

Moorside Allotments Moth Survey: May - June 2011 Update. J. Wallace

Due to poor weather and work commitments it was only possible to do a very limited amount of trapping during May and June and this is reflected in the small number of species caught compared to the same period last year. In total, 20 species were caught of which by far the most frequent was Heart and Dart. On the positive side, several of the species recorded were new for the site. All of the moths captured were released back into the wild. Pictures of three of the species are shown on page 2 of this report.

Scientific name	Vernacular	Comments
<i>Lyonetia clerkella</i>	Apple Leaf Miner	New. A tiny moth less than half a centimetre long. The larvae 'mine' the leaves (i.e. feed between the upper and lower surface of the leaf) of various trees including apple and hawthorn.
<i>Argyresthia pruniella</i>	Cherry Fruit Moth	New. Another tiny moth which can sometimes be seen flying in daylight amongst the leaves of cherry trees whose shoots and fruits the larvae mine.
<i>Blastodacna hellerella</i>		New. Yet another tiny moth. The larvae of this species feed within the fruits of hawthorn.
<i>Celypha lacunana</i>		
<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	
<i>Idaea aversata</i>	Riband Wave	
<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i>	Silver-ground Carpet	
<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	
<i>Eulithis mellinata</i>	Spinach	New. A fairly common species in Northumberland which belies its name by feeding on red-currant and black-currant in its larval stage. ¹
<i>Chloroclysta truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	
<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>	Common Pug	
<i>Odontopera bidentata</i>	Scalloped Hazel	
<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	The only species caught in moderate numbers with 52 being caught in total.
<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	1
<i>Diarsia rubi</i>	Small Square-spot	1
<i>Xestia triangulum</i>	Double Square-spot	4
<i>Naenia typica</i>	Gothic	New. Larval food plants include