A surprising number of moth species are active by day and are often as brightly coloured and beautifully patterned as butterflies. Day-flying moths


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Text by Susan Anders.

Photographs by Robert Thompson, Roy Leverton, Shane Farrell, Dave Green, Sharon Hearle, Les Hill, Richard Mearns, John Mounsey, Mark Parsons, Paul Pugh, Keith Tailby, Kelly Thomas, Martin Warren.

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Moths in this leaflet

Moth conservation

Butterfly Conservation works to conserve butterflies, moths and their habitats, in partnership with other organisations. It has established a network of experienced and knowledgeable moth recorders; the National Moth Recording Scheme. The project aims to monitor all the larger moths in the UK and guide conservation efforts. You can contribute to this by sending in your moth recordings, and for more information about the Moths Count project, moths, moth recording, County Moth Recorders’ contact details and free activities to join in, visit www.mothscount.org or contact Butterfly Conservation.

Widely distributed (Britain and Ireland)

- Oak Eggar
- Currant Clearwing
- Chalk Carpet
- Pretty Pinion
- Small Purple-barred
- Wood Tiger
- Fox Moth
- Small Yellow Underwing
- Vapourer
- Grass Rivulet
- Forester
- Humming-bird Hawk-moth
- Brown Silver-line
- Treble-bar
- Scarce Silver Y
- Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth
- Clouded Buff
- Argent & Sable
- Small Argent & Sable
- Silver Y
- Bordered White
- Common Heath
- Shaded Broad-bar
- Burnet Companion
- Dew Moth
- Latticed Heath
- Small White Wave
- Mother Shipton
- Belted Beauty
- Chimney Sweeper
- Red-necked Footman
- Six-spot Burnet
- Orange Underwing
- Speckled Yellow
- Cinnabar
- Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk-moth
- Narrow-bordered Beak moth
- Scarce Vapourer

Key to images

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Moth conservation

Many UK moth species are in decline. Butterfly Conservation works to conserve butterflies, moths and their habitats, in partnership with other organisations, to raise awareness and improve knowledge and conservation of moths. The project has developed the National Moth Recording Scheme to support moth recorders and utilise the information they collect to monitor all the larger moths in the UK and guide conservation efforts. You can contribute to this by sending sightings of day-flying species to your County Moth Recorder.

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**Moth conservation**

Many UK moth species are in decline. Butterfly Conservation works to conserve butterflies, moths and their habitats, in partnership with other organisations, to establish and manage sites where butterflies and moths can reproduce and thrive, and to raise awareness and improve knowledge and conservation of butterflies. The project has established the National Moth Recording Scheme to support moth recorders and utilise the information they collect to monitor all the larger moths in the UK and guide conservation efforts.

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The species illustrated are not to be found in or near the nominated area. Although some species are widespread throughout these regions or offer a wider range, others have more limited distribution, but those listed are to be found in or near the nominated area, allowing for the right period of time species to be seen.
A surprising number of moth species are active by day and are often as brightly coloured and beautifully patterned as butterflies.

Further information
There is plenty of help to identify moths, and other information, on the Moths Count website at www.mothscount.org, plus links to further sources. The following books are good identification guides:


Butterfly Conservation is working to save butterflies, moths and their habitats. Why not become a member? More information at www.butterfly-conservation.org

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Further information

For a quick, up-to-date guide, visit the Moths Count website at www.mothscount.org for the latest findings, and for links to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland Field Guide and Concise Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland. To identify moths, butterflies and other insects, visit the Butterfly Conservation website at www.butterfly-conservation.org.

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Southern England and Wales

Black-veined Moth

Yellow Brick

Common Emerald

Brindled Beauty

Common Coffee

Northern England and Scotland

Grape Moth

Striped Grass Skipper

Four-spotted Forester

Southern England and Wales

New Forest Skipper

Two-spotted Forester

Silver Y

Five-spot Burnet

Northern England and Scotland

Marbled Clover

Shoulder-striped Clover

Little Thorn

Six-spot Burnet

Marbled White

Northern England and Scotland

Southern England and Wales

Raven Moth

Butterflies on the Common

Silver Y

Skinner, B. 1998 (Viking)

R. Thompson

R Thompson

The Emperor Moth

Scarlet Tiger

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Moths Count is a partnership of many organisations, led by Butterfly Conservation, with involvement from local groups and County Wildlife Trusts. The programme is supported by funds, including from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Further information can be found on the Moths Count website at www.mothscount.org.

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day-flying moths

a brief guide

A surprising number of moth species are active by day and are often as brightly coloured and beautifully patterned as butterflies.
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**Southern England and Wales**

- **Five-spot Burnet**
  - May-Aug
- **Marbled Clover**
  - Jun-Aug
- **Four-spotted**
  - May-Sep
- **Scarce Forester**
  - Jun-Jul
- **Jersey Tiger**
  - Jun-Sep
- **Drab Looper**
  - May-Jun; Aug
- **Shoulder-striped Clover**
  - Jun-Jul
- **Little Thorn**
  - May-Jun
- **Straw Belle**
  - Jun-Sep
- **Lace Border**
  - May-Sep
- **Silver Barred**
  - May-Aug
- **Yellow Belle**
  - May-Jun, Aug-Sep
- **Black-veined Moth**
  - May-Jul
- **Least Minor**
  - Jun-Aug
- **Transparent Burnet**
  - Jun-Jul (also Ireland)
- **Netted Mountain Moth**
  - Apr-Jun
- **Kentish Glory**
  - Apr-May
- **Black Mountain Moth**
  - Jun-Jul
- **Broad-bordered White Underwing**
  - May-Jun
- **Manchester Treble-bar**
  - Jul-Sep (also Ireland)
- **Rannoch Looper**
  - Jun-Jul
- **Scotch Burnet**
  - Jun-Jul
- **Dark Bordered Beauty**
  - Jul-Aug

**Northern England and Scotland**

- **White Five-spot Burnet**
- **Pierrot**
- **Shoreline Grass**
- **Dark Bordered Beauty**
- **Ragged Robin**
- **Swallowtail**
- **Brindled Beauty**
- **Blue-tail**
- **Green Bordered Brindle**
- **Common Emerald**
- **Cornish Beauty**
- **Green Bordered Tiger**
- **Long-tailed Green**
- **Pansy**
- **Pierrot**
- **Shoreline Grass**
- **Dark Bordered Beauty**
- **Ragged Robin**
- **Swallowtail**
- **Brindled Beauty**
- **Blue-tail**
- **Green Bordered Brindle**
- **Common Emerald**
- **Cornish Beauty**
- **Green Bordered Tiger**
- **Long-tailed Green**
- **Pansy**
- **Pierrot**
- **Shoreline Grass**

Further information

There is plenty of help to identify moths, and other information, on the Moths Count website at www.mothscount.org, plus links to further sources. The following books are good identification guides:

- **Concise Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland.**
  - Townsend, M., Waring, P. & Lewington, R.
  - 2007 (British Wildlife Publishing)
- **Field Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland.**
  - Waring, P., Townsend, M. & Lewington, R.
  - 2003 (British Wildlife Publishing)
- **The Colour Identification Guide to Moths of the British Isles.**
  - Skinner, B.
  - 1998 (Viking)

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Moths Count is a partnership of many organisations, individuals and businesses, led by Butterfly Conservation. Principal funders include the Heritage Lottery Fund, Butterfly Conservation, British Entomological and Natural History Society, City Bridge Trust, Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency, Natural England, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage, Butterfly Conservation, and many other organisations and individuals. Full details at: www.mothscount.org

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