

MARSH FRITILLARY *Eurodryas aurinia* (ABH 59.033) UK BAP: Priority Species

A species found here on the very edge of its range, the main stronghold in Scotland being in coastal Argyll and the islands to the south-west of our region. Nationally it is a species in severe decline.

Distribution trend. This species was only recorded from two 5km squares in the last atlas. The new atlas shows records in sixteen 5km squares, including eight new squares recorded within the last decade. Since all of the more recent records are to the south of the 2007 atlas records, it is not known if this is a true range expansion southwards or whether it is due to increased recording effort.

Habitat. Damp unimproved grassland (including lightly grazed pasture) with a good growth of Devil's-bit Scabious.

Flight period. Mid-May to late June.

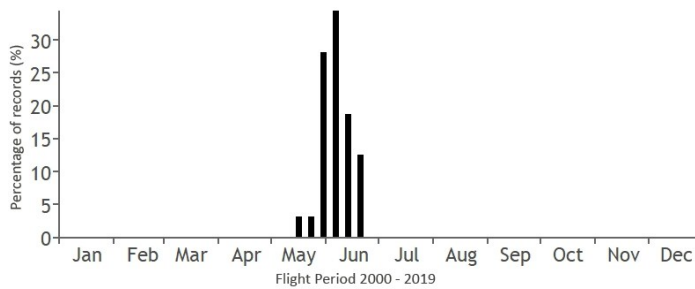
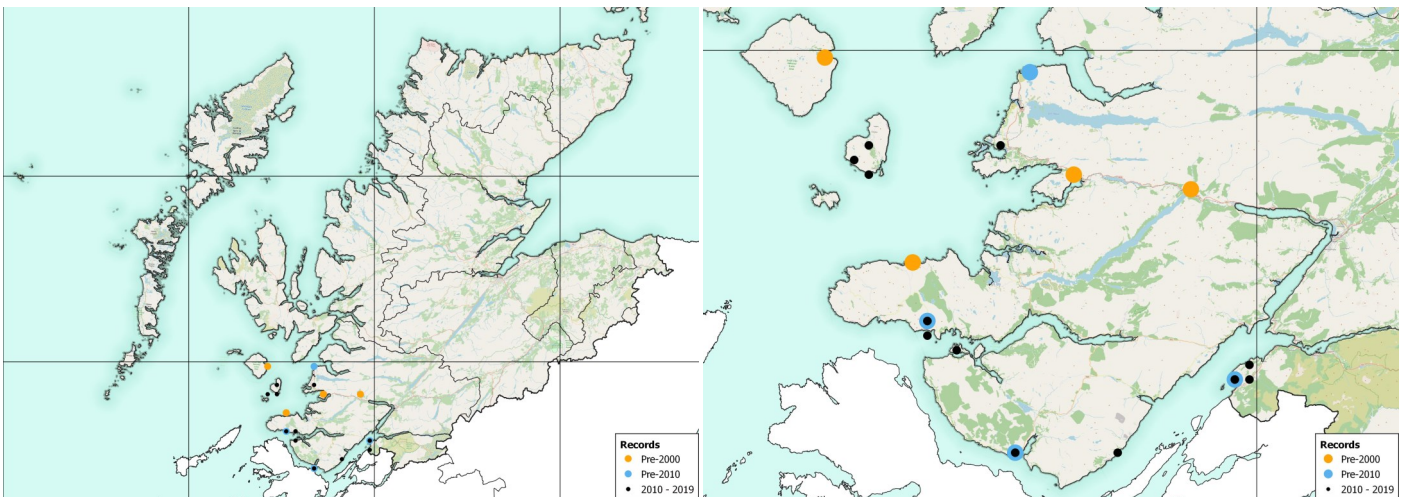
Larval food plant. Devil's-bit Scabious *Succisa pratensis*.

Appearance and behaviour. A strongly flying butterfly, it often co-occurs, in time and place, with the Small Pearl-bordered

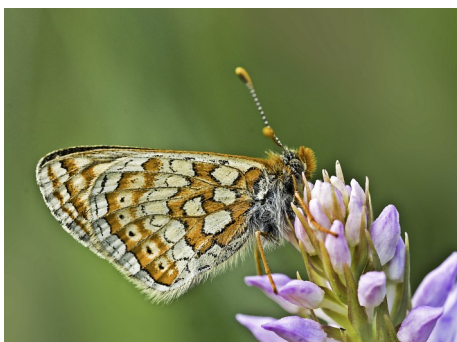


Jim Black

Left, map at 5KM square resolution, right, map at 2KM square resolution. There are no records from the Northern Isles.



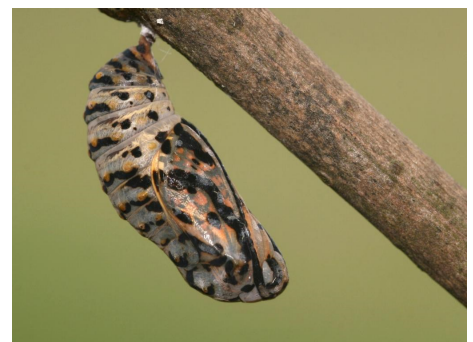
Number of Records	
Pre-2000	19
2000 - 2009	7
2010 - 2019	36



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Dean Morley