy car track leads from the public car park to the North Caravan park. (See photo)

This area was a favourite place to set up light to sheet with a reasonable chance of seeing the rare Portland moth (*Actebia praecox*). The second photo shows this in 2025 with little recognisable dune shapes or trees left from the 2021 photo.

The FNT are now re locating the car park further inland and will, over the coming year remove thousands of tons of brick, iron, concrete and general waste from Formby Point, much of which was dumped there after the Second World War. Formby Point is being eroded by wind and sea by many metres each year with much of the sand being blown inland.

The present dune area where heavy foot traffic has eroded wide paths through the sand dunes from the car park to the beach has left "wind tunnels" and hence potential "blow outs". Altering and restricting the beach access here will enable the frontal dunes at Formby Point to heal themselves and allow small colonies of insects and amphibians, previously separated, to move freely as vegetation takes its hold. This is to nature's and our advantage.

There is much in common here with the plant and animal colonisation that is happening in the Devil's hole, though in time it's a difference of some 20 years.

This will provide an interesting monitoring challenge for some one!

Richard Walker, Formby.



Devils Hole, Merseyside, 2024, R Walker

#### Monitoring Forester (Adscita statices) on the Lancashire Sefton Coast.

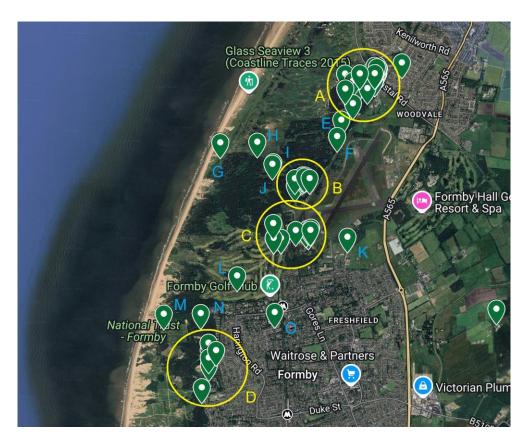
The Forester moth (*Adscita statices*) is a species of day-flying moth, considered a priority species on the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP), meaning that its conservation is of high importance. The population decline of this species across the UK is due to the loss of its preferred open, unimproved, damp grassland habitat through agriculture intensification and the encroachment of scrub, owing to lack of management (Climate Change Adaption Manual, 2020: page 355).

'This species has declined at a national level and within Lancashire, where it is now restricted to a five km stretch of coastal grassland, with one primary colony, and three satellite areas with a few recent sightings' (The Moths of Lancashire, 2024: page 330).

The Sefton Coast supports the main known sites of Forester moth in Lancashire, demonstrating its apparent rarity.

Using the latest and verified Lancashire Moth Group (*LMG*) data on Forester moth, records suggest there is one main site on Ainsdale National Nature Reserve (*ANNR*), known as Pinfold Meadow, and three other 'satellite' sites; the Asparagus Field, Freshfield Dune Heath (*FDH*) and Formby National Trust (*FNT*).

Circled on the map are the records in these 'hotspot' areas; Pinfold Meadow (A), the Asparagus Field (B), FDH (C) and FNT (D).



Map of Formby, Google Maps, 2025

#### Records from the four main sites.

| Location | Grid      | Year | Moths     |
|----------|-----------|------|-----------|
| code     | reference |      | recorded  |
| Α        | SD304112  | 2011 | 74 on 30  |
|          |           |      | occasions |
| В        | SD304112  | 2011 | 10 on 8   |
|          |           |      | occasions |
| С        | SD294091  | 1997 | 18 on 9   |
|          |           |      | occasions |
| D        | SD281074  | 1953 | 10 on 7   |
|          |           |      | occasions |



Female Forester with unfeathered antenae, C Webster

A, B and C are all acid grassland areas with a short-medium sward and a good amount of the moth's food plant, Common Sorrel (*Rumex Acetosa*) and Sheep Sorrel (*Rumex Acetosella*). D has had no records since 2015 which is likely due to habitat loss. However, it is the records outside these areas that present the interesting possibility of 'wandering' moths.

