

Macro-moth additions

The species below have all been added to the Bedfordshire list since the publication of "The Butterflies and Moths of Bedfordshire" in 1997.

Where flight dates given have an asterisk this indicates the dates are when the species was recorded in Bedfordshire.

Raspberry Clearwing *Pennisetia hylaeiformis* (Laspeyres) (369a)

Post VCH: Recorded as a larva in the foodplant on at Studham 29th March 2009 by CRB Baker, this emerged as an adult on 18th July. Also found as an adult to pheromone lure in Clifton on 14th July by AR Outen, on 25th July by K Tailby, at Dunstable downs on 1st August and Studham on 16th August (CRB Baker). In July 2010 it came to lure in a Biggleswade garden (RC Revels). In 2011 it was recorded to pheromone lure at Little Wymington, Studham, Studham Common & Whipsnade Downs. In 2012 records from Biggleswade & Studham.

Flight: July (weeks 29,30,31)*, August (Weeks 32,33,34)*

Larval Foodplant: Raspberry canes*. Map SP91,96 TL01,13,14

Great Peacock Moth *Saturnia pyri* ([Denis & Schiffermüller) (1643a)

Post VCH: Recorded at Wooton in May 2004 by S & A Hawkins. Probably a captive-bred escape as it is a southern European species.

Flight: May (week 21)*

Larval Foodplant: A wide range of woody plants. Map TL04

Satin Lutestring *Tetheella fluctuosa* (Hübner) (1656)

Post VCH: Recorded at Flitwick Moor on 6th June 2014 by AM & MG Banthorpe.

Flight: June - early August (Week 23)*

Larval Foodplant: Mainly birch, sometimes alder. Map TL03

Oblique Striped *Phibalapteryx virgata* (Hufnagel) (1718)

Post VCH: Recorded at Potton on 6th August 1997 by JE Childs, in the Cockayne Hatley RIS Trap on 7th August 1998 by I Woiwod and at Biggleswade on 27th August 2014 by LR Burgess

Flight: May - June, August (Weeks 32,35)*

Larval Foodplant: Lady's Bedstraw. Map TL24

Balsam Carpet *Xanthorhoe biriviata* (Borkhausen) (1721)

Post VCH: Recorded at Bromham on 3rd April 2014 by M & M Harrison.

Flight: Late April to June & July to early September (Week 14)*

Larval Foodplant: Orange Balsam *Impatiens capensis*. Map TL05

Many-lined *Costaconvexa polygrammata* (Borkhausen) (1741)

Post VCH: Recorded to MV light at Eaton Ford on 7th May 2011 by A A Lawrence.

Flight: May (week 19)* Triple brooded on the continent

Larval Foodplant: Various bedstraws. Map TL16

Valerian Pug *Eupithecia valerianata* (Hübner) (1821)

Post VCH: Recorded near Turvey on 12th June 2006 by HA Smith.

Flight: June (week 24)*, early July

Larval Foodplant: Common Valerian. Map SP95

Pauper Pug *Eupithecia egenaria* Herrich-Schäffer (1824)

Post VCH: Recorded at The Lodge (RSPB Sandy) on 29th and 30th May 2014.

Flight: May - June (Week 22)*

Larval Foodplant: Lime. Map TL14

Triple-spotted Pug *Eupithecia trisignaria* Herrich-Schäffer (1826)

Post VCH: Recorded at Maulden Woods on 6th August 2003 by CW Plant and at the same site on 21st July 2010 and 29th July & 3rd August 2011 by AM & MG Banthorpe. Also one at the Rothamsted trap at Cockayne Hatley on 10th July 2009 and to MV light in Chicksands Wood on 8th August 2010 and 24th August 2012 by AM & MG Banthorpe.

Flight: Late June - July, August (weeks 28,30,31,32,33,34)*

Larval Foodplant: Wild Angelica and Hogweed. Map TL03,14,24

Bleached Pug *Eupithecia expallidata* Doubleday (1833)

Post VCH: Recorded at Great Barford on 17th July 1999 by M Corley.

