

SMALL HEATH *Coenonympha pamphilus* (ABH 59.005) UK BAP: Priority Species

A very widespread species of grassland habitats in which it ranges from sea level to at least 500m up in the mountains. It occurs throughout most of mainland Highland and the Western Isles. It is absent from the Northern Isles but has been recorded on Fair Isle pre-2000.

Distribution trend. Overall, distribution has remained stable since the last atlas of 2007.

Habitat. A variety of grassland types including coastal dunes, rough pasture, woodland clearings and moorland edges.

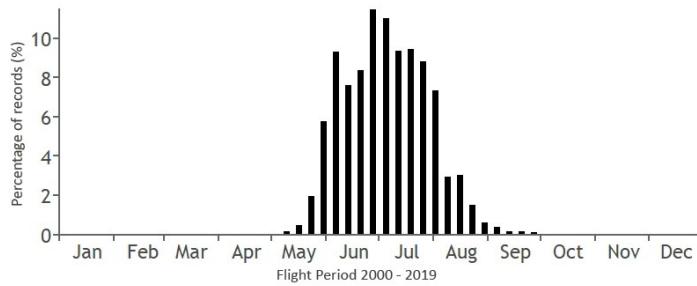
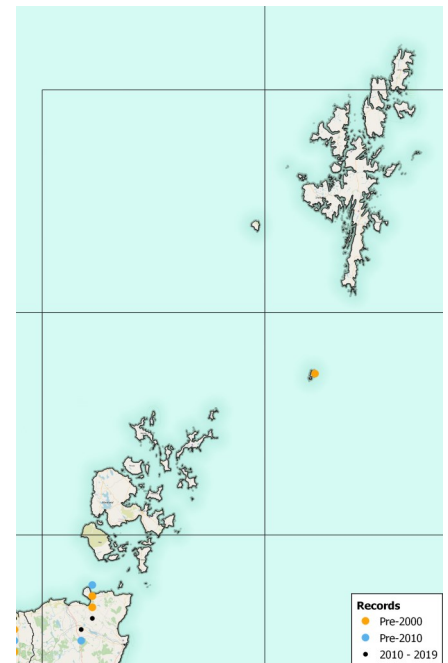
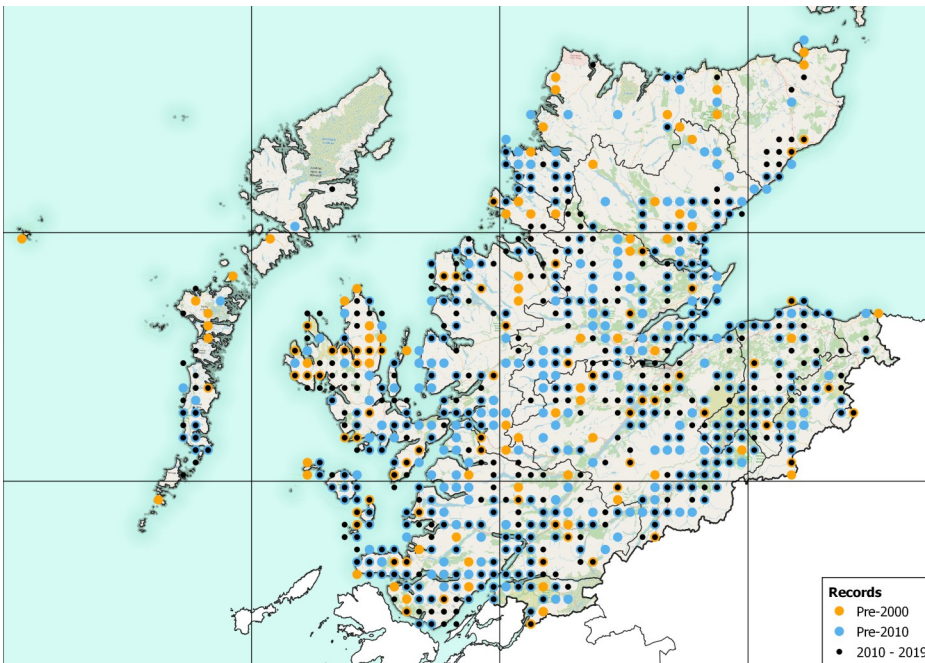
Flight period. Mid-May to early September.

Larval food plants. Various grasses, particularly fescues, *Festuca* species.

Appearance and behaviour. Small but easily observed, this butterfly flies close to the ground and perches frequently with wings closed up. The underside pattern then revealed allows this species to be distinguished from the Large Heath.



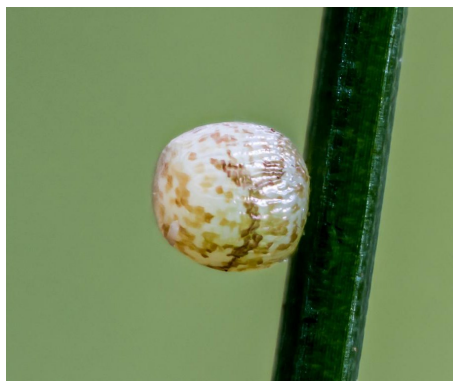
Michael Taylor



Number of Records	
Pre-2000	1641
2000 - 2009	2246
2010 - 2019	3019



Nigel Richards



Peter Eeles



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