

LEARNING LEPIDOPTERA
(AN INTRODUCTION TO BUTTERFLY AND MOTH IDENTIFICATION AND RECORDING)
Beinn Eighe 10th August 2013

Sarah Lewington, a Natural Communities Trainee with The Conservation Volunteers, organised a one day event at Beinn Eighe NNR as one of the projects during her placement.

8 people were booked onto the course and there was very valuable assistance from Barry Blake, James Allison and Sarah herself.



Examining moths in the traps

The Introduction to Moth Identification involved checking through moth traps set overnight near the Field Station at Anancaun. There was a Robinson MV, a Skinner MV and four Skinner actinics providing a good variety of species but with varying sizes of catches. We started by going through the catch in the Robinson trap and this took some time as many of the moths were new to the participants. A break for coffee was combined with a presentation on the main features, with examples, of the "jizz" of a moth plus other features to check out when identifying moths. We then set about going through three further traps with folk now able to recognise many of the species involved. A total of 42 species of macro-moth were seen during the day.

After lunch Sarah and James took the group to search for butterflies and practice using butterfly nets to catch them for close inspection. This was followed by a final check through the last two traps, which even then provided a few extra species as well as a refresher on quite a few already recorded earlier in the day.

We were fortunate with the weather and the sun even came out a bit for the butterfly section in the afternoon.



Haworth's Minor and Crescent Beinn Eighe 09 Aug 2013



Minor Shoulder Knot Beinn Eighe 09 Aug 2013

Moth List Beinn Eighe 9th August 2013

Small Fan-footed Wave
 Riband Wave
 Flame Carpet
 Common Carpet
 Purple Bar
 Dark Marbled Carpet
 Common Marbled Carpet

Idaea biselata
Idaea aversata
Xanthorhoe designata
Epirrhoe alternata
Cosmorhoe ocellata
Chloroclysta citrata
Chloroclysta truncata

Pine Carpet
Grey Pine Carpet
Beech-green Carpet
Green Carpet
July Highflyer
Juniper Pug
Double-striped Pug
Welsh Wave
Satin Beauty
Mottled Beauty
Dotted Carpet
Light Emerald
Lesser Swallow Prominent
Plain Clay
Large Yellow Underwing
Lesser Yellow Underwing
Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing
Setaceous Hebrew Character
Dotted Clay
Six-striped Rustic
Square-spot Rustic
Gothic
Green Arches
Antler Moth
Minor Shoulder-knot
Dark Arches
Small Wainscot
Rosy Rustic
Haworth's Minor
Crescent
Gold Spot
Silver Y
Snout
Common Rustic agg.
Ear Moth agg.

Thera firmata
Thera obeliscata
Colostygia olivata
Colostygia pectinataria
Hydriomena furcata
Eupithecia pusillata
Gymnoscelis rufifasciata
Venusia cambrica
Deileptenia ribeata
Alcis repandata
Alcis jubata
Campaea margaritata
Pheosia gnoma
Eugnorisma depuncta
Noctua pronuba
Noctua comes
Noctua janthe
Xestia c-nigrum
Xestia baja
Xestia sexstrigata
Xestia xanthographa
Naenia typica
Anaplectoides prasina
Cerapteryx graminis
Brachylomia viminalis
Apamea monoglypha
Chortodes pygmina
Hydraecia micacea
Celaena haworthii
Celaena leucostigma
Plusia festucae
Autographa gamma
Hypena proboscidalis
Mesapamea secalis agg.
Amphipoea oculea agg.





Gold Spot Beinn Eighe 09 Aug 2013