Flight: Late June, July (week 29)*, August

Larval Foodplant: Goldenrod. Map TL15

Yarrow Pug *Eupithecia millefoliata* Rossler (1841)

Post VCH: Larvae first recorded feeding on the dried seed heads of Yarrow at Everton and Sandy Heath in September 1998 by J Reid. The adult moth was recorded in the Eaton Bray II RIS trap on 10th & 24th July 2006 by G. Buss, Wrestlingworth on 4th August 2006 by ND Willits, Haynes on 31st August 2007 by S Knight, Lower Stondon on 5th August 2008 by AM & MG Banthorpe and St Mary's Church grounds, Clophill, on 31st July 2009 by AM & MG Banthorpe and Upper Caldecote on 10th August 2012 by M Burgess et al. In 2013 records from Bromham, Eaton ford & Lower Stondon (all gendotted adults). Larvae found in Yarrow seed-head in Maulden Wood on 25th September 2010, Sandy Smith NR near Shefford on 24th September 2011 and on the bank of the River Ouse at Great Barford on 14th October 2011 all by AM & MG Banthorpe.

Flight: June to August (weeks 28,30,31,32)*

Larval Foodplant: Yarrow*. Map SP92,TL03,04,05,13,14,15,16,24

Sharp-angled Peacock *Macaria alternata* ([Denis & Schiffermüller]) (1890)

Post VCH: Recorded at Biggleswade on 21st July 2014 by LR Burgess.

Flight: Late May - mid July & August (Week 29)*

Larval Foodplant: Sallow, alder & Blackthorn. Map TL14

Rannoch Looper *Itame brunneata* (Thunberg) (1896)

Post VCH: A male recorded at MV light in Eaton Ford (Hunts admin) on 31st May 2009 by AA Lawrence. This was during a period of irruption of this species into the UK from the continent.

Flight: June, July (week 22)*

Larval Foodplant: Bilberry. Map TL16

Orange Footman *Eilema sororcula* (Hübner) (2043)

Post VCH: Recorded at Maulden Woods on 31st May 2003 by CW Plant and at Eaton Ford (VC30 but Hunts admin.) on 5th, 11th & 12th June 2006 by AA Lawrence. Then at Lower Stondon on 23rd May 2007 by AM & MG Banthorpe, Clifton on 23rd May 2007 by J England, Studham on 23rd & 24th May & 11th June 2007 by CRB Baker, Potton on 24th May 2007 by A Darrington and Stockgrove CP on 2nd June 2007 by AM & MG Banthorpe. Regularly recorded from 2008 onwards in several sites with 181 records in the database by the end of 2015

Flight: May, June (weeks 17-28)*

Larval Foodplant: Lichen. Map SP92,93,94,95,96,TL01,02,03,04,05,13,14,16,24,25

Hoary Footman *Eilema caniola* (Hufnagel) (2045)

Post VCH: Recorded to MV light in Luton on 16th July 2014 by A Grimsey, gendotted AM Banthorpe.

Flight: Late July - Early September (Week 29)*

Larval Foodplant: Lichen growing on trees. Map TL02

Jersey Tiger *Euplagia quadripunctaria* (Poda) (2067)

Post VCH: Recorded in an MV light trap in Biggleswade on 8th August 2009 by K,P & R Sims. There is the possibility that this was released from breeding stock but the timing fits with the usual dates of extra-limital records from the south London population. There were records in Hertfordshire, Middlesex and Essex about the same time. Subsequent records at Bromham on 5th August 2011 by M & M Harrison & Kempston on 22nd August 2012 by M J Palmer. In 2013 there were 7 records from 1st August to 1st September in Bedford, Bromham, Kempston & Potton. By the end of 2015 there were 52 records in the county database.

Flight: Late July to September (weeks 29-34)*

Larval Foodplant: Many herbaceous plants. Map TL04,05,14,24

Banana Stowaway *Antichloris eriphia* (Fabricius) (2074a)

Post VCH: Recorded in the canteen at The Lodge (RSPB Sandy) on 13th October 2000 by JE Childs. This is a South American species so no doubt was imported with the foodplant.