Records from sites *E to O* represent the 'wanderers':

| Site | Grid reference | Year | Moths recorded  |
|------|----------------|------|-----------------|
| Е    | SD299105       | 2012 | 2 on 1 occasion |
| F    | SD299103       | 2011 | 1 on 1 occasion |
| G    | SD283103       | 1982 | 1 on 1 occasion |
| Н    | SD288103       | 2023 | 1 on 1 occasion |
| I    | SD290100       | 2024 | 1 on 1 occasion |
| J    | SD290100       | 2012 | 1 on 1 occasion |
| K    | SD299090       | 2010 | 1 on 1 occasion |
| L    | SD285084       | 1982 | 1 on 1 occasion |
| М    | SD275079       | 1985 | 1 on 1 occasion |
| N    | SD280079       | 2012 | 1 on 1 occasion |
| 0    | SD290080       | 1990 | 1 on 1 occasion |

Although there has been little apparent work done on the movement of moths, an article in the Moths Count Newsletter makes a few suggestions. It is implied across various studies that feeding behaviour may impact their movement, comparing factors such as adult feeding requirements and larval food plant preferences. For example, it is thought that adult moths requiring nectar-feeding, like Forester, will need to travel further to visit flowers (*Randle, 2014: page 10*). Other potential explanations noted are habitat features, like fragmentation, which would also be a worthwhile consideration when looking at the records at ANNR given the proximity to a railway line and large pine plantation, both running north to south, and a main road running east to west.



Experiments by researchers at Oxford University revealed that 'several widespread species travelled substantial distances' with distances ranging from "384m, 505m, 558m and some individuals moving over 1km" (Randle, 2014: page 10). From this, it would be possible to suggest that points E and F are moths that have ventured out from Pinfold Meadow.

Male Forester with feathered antennae, C Webster

The distance from A to the next open grassy area where Sorrel is present to the south-west is approximately 360-metres of narrow woodland ride. Records I and J are of particular interest since the area of grassland where those sightings have been recorded, Slack 29, could support a population of the Forester, due to the presence of its larval food plant and a known nectar source, Ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*).

The records in A, B and C are near well-used public footpaths, which could have some bearing on why the Forester is so well recorded there. In contrast, the 'wanderers' are represented in quieter areas as singles or in small numbers. It would be worthwhile to revisit these locations using the associated 6-figure grid reference provided, firstly to establish habitat suitability and subsequently, carry out surveys for the adult moths or feeding signs of the larvae.

As previously stated, there have been no records around D since 2015 and an inspection of this site would suggest it is due to loss of habitat, with the growth of rank vegetation likely outcompeting the larval food plant.

Help would be welcomed to investigate the areas around points E to O, to gain a better understanding of the state of the Forester population on these sites, which will help to inform habitat management plans and consequently the conservation of Forester.

If female moths were regularly recorded in a location where either Sorrel species were present, it might be an indication of a potential breeding population. In which case, submitting a photograph of the antennae alongside a date with the record would prove particularly useful. Male Forester moths have feathered antennae, unlike the females which are ridged and club like. See photos 1 and 2 for comparison. The record should ideally be accompanied by an 8-figure grid reference for a more accurate location. Any records would be much appreciated and should be sent to <a href="mailto:charlotte.webster@naturalengland.org.uk">charlotte.webster@naturalengland.org.uk</a>. This project is being carried out with support from the local County Moth Recorder, who will assist with verification.

Charlotte Webster, Natural England

#### **Book review: The Larger Moths of Scotland**

This comprehensive book is the first book dedicated to Scottish moths and covers the current total of 577 species of larger, or macro-moths as they are known. The introduction is informative and covers topics such as climate, geology and the origins of Scottish moths before highlighting why moth recording is so important.

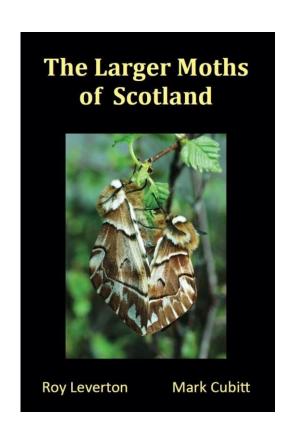
Each species is given a detailed description and distribution maps based on Butterfly Conservation's National Moth Recording Scheme are included, along with abundance trends and flight histograms. The coloured edge bars denoting each family is particularly helpful for quick referencing. The large print makes for easy reading and the colour photographs of the moths against a natural background really brings them to life. These photos are of huge benefit to the Scottish moth-er as the images show some of the incredible variation and colouration that exists in our Scottish moths, something not well covered in other moth books.

As someone fairly new to mothing, the section titled 'Recording Issues' has proven invaluable often enabling me to correct so called *wishful thinking* before submitting my records. I'm sure I'm not the only new moth-er to find themselves lost in the incredible detail and huge numbers of species traditionally found in field guides. This book makes it easier to negotiate your way around the incredible world of Scottish moths.

The book is a must read for those interested in moths. But it will also prove fascinating to those with more than a passing interest in the natural world around us. Who can fail to be both intrigued and confused by the aptly named Confused and Uncertain?! I genuinely thought the Scottish Conservation team were winding me up when they said the moth in the trap was called Uncertain. Confused and uncertain I certainly was, but no more, this book is my way out of all the uncertainty.

The Larger Moths of Scotland is an easy to read, well informed book that with clever use of words, colours and graphics will appeal to casual readers and experts alike. I highly recommend to all with an interest in the subject.

Tracy Munro, East Coast Species on the Edge Project Officer



### Species under focus: The Humming-bird hawk-moth

This is the first in a series of species under focus. For each edition we will take a closer look at a different species. For this edition, let's meet the Humming-bird Hawk-moth.

**Common name:** Humming-bird Hawk-moth **Scientific name:** *Macroglossum stellatarum* 

Size: Its wingspan is 50-58mm

**When does it fly:** The Humming-bird Hawk-moth flies between May and September – although there are occasional sightings throughout the year.

Where does it like to live: The Humming-bird Hawk-moth flies in a variety of habitats, from coasts and gardens to urban areas.

Where you can see it: The Humming-bird Hawk-moth is a migrant from southern Europe and North Africa and can appear anywhere in the UK.

**Amazing fact:** You'd be forgiven for mistaking this beautiful moth for a Humming-bird as it flits speedily between flowers, hovering as it nectars, and beating its wings 80 times every second!

"The Humming-bird Hawk-moth is such a charismatic moth and its always an exciting moment to spot one hovering near tubular flowers like Honeysuckle and Red Valerian. It's usually a fleeting look, however, as no sooner have you spotted it than it has zipped away!" - Eleanor Dodson, Digital Marketing Manager

The Humming-bird Hawk-moth is a distinctive-looking moth with a fascinating flight. From above, you might think it is quite plain, with its grey-brown forewings and dusty grey head. However, the underwings reveal a flash of orange, and it has a beautiful, black and white chequered body and a long, curled proboscis (the tongue-like appendage it uses to feed). Even more distinctive than its appearance, however, is its flight. It can rapidly beat its wings, generating a humming sound, and is able to manoeuvre quickly and deftly between flowers, which it hovers near to feed from.



Andrew Cooper

The Humming-bird Hawk-moth is a migrant to the UK, travelling from southern Europe and North Africa in the spring and summer, although some do pop up at other times of the year and some are successfully overwintering in the mildest locations in South West England. Some years are particularly good for spotting Humming-bird Hawk-moths as we see large influxes from the Continent. They can be found in almost any habitat, from coastal areas to urban gardens, usually where there are lots of tubular flowers available to feed from and foodplants for its caterpillars - Lady's Bedstraw, Hedge Bedstraw, Wild Madder and Red Valerian. Unlike many moths, the Humming-bird Hawk-moth flies in the day and can even fly and feed in the rain.



**Butterfly Conservation** 

The Humming-bird Hawk-moth lays its eggs on its caterpillar foodplants and a single female can lay hundreds of eggs – although usually one at a time on the buds and flowers. The eggs look like small greenish pearls, and the caterpillars within usually hatch in around a week to 14 days.



Adam Gor

When they first hatch, the caterpillars are pale green with black spots. As they develop, their green darkens slightly and they develop long white stripes which run the length of the body, stubby legs with feet that give the appearance of wearing pink shoes, and a "tail" tipped with orange. You can spot the caterpillars from June to October, although the best time to look is in August.

Once fully grown, usually after around 30 days, the caterpillars will spin a cocoon close to the ground, usually among the leaves of the foodplant, in leaf litter, or in soil, in which to pupate. It takes around three weeks for pupation to be complete and for the adults to emerge, ready to whizz off in search of sun and food or, for those late to the party, a cosy place to curl up for the winter.

Butterfly Conservation encourages members of the public to record Humming-bird Hawk-moth sightings by submitting them to the National Moth Recording Scheme via their local County Recorder or online. And don't forget to take part in the Big Butterfly Count between 18 July and 10 August to let us know how some of our other day-flying moth species and butterflies are doing. Visit Big Butterfly Count to sign up now and download your free digital ID guide.

### iRecord Simple Download Analyser

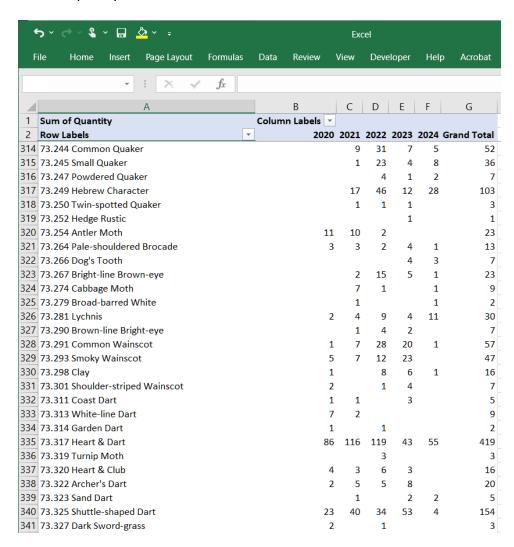
#### Mark Cubitt

iRecord is an excellent system with which to record, share and verify wildlife records, including butterflies and moths. However, as a system it is not currently focussed on providing a reporting function beyond filtering a list of records which can be downloaded. Further analysis is then a challenge for the user. For example, creating a table of the numbers of each moth species you have seen for each of the last few years or months or maybe the number of records by 10km square.

The iRecord Simple Download Analyser can open a downloaded iRecord file and then create a number of extra useful derived columns and allows you to of analyse and summarise your records and create many different types of report. If you are a county recorder then you can also produce reports across all of your Recorders' records.

The Analyser is an Excel macro-based spreadsheet application that requires Microsoft Excel to be installed on your PC or Mac before use. It exploits Microsoft Excel's Pivot Table functionality.

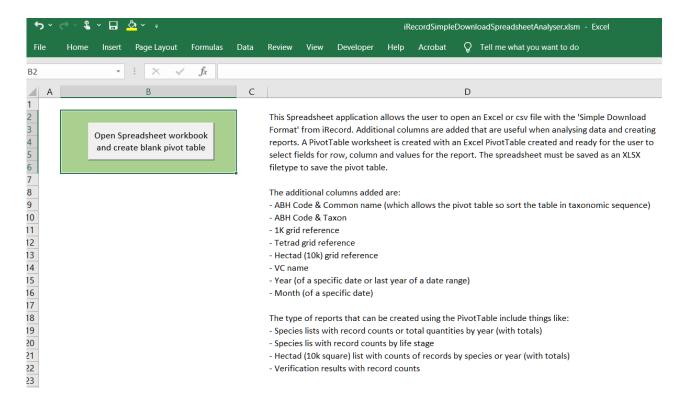
#### An example report:



There is a User Guide to help users get familiar with the application.

<u>Download the Analyser</u> from this link <a href="https://butterfly-conservation.org/in-your-area/east-scotland-branch/irecord-simple-download-analyser">https://butterfly-conservation.org/in-your-area/east-scotland-branch/irecord-simple-download-analyser</a>

#### The Analyser user interface:



#### Update to micro-moth grading guidance

The original Butterfly Conservation Micro-moth grading guidance document was compiled in 2016 and has remained unchanged since then. It was developed by the late John Langmaid, Mark Young, Mark Parsons and Steve Palmer to accompany the launch of micro-moth recording within the National Moth Recording Scheme (NMRS).

The guidelines are an essential resource for County Moth Recorders working with micro-moth records but are also useful for recorders to consult. They categorise the difficulty of identification across the British Isles by using a small range of grades. Included within these are grades indicating which species require extra evidence to confirm their identify (e.g. photographs or a specimen). The overall aim is to assist with achieving the highest possible accuracy of micro-moth data submitted to the NMRS.

During the winter of 2024/25, Butterfly Conservation were asked if the document could be updated. Zoë Randle approached Mark Young and Steve Palmer who have incorporated all name changes and new micro-moth species in the British Isles in the intervening years. The updated guidelines follow the definitive British list published by Agassiz, Beavan and Heckford in A Checklist of the Lepidoptera of the British Isles (second edition), 2024, as amended in the Entomologist's Record 137: 1-6 (2025). In the Spring of 2025, two additional Tortricidae species were reported as new to Britain, in the Entomologist's Record 137: 81-86 (2025) and Atropos 75: 12-18 (2025). These have been incorporated into the guidance grades list.

So please do update your copy if needed. It can be found in the County Recorder toolkit page here <a href="https://butterfly-conservation.org/our-work/recording-and-monitoring/county-recorder-toolkit/verification-determining-species-id">https://butterfly-conservation.org/our-work/recording-and-monitoring/county-recorder-toolkit/verification-determining-species-id</a> or via Assemble for relevant volunteer roles.

### **Update to validation spreadsheets**

Many County Moth Recorders and County Butterfly Recorders find the spreadsheet tools developed by CMR Mark Cubitt incredibly helpful for inspecting and formatting records as part of their validation and verification process. Mark has recently refreshed the spreadsheets, which now reference more recent data. The updated moth validation spreadsheet is now available for download via the East Scotland Branch website <a href="https://butterfly-conservation.org/in-your-area/east-scotland-branch/moth-and-butterfly-spreadsheet-validators">https://butterfly-conservation.org/in-your-area/east-scotland-branch/moth-and-butterfly-spreadsheet-validators</a>. Please do update your versions if you downloaded it before April 2025, or give the spreadsheet a go if you haven't yet! The spreadsheets also feature in our County Recorder Toolkit page on validation alongside other processes and tools:

https://butterfly-conservation.org/our-work/recording-and-monitoring/county-recorder-toolkit/validation-process-and-tools.

### Sign up to All Aflutter

<u>Sign up to Butterfly Conservation's monthly e-newsletter</u> for all the latest news and updates on butterflies and moths. Includes top tips and advice for how you can help our precious pollinators.

Our monthly newsletter includes industry updates, fun facts, and species to look out for that month. From updates about our annual Big Butterfly Count to highlights from our significant research, sign up to All Aflutter to get the latest news on all things Butterfly Conservation.

#### Sign up for Science News

Butterfly Conservation publishes a twice-yearly email newsletter that explores the wide range of science that we are involved in and explains how we are applying this to our conservation projects. The valuable data that you collect is our evidence base and is used to inform our conservation action. We work in collaboration with universities and other organisations around the world to produce scientific research to undertake conservation action. You can subscribe to Science News here.

### **National Moth Recording Scheme contacts**

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GIS queries gis@butterfly-conservation.org





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