

## HIGHLAND MOTH RECORDING PROVISIONAL GRADING SYSTEM

VC recorders may query records from recorders, particularly inexperienced trappers. Please do not be offended by this. It is very important that records on the central database are accurate and we are anxious to avoid unverified records of certain difficult species being entered. Many species are common and easy to identify, but many can only be identified by genitalia examination. Between these two extremes are moths whose identification may be tricky, and records from experienced observers may be accepted more easily than those from the new moth trapper.

The checklist shows the level of record required for each species of macro moth in the Highlands and gives an indication which records are likely to be queried. The number following each moth is explained below:

**Grade 1:** These are moths which are believed to be widespread and common in the Highlands. They will be easily identifiable by inexperienced observers. Records are unlikely to be queried.

**Grade 2:** Moths of a more restricted distribution or identification may be more difficult due to some confusion species. Most observers will have little trouble with these and again records are unlikely to be queried unless they fall outside the species' normal habitat or flight time.

**Grade 3:** Moths which may be much harder to identify or which may be very local in the county. Rare moths which may be confused with commoner species. Many pugs fall into this category. Records from inexperienced recorders will be queried. A photograph or a voucher specimen is useful.

**Grade R:** Rarities. A good quality photograph or a voucher specimen is mandatory unless the observer is very familiar with the species.

**Grade G:** Genitalia examination is mandatory to exclude related species.

Code	Vernacular	Grading
14	Ghost Moth	1
15	Orange Swift	2
16	Gold Swift	2
17	Common Swift	2
18	Map-winged Swift	2
162	Goat Moth	R
168	New Forest Burnet	R
169	Six-spot Burnet	1
171	Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet	R
172	Transparent Burnet	R
371	Lunar Hornet Moth	R
373	Currant Clearwing	R
376	Welsh Clearwing	R
381	Large Red-belted Clearwing	3
383	Thrift Clearwing	R
1631	December Moth	1
1632	Pale Eggar	2
1637	Northern Eggar	1
1638	Fox Moth	1
1640	Drinker	1
1643	Emperor Moth	1
1644	Kentish Glory	R
1645	Scalloped Hook-tip	1
1648	Pebble Hook-tip	1
1651	Chinese Character	1
1652	Peach Blossom	1
1655	Poplar Lutestring	2
1656	Satin Lutestring	2
1657	Common Lutestring	2
1659	Yellow Horned	1
1661	Orange Underwing	2
1663	March Moth	1
1665	Grass Emerald	2

1666	Large Emerald	1
1677	Birch Mocha	2
1693	Cream Wave	3
1694	Smoky Wave	3
1702	Small Fan-footed Wave	2
1707	Small Dusty Wave	3
1713	Riband Wave	2
1715	Plain Wave	2
1716	Vestal	1
1722	Flame Carpet	2
1723	Red Carpet	3
1724	Red Twin-spot Carpet	3
1725	Dark-barred Twin-spot Carpet	3
1727	Silver-ground Carpet	1
1728	Garden Carpet	1
1732	Shaded Broad-bar	1
1733	Lead Belle	3
1734	July Belle	3
1737	Small Argent & Sable	2
1738	Common Carpet	2
1742	Yellow Shell	1
1743	Yellow-ringed Carpet	3
1744	Grey Mountain Moth	2
1746	Shoulder Stripe	2
1747	Streamer	1
1748	Beautiful Carpet	2
1749	Dark Spinach	3
1750	Water Carpet	2
1752	Purple Bar	1
1753	Striped Twin-spot Carpet	3
1754	Phoenix	2
1755	Chevron	2
1756	Northern Spinach	2
1757	Spinach	3
1758	Barred Straw	1
1759	Small Phoenix	2
1760	Red-green Carpet	2
1761	Autumn Green Carpet	2
1762	Dark Marbled Carpet	2
1764	Common Marbled Carpet	2
1765	Barred Yellow	1
1766	Blue-bordered Carpet	2
1767	Pine Carpet	2
1768	Grey Pine Carpet	2
1769	Spruce Carpet	3
1770	Chestnut-coloured Carpet	2
1771	Juniper Carpet	2
1773	Broken-barred Carpet	2
1774	Beech-green Carpet	2
1775	Mottled Grey	2
1776	Green Carpet	1
1777	July Highflyer	1
1778	May Highflyer	3
1779	Ruddy Highflyer	3
1780	Slender-striped Rufous	R
1787	Argent & Sable	R
1795	November Moth	G
1796	Pale November Moth	G
1797	Autumnal Moth	G
1798	Small Autumnal Moth	3
1799	Winter Moth	1
1800	Northern Winter Moth	2
1801	Barred Carpet	2
1802	Rivulet	2
1803	Small Rivulet	2
1805	Heath Rivulet	3