Larval Foodplant: Banana leaves. Map TL15

Kent Black Arches *Meganola albula* ([Denis & Schiffermüller]) (2076)

Post VCH: Recorded at Biggleswade on 17th July 2014 by LR Burgess during a period of moth migration to the UK from the continent.

Flight: Late June - Early August (Week 29)*

Larval Foodplant: Dewberry. Map TL14

Lunar Yellow Underwing *noctua orbona* (Hufnagel) (2108)

Post VCH: Recorded at Potton on 30th May 2014 by F & R Wynde and Upper Caldecote on 14th September 2014 by M Burgess. This species was formerly on the county list but removed as there were no specimens and also confusion with Lesser Yellow Underwing, *Noctua comes*.

Flight: Late June - September (Week 22)*

Larval Foodplant: Grasses. Map TL14,24

Square-spotted Clay *Xestia rhomboidea* (Esper) (2131)

Post VCH: The Kershaw record from 30th June 1946 is regarded as doubtful and hence not in the database of accepted records. The first county record therefore was at Pegsdon Hills NR on 29th August 2000 by V & B Judd. Since 2001 it has occurred regularly in the Cockayne Hatley RIS trap and at other sites in the county and at the end of 2015 there were 158 records in the database.

Flight: July – early September

Larval Foodplant: not fully known. Map SP92,94,95,96,TL02,03,04,05,12,13,14,15,24

White-marked *Cerastis leucographa* ([Denis & Schiffermüller]) (2140)

Post VCH: The first county record was at Turvey on 19th April 1998 by Br J Mayhead. Though this was rejected at the time it has been retrospectively added to the county list on the basis of the excellent contemporaneous drawing supplied with the record. The second and third county records were to 125w MV light in Chicksands Wood on 21st March and 15th April 2010 by AM & MG Banthorpe.

Flight: March – April (weeks 12,15,16)*

Larval Foodplant: not fully known in the wild. Map SP95,TL14

Small Ranunculus *Hecatera dysodea* ([Denis & Schiffermüller]) (2165)

Post VCH: Larvae first recorded at Upper Sundon on 16th August 2005 by CW Plant and then at Dunstable on 21st & 31st August 2006 by LJ Hill. A single adult was also recorded at the latter site on 30th August 2006 by LJ Hill. Further to this: One a light in another Dunstable site on 29th June 2006 and one on 16th July 2008 (L Carman) and one from the RIS trap at Eaton Bray on 3rd July 2009 by G Buss, det P Gould. In 2010 there were many more records from new sites in Biggleswade, Broom, Lower Stondon & Upper Caldecote. Records for 2nd & 4th September 2010 at Biggleswade are indicative of a small 2nd generation. Larvae recorded on Prickly Lettuce in 2010 from Bedford, Flitwick, Leighton Buzzard, Lower Stondon, Luton, Ravensden, Silsoe & Stotfold. By the end of 2015 there were 247 records in the database.

Flight: June - early August (weeks 25,26,27,28,29,30,31,35,36)*

Larval Foodplant: Prickly Lettuce* & Perennial Sow-thistle.

Map SP92,94,95,TL01,02,03,04,05,11,13,14,15,16,23,24

Blossom Underwing *Orthosia miniosa* (Denis & Schiffermüller) (2183)

Post VCH: Recorded at actinic light at Bromham on 28th March 2011 by P Almond, det AM & MG Banthorpe, Turvey Abbey on 23rd April 2011 & 4th April 2014 (3) by Br J Mayhead and at a second Bromham site on 23rd March 2012 & 17th April 2014 by M & M Harrison. Records from Heath and Reach on 9th April 2014 & 8th April 2015 by M Holloway

Flight: March – April (weeks 12-17)*

Larval Foodplant: Oak then later also possibly low plants. Map SP92,95,TL05

Delicate *Mythimna vitellina* (Hübner) (2195)

Post VCH: Recorded at Eaton Ford (VC30 but Hunts admin.) on 4th September 2006 by AA Lawrence, at Great Barford on 23rd September 2006 by M Corley and at Haynes on 26th July 2007 by S Knight. This is an immigrant species to the UK.

