

**ORANGE-TIP** *Anthocharis cardamines* (ABH 58.003)

Although a common species throughout the U.K, it is somewhat local in northern Scotland.

**Distribution trend.** In the mid-1970s it was confined to the south-easternmost part of the region, but during the 1980s it spread rapidly both northward and westward. A slower rate of expansion appears to be continuing to the present day. Throughout its core range in mainland Highland there has only been a small increase since the 2007 atlas, but there are notable new records within the last decade in northern Caithness and Sutherland, and the Western Isles.

**Habitat.** Damp meadows and stream sides with an abundance of *Cardamine pratensis*, but also occurs anywhere else where the foodplants are found.

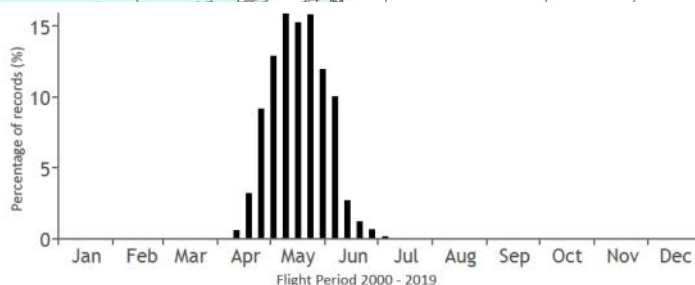
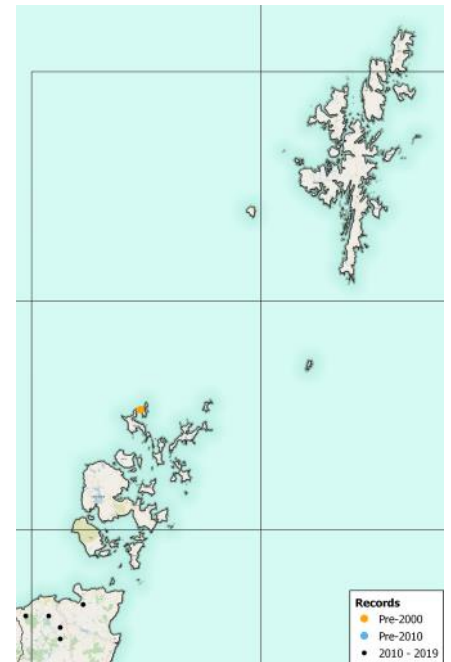
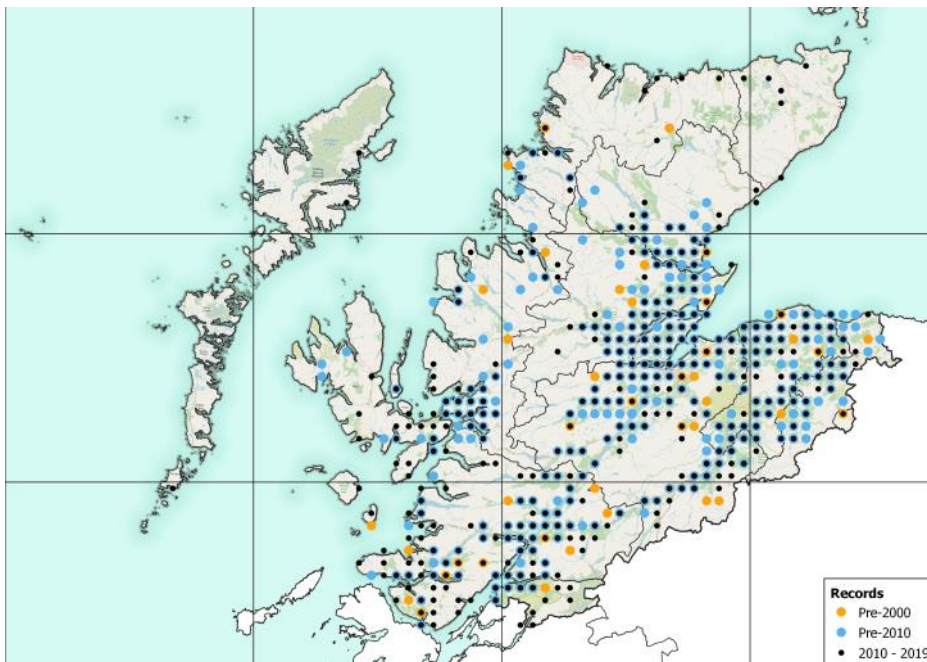
**Flight period.** Mid-April to end of June.

**Larval food plant.** Cuckooflower *Cardamine pratensis*, Garlic Mustard *Alliaria petiolata* and Dame's Violet *Hesperis matronalis*.

**Appearance and behaviour.** Only the male butterfly has the distinctive orange tips to the forewings. The female is essentially black-and-white but, like the male, with an attractive green mottling on the undersides. It might potentially be confused with a Green-veined White, usually on the wing at the same time.



Male - Michael Taylor



Number of Records	
Pre-2000	811
2000 - 2009	1548
2010 - 2019	2379



Female - Michael Taylor



Pupa - Hilary Swift



Egg on Cuckooflower - Hilary Swift