1806	Pretty Pinion	2
1807	Grass Rivulet	3
1808	Sandy Carpet	1
1809	Twin-spot Carpet	1
1811	Slender Pug	3
1816	Toadflax Pug	2
1817	Foxglove Pug	2
1821	Valerian Pug	3
1822	Marsh Pug	3
1825	Lime-speck Pug	2
1827	Freyer's Pug	3
1828	Satyr Pug	3
1830	Wormwood Pug	3
1832	Currant Pug	3
1833	Bleached Pug	2
1834	Common Pug	3
1835	White-spotted Pug	3
1837	Grey Pug	3
1838	Tawny Speckled Pug	2
1843	Thyme Pug	3
1846	Narrow-winged Pug	2
1849	Ash Pug	3
1852	Brindled Pug	3
1854	Juniper Pug	3
1856	Larch Pug	3
1857	Dwarf Pug	3
1858	V-Pug	2
1860	Green Pug	3
1862	Double-striped Pug	2
1864	Streak	1
1865	Broom-tip	2
1866	Manchester Treble-bar	2
1867	Treble-bar	1
1870	Chimney Sweeper	1
1873	Welsh Wave	2
1875	Small White Wave	2
1879	Seraphim	2
1880	Barred Tooth-striped	R
1881	Early Tooth-striped	2
1884	Magpie Moth	1
1887	Clouded Border	1
1889	Peacock Moth	2
1893	Tawny-barred Angle	2
1895	Netted Mountain Moth	R
1896	Rannoch Looper	2
1897	V-Moth	2
1902	Brown Silver-line	1
1903	Barred Umber	1
1906	Brimstone Moth	1
1907	Bordered Beauty	2
1908	Dark Bordered Beauty	R
1909	Speckled Yellow	1
1912	August Thorn	3
1913	Canary-shouldered Thorn	2
1915	September Thorn	3
1917	Early Thorn	2
1918	Lunar Thorn	3
1919	Purple Thorn	3
1920	Scalloped Hazel	1
1921	Scalloped Oak	1
1923	Feathered Thorn	2
1926	Pale Brindled Beauty	2
1927	Brindled Beauty	1
1928	Belted Beauty	2
1929	Rannoch Brindled Beauty	2
1931	Peppered Moth	1

1932	Spring Usher	2
1933	Scarce Umber	2
1934	Dotted Border	2
1935	Mottled Umber	2
1937	Willow Beauty	3
1939	Ringed Carpet	3
1940	Satin Beauty	3
1941	Mottled Beauty	2
1942	Dotted Carpet	2
1945	Brussels Lace	2
1947	Engrailed	2
1951	Grey Birch	2
1952	Common Heath	1
1954	Bordered White	1
1955	Common White Wave	2
1956	Common Wave	2
1958	Clouded Silver	2
1961	Light Emerald	1
1962	Barred Red	1
1963	Scottish Annulet	3
1964	Annulet	3
1965	Black Mountain Moth	2
1969	Grey Scalloped Bar	2
1972	Convolvulus Hawk-moth	2
1973	Death's-head Hawk-moth	R
1981	Poplar Hawk-moth	1
1982	Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk	R
1984	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	1
1991	Elephant Hawk-moth	2
1992	Small Elephant Hawk-moth	2
1994	Buff-tip	1
1995	Puss Moth	1
1997	Sallow Kitten	2
2000	Iron Prominent	2
2003	Pebble Prominent	1
2006	Lesser Swallow Prominent	2
2007	Swallow Prominent	2
2008	Coxcomb Prominent	1
2010	Scarce Prominent	2
2011	Pale Prominent	1
2014	Marbled Brown	3
2015	Lunar Marbled Brown	3
2019	Chocolate-tip	3
2026	Vapourer	1
2027	Dark Tussock	1
2035	Round-winged Muslin	2
2036	Dew Moth	2
2050	Common Footman	2
2056	Wood Tiger	1
2057	Garden Tiger	1
2059	Clouded Buff	1
2060	White Ermine	2
2061	Buff Ermine	2
2063	Muslin Moth	3
2064	Ruby Tiger	1
2078	Least Black Arches	3
2081	White-line Dart	3
2082	Garden Dart	3
2083	Coast Dart	3
2085	Archer's Dart	2
2087	Turnip Moth	3
2088	Heart and Club	3
2089	Heart and Dart	3
2091	Dark Sword-grass	2
2099	Portland Moth	2
2102	Flame Shoulder	1