Flight: August, September (weeks 36,38)*, October

Larval Foodplant: Various grasses. Map TL04,15,16

White-speck *Mythimna unipuncta* (Haworth) (2203)

Post VCH: Recorded at Potton on 6th November 2015 by C Campbell during an extended period of autumn migration..

Flight: any moth of the year (Week 45*)

Larval Foodplant: Various grasses. Map TL24

Obscure Wainscot *Mythimna obsoleta* (Hübner) (2204)

Post VCH: Recorded at MV light in Chalton STW on 13th June 2009 by G Buss. Subsequently three to MV light at the same site on 20th June 2009 by AM & MG Banthorpe and four to MV light at Dunstable STW on 26th June 2010 by AM & MG Banthorpe and 29th May 2011 by A Whitney. Since the sites had not been trapped before it is most likely that the species has been present for some time. It has since turned up at Marston Vale CP on 19th June 2015 by A Day, Upper Caldecote on 1st July 2014 by M Burgess, Flitwick Moor on 4th July 2015 by AM & MG Banthorpe and Turvey Abbey on 5th July 2015 by Br J Mayhead.

Flight: May to July (weeks 22,24-27)*

Larval Foodplant: Common Reed. Map SP95,TL02,03,04,14

Toadflax Brocade *Calophasia lunula* (Hufnagel) (2223)

Post VCH: Recorded at actinic light at Bromham on 13th May 2010 by P Almond. Subsequently at actinic light at Luton on 16th June 2010 by A Grimsey and in Arlesey on 9th August 2010 by D Trim. In 2011 there were 10 records from Biggleswade by L Burgess and one at Turvey Abbey from Br J Mayhead. In 2012 there were 7 records from Biggleswade by L Burgess, one from Potton by C Campbell and a larval record from Luton on 1st October by H J Griffiths. In 2013 a further 17 records from L Burgess in Biggleswade, 3 in one Luton site by A Grimsey, 1 in another Luton site by H Griffiths and 1 in Upper Caldecote by M Burgess. By the end of 2015 there had been 148 records in the county.

Flight: May to August (weeks 19,20,21,24,25,27,29,32,33)*

Larval Foodplant: Toadflax (*Linaria spp.*). Map SP95,TL02,05,13,14,23,24

Pale Pinion *Lithophane hepatica* (Clerck) (2236)

Post VCH: Recorded at The Lodge (RSPB Sandy) on 28th March 2003 by M Gurney. Subsequently recorded at Ampthill (2006), Clifton (2007), Clophill (2005), Duck End NR Maulden (2004), Renhold (2007), Sandy (2007) & Turvey (2004 & 2006). More reports from 2008 onwards with three in 2008, eight in 2009, nine in 2010, and three in 2011, none in 2012 and four in 2013. Then ten in 2014 and five in 2015.

Flight: September - November (weeks 36,38,39,41,42)*, March - May (weeks 12 to 19)*

Larval Foodplant: Various trees and shrubs. Map SP92,95,96, TL02,03,04,05,13,14,24

Black-spotted Chestnut *Conistra rubiginosa* (Scopoli) (2259a)

Post VCH: Recorded to MV light at Biggleswade on 17th December 2015 by LR Burgess and Upper Cladecote on 18th December 2015 by M Burgess. This was during a rare winter period of migration from Iberia and North Africa.

Flight: December (Week 51)*

Larval Foodplant: Map TL14

Dotted Chestnut *Conistra rubiginea* ([Denis & Schiffermüller]) (2260)

Post VCH: Recorded at Potton on 15th April 2007 by A Darrington at Southill on 14th March 2008 by P Donald and in the Cockayne Hatley RIS trap on 6th October 2010 by I Woiwod. There have been six further records in spring 2011 at Clophill, Cockayne Hatley (2), Eaton Bray, Heath & Reach and Turvey and four in March 2012 at Clifton, Cockayne Hatley, Northill and Upper Caldecote. In 2013 a further five records were submitted with twelve in 2014 and three in 2015.

Flight: October - November, March - April (weeks 11 to 16, 40)*

Larval Foodplant: Apple. Map SP92,95,TL01,03,13,14,15,24

Tree-lichen Beauty *Cryphia algae* ([Fabricius]) (2292)

Post VCH: Recorded at Barton Hills NR on 11th August 2007 by AM & MG Banthorpe and at Upper Caldecote on 30th August 2011 by M Burgess. In 2013 there were six records in Biggleswade (2), Luton (1), Potton (1) and Upper Caldecote (2). In 2014 there were nine records and eight in 2015 though mostly in the same sites.

Flight: July, August (weeks 30-35)*

Larval Foodplant: Lichens on trees. Map TL02,03,14,24

Double Kidney *Ipimorpha retusa* (L.) (2311)

Post VCH: Recorded at Eaton Ford (VC30 but Hunts admin.) on 4th August 2008 by AA Lawrence

Flight: July - September (week 31)*

Larval Foodplant: Sallows & Willows. Map TL16

Concolorous *Chortodes extrema* (Hübner) (2347)

Post VCH: Recorded near Turvey in June 2005 by HA Smith and at Turvey Abbey on 8th June 2009, 26th June 2010 & 2nd August 2013 by Br J Mayhead. Undoubtedly wanderers from the nearby population in Northants.

Flight: May, June (weeks 23,24,26,31)*, July

Larval Foodplant: Purple Small-reed & Wood Small-reed. Map SP95

Clancy's Rustic *Platyperigea kadenii* (Freyer, 1836) (2387a)

Post VCH: Recorded at Bromham on 8th October 2010 by P Almond. This is an immigrant species to the UK but is now resident along parts of the south coast.

Flight: June-July & September-October (week 41)*

Larval Foodplant: In the UK unknown, In mainland Europe a wide variety of low-growing herbaceous plants. Map TL05

Golden Twin-spot *Chrysodeixis chalcites* (Esper) (2428)

Post VCH: Recorded indoors at Sandy Warren on 14th December 2001 by D Dawson and at Eaton Ford (VC30 but Hunts admin.) on 21st October 2005 by AA Lawrence. This is an immigrant species to the UK.

Flight: July - December (weeks 42,50)*

Larval Foodplant: Sage, Viper's-bugloss, Chrysanthemums, Celery, Tobacco and other plants. Map TL14,16

Ni Moth *Trichoplusia ni* (Hübner) (2432)

Post VCH: Recorded at Potton on 17th September 2006 by J Lindsell. This is an immigrant species to the UK.

Flight: May - October (week 38)*

Larval Foodplant: Many cultivated plants. Map TL24

Dewick's Plusia *Macdunnoughia confusa* (Stephens) (2436)

Post VCH: Recorded at Upper Stondon on 10th September 2015 by J England. This is an immigrant species to the UK.

Flight: May & July - October (Week 37)*

Larval Foodplant: Many plants especially nettle. Map TL13

***Pandesma robusta* (Walker) (2455b)**

Post VCH: Found dead at Bedford in February 2002 by M Bryer. This is a species found along the Mediterranean coast from Portugal and as far east as India.

Larval Foodplant: Siris (*Albizia lebbek*). Map TL05

Waved Black *Parascotia fuliginaria* (Linnaeus) (2475)

Post VCH: Recorded in the Cockayne Hatley RIS Trap on 26th July 2000 by I Woiwod, at Yelden on 4th August 2003 by A & R Paynter, at Eaton Ford (VC30 but Hunts admin.) on 17th July 2004 by AA Lawrence, at Studham on 27th July 2008 by CRB Baker and in the Eaton Bray II RIS trap on 23rd July 2010 by G Buss (det P.J.L. Gould). A larva was found at Woburn Safari Park on 22nd May 2015 by H Turner.

Flight: June - early August (weeks 29-31)*

Larval Foodplant: Fungi, lichens and slime moulds. Map SP92,93,TL01,06,16,24

Dotted Fan-foot *Macrochilo cribrumalis* (Hübner) (2493)

Post VCH: Recorded at Clophill on 13th July by R Christopher, in the Cockayne Hatley RIS trap on 17th July by I P Woiwod and at Flitwick Moor on 4th July 2015 by AM & MG Banthorpe

Flight: mid-June - August (weeks 27-29)*

Larval Foodplant: Rushes & Sedges. Map TL03,24

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Andy & Melissa Banthorpe 2016