

GREEN HAIRSTREAK *Callophrys rubi* (ABH 61.005)

Scattered and widespread records across much of mainland Highland, but there is only one (old) record for the far north of the mainland. It is found on various west coast islands but is absent from the Western and Northern Isles.

Distribution trend. The distribution seems to have been stable over time, but with an apparent expansion westward on Skye in the last decade.

Habitat. Blaeberry-rich moorland and open woodland are its usual haunts, but very locally (as at Culbin Forest) it is associated more particularly with gorse scrub. In the west it extends over more general moorland habitat.

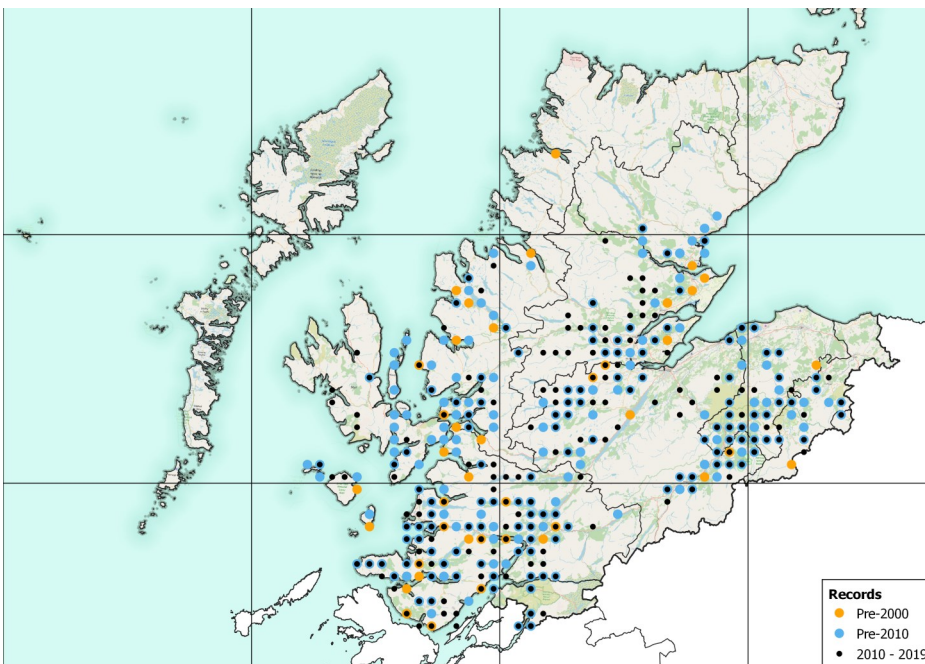
Flight period. End of March (exceptionally) to early July.

Larval food plants. Blaeberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, Gorse *Ulex europaeus* and Cross-leaved Heath *Erica tetralix*.

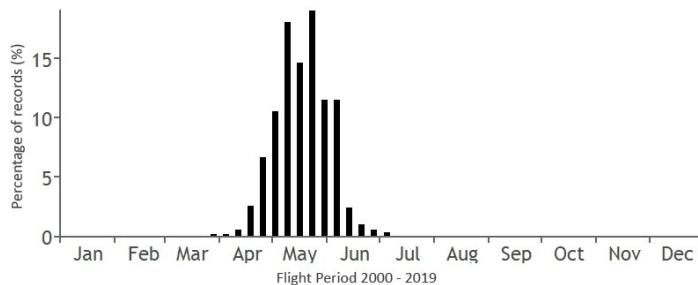
Appearance and behaviour. A very pretty butterfly with emerald-green undersides to the wings, which are the sides always displayed in perching. It is nevertheless inconspicuous because of its small size and rapid erratic flight. Often it engages in territorial combat flights involving two or more individuals.



Nigel Richards



There are currently no records from the Northern Isles.



Number of Records

Pre-2000	586
2000 - 2009	1048
2010 - 2019	905



Nigel Richards



Gilles San Martin



Peter Eeles