2103	Plain Clay	2
2104	Northern Rustic	3
2107	Large Yellow Underwing	1
2108	Lunar Yellow Underwing	R
2109	Lesser Yellow Underwing	2
2110	Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	1
2111	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	1
2114	Double Dart	2
2116	Cousin German	R
2117	Autumnal Rustic	1
2118	True Lover's Knot	1
2119	Pearly Underwing	3
2120	Ingrailed Clay	2
2121	Barred Chestnut	3
2122	Purple Clay	2
2123	Small Square-spot	2
2125	Northern Dart	R
2126	Setaceous Hebrew Character	2
2127	Triple-spotted Clay	3
2128	Double Square-spot	3
2130	Dotted Clay	2
2131	Square-spotted Clay	R
2132	Neglected Rustic	3
2133	Six-striped Rustic	2
2134	Square-spot Rustic	2
2135	Heath Rustic	1
2136	Gothic	2
2137	Great Brocade	2
2138	Green Arches	2
2139	Red Chestnut	2
2142	Beautiful Yellow Underwing	2
2143	Small Dark Yellow Underwing	2
2144	Broad-bordered White Underwing	2
2147	Shears	2
2149	Silvery Arches	2
2154	Cabbage Moth	3
2156	Beautiful Brocade	3
2158	Pale-shouldered Brocade	2
2159	Dog's Tooth	3
2160	Bright-line Brown-eye	2
2162	Glaucous Shears	2
2163	Broom Moth	1
2164	Broad-barred White	2
2166	Campion	3
2171	Marbled Coronet	3
2173	Lychnis	3
2176	Antler Moth	1
2179	Pine Beauty	2
2182	Small Quaker	2
2185	Lead-coloured Drab	3
2186	Powdered Quaker	3
2187	Common Quaker	1
2188	Clouded Drab	2
2190	Hebrew Character	1
2192	Brown-line Bright Eye	2
2193	Clay	2
2198	Smoky Wainscot	2
2199	Common Wainscot	2
2205	Shoulder-striped Wainscot	3
2216	Shark	2
2225	Minor Shoulder-knot	3
2228	Rannoch Sprawler	2
2229	Brindled Ochre	2
2231a	Northern Deep-brown Dart	2
2232	Black Rustic	2
2233	Golden-rod Brindle	2

2241	Red Sword-grass	2
2242	Sword-grass	R
2243	Early Grey	2
2245	Green-brindled Crescent	2
2247	Merveille du Jour	1
2248	Brindled Green	2
2250	Dark Brocade	3
2254	Grey Chi	2
2256	Satellite	2
2258	Chestnut	2
2262	Brick	2
2263	Red-line Quaker	2
2264	Yellow-line Quaker	2
2265	Flounced Chestnut	2
2266	Brown-spot Pinion	2
2268	Suspected	3
2269	Centre-barred Sallow	2
2271	Orange Sallow	2
2273	Pink-barred Sallow	2
2274	Sallow	2
2278	Poplar Grey	3
2280	Miller	2
2284	Grey Dagger	2
2286	Light Knot Grass	2
2288	Sweet Gale Moth	3
2289	Knot Grass	3
2291	Coronet	3
2299	Mouse Moth	2
2300	Old Lady	1
2302	Brown Rustic	2
2305	Small Angle Shades	1
2306	Angle Shades	1
2313	Angle-striped Sallow	2
2318	Dun-bar	2
2320	Saxon	2
2321	Dark Arches	1
2322	Light Arches	2
2324	Northern Arches	3
2326	Clouded-bordered Brindle	2
2329	Confused	3
2330	Dusky Brocade	3
2334	Rustic Shoulder-knot	2
2337	Marbled Minor	G
2338	Rufous Minor	G
2339	Tawny Marbled Minor	G
2340	Middle-barred Minor	2
2341	Cloaked Minor	G
2342	Rosy Minor	3
2343	Common Rustic	G
2343a	Lesser Common Rustic	G
2345	Small Dotted Buff	2
2348	Lyme Grass	3
2350	Small Wainscot	2
2353	Flounced Rustic	3
2357	Large Ear	G
2358	Saltern Ear	G
2359	Crinan Ear	G
2360	Ear Moth	G
2361	Rosy Rustic	1
2364	Frosted Orange	2
2367	Haworth's Minor	3
2368	Crescent	3
2369	Bulrush Wainscot	3
2375	Large Wainscot	3
2381	Uncertain	G
2382	Rustic	G

2389	Pale Mottled Willow	3
2394	Anomalous	2
2399	Bordered Sallow	2
2400	Scarce Bordered Straw	3
2403	Bordered Straw	3
2412	Silver Hook	2
2423	Oak Nycteoline	3
2425	Nut-tree Tussock	2
2434	Burnished Brass	1
2439	Gold Spot	3
2440	Lempke's Gold Spot	3
2441	Silver Y	1
2442	Beautiful Golden Y	1
2443	Plain Golden Y	2
2444	Gold Spangle	1
2447	Scarce Silver Y	2
2450	Spectacle	2
2451	Clifden Nonpareil	2
2462	Mother Shipton	2
2469	Herald	1
2470	Small Purple-barred	2
2474	Straw Dot	2
2477	Snout	1
2484	Pinion-streaked Snout	3
2485	Marsh Oblique-barred	3
2489	Fan-foot	3