



## Moth Survey Report

### Summary

<b>Location:</b>	Green Cross Cottage, South Garden (TQ3615)
<b>Date:</b>	17/04/2026
<b>Survey Method(s):</b>	MV Light
<b>Recorders(s):</b>	Chris Chapman
<b>Moth Count:</b>	67
<b>Species Count: (see notes)</b>	29 New for Year: 5 New for Location: 0 Total new species for Location this Year: 3 Species Count for Year: 62 Species Total for Location: 528
<b>Non-species Count:</b>	0
<b>Notable Record Count:</b>	5

### Full List

NFY = New Species For Year

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Black-headed Conch ( <i>Cochylidochroa atricapitana</i> )	1	Micro	Common (2,252)	Resident. The larvae feed inside the blossoms and stems of ragwort.
Brimstone Moth ( <i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i> )	7	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.
Brindled Pug ( <i>Eupithecia abbreviata</i> )	3	Macro	Common (4,025)	A relatively common resident species that generally flies from early March to late May. The larvae feed on oak.
Chinese Character ( <i>Cilix glaucata</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>	1	Macro	Common (4,424)	Resident. Larvae feed on hawthorn, apple, pear, sloe and oak.
Clouded Drab ( <i>Orthosia incerta</i> )	3	Macro	Common (5,043)	A resident species generally well distributed. Single-brooded, flying mainly from late February to late May. Larvae feed on oak, willow, apple, white helleborine and hop.
Common Quaker ( <i>Orthosia cerasi</i> )	2	Macro	Very Common (9,110)	A very common, resident species found in a wide range of habitats. Single-brooded, flying mainly from early February to late May. Larvae feed on birch, willow, oaks, lime, elm, bramble, rose, sweet chestnut, hawthorn and ash.
Diamond-back Moth ( <i>Plutella xylostella</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>	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.
Early Grey ( <i>Xylocampa areola</i> )	2	Macro	Common (6,249)	A common resident species found in a wide range of habitats. Primarily flies from late February to mid May. Larvae feed on honeysuckle.

Species	Count	Type	Sussex Status	Comment
Flame Shoulder ( <i>Ochroleura plecta</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>	1	Macro	Abundant (19,960)	Resident. Larvae feed on various unidentified wild and cultivated plants that have been listed from elsewhere.
Frosted Green ( <i>Polyploca ridens</i> )	7	Macro	Fairly Common (776)	A fairly common resident that is associated with Oak woods. Single-brooded, flying mainly from early April to mid May. Larvae feed on Oak.
Great Prominent ( <i>Peridea anceps</i> )	1	Macro	Common (1,040)	Resident species. Single-brooded flying mainly from late April to mid-June. Larvae feed on oak.
Hebrew Character ( <i>Orthosia gothica</i> )	4	Macro	Very Common (10,295)	A very common species. Single-brooded and flies mainly from early March to early June. Larvae feed on a large range of trees, shrubs and low-growing plants.
Lead-coloured Drab ( <i>Orthosia populeti</i> )	2	Macro	Scarce (271)	
Least Black Arches ( <i>Nola confusalis</i> )	4	Macro	Fairly Common (917)	This resident species occurs in a wide range of habitats. Well distributed on the chalk. Single-brooded, flying mainly from the third week of April to mid June. Larvae are said to feed on oak leaves in Sussex, although oak-loving lichens have been noted f
Lesser Swallow Prominent ( <i>Pheosia gnoma</i> )	1	Macro	Common (4,216)	Resident. The larvae feed on (silver) birch.
Light Brown Apple Moth ( <i>Epiphyas postvittana</i> )	1	Micro	Abundant (20,303)	Resident. First recorded in Sussex record in 1984. The species originated from Australia. Larvae feed on a huge variety of flowers, shrubs and crops.
Lunar Marbled Brown ( <i>Drymonia ruficornis</i> )	4	Macro	Common (1,170)	A common, resident species. Single-brooded, flying mainly from early April to late June, occasionally from late March or to mid July. Larvae feed on oak.
Oak-tree Pug ( <i>Eupithecia dodoneata</i> )	6	Macro	Common (1,022)	Resident. Larvae feed on the leaves of Oak and Hawthorn, and on the flowers of evergreen oak.
Pale Prominent ( <i>Pterostoma palpina</i> )	2	Macro	Common (3,840)	Resident. The moth usually occurs sparingly or fairly commonly in a wide range of habitats, Well distributed. Double-brooded, flying mainly from late April to early July and again from late July to late August. Larvae feed on poplar and willow.
Pale Tussock ( <i>Calliteara pudibunda</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>	1	Macro	Common (3,596)	
Pebble Prominent ( <i>Notodonta ziczac</i> )	2	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.
Pine Beauty ( <i>Panolis flammea</i> ) <sup>NFY</sup>	1	Macro	Fairly Common (614)	
Powdered Quaker ( <i>Orthosia gracilis</i> )	2	Macro	Common (1,495)	A less common, resident species. Single-brooded, flying mainly from mid-March to late May. Larvae feed on a range of plants including loosestrife, meadow-sweet, dyer's greenwood and bog-myrtle.
Red-green Carpet ( <i>Chloroclysta siterata</i> )	1	Macro	Common (3,131)	Resident. Larvae feed on oak, ash, apple and willow.
Small Mottled Willow ( <i>Spodoptera exigua</i> )	2	Macro	Fairly Common (781)	Immigrant. Larvae have not been recorded in Sussex although they have been found on <i>Persicaria</i> elsewhere.
Streamer ( <i>Anticlea derivata</i> )	1	Macro	Fairly Common (925)	A fairly common, resident species. Single-brooded, flying mainly from mid-April to late May. Larvae feed on wild rose.
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.
Waved Umber ( <i>Menophra abruptaria</i> )	2	Macro	Common (1,292)	
White-spotted Pug ( <i>Eupithecia tripunctaria</i> )	1	Macro	Common (1,465)	Resident. Larvae feed on the flowers of hogweed, angelica and wild parsnip.

## Notable Records

Species	Comment
Lead-coloured Drab ( <i>Orthosia populeti</i> )	A relatively scarce or rare species within Sussex; Likely to be only the 4th time recorded in Plumpton & East Chilmington.
Pine Beauty ( <i>Panolis flammea</i> )	Likely to be only the 3rd time recorded in Plumpton & East Chilmington.
White-spotted Pug ( <i>Eupithecia tripunctaria</i> )	Only the 5th time recorded at this location.
Lesser Swallow Prominent ( <i>Pheosia gnoma</i> )	Only the 6th time recorded at this location.

## Images



Chinese Character (*Cilix glaucata*)



Flame Shoulder (*Ochropleura plecta*)



Lead-coloured Drab (*Orthosia populeti*)



Pale Tussock (*Calliteara pudibunda*)



Pine Beauty (*Panolis flammea*)



Powdered Quaker (*Orthosia gracilis*)



Small Mottled Willow (*Spodoptera exigua*)



Streamer (*Anticlea derivata*)



Waved Umber (*Menophra abruptaria*)



White-spotted Pug (*Eupithecia tripunctaria*)

## 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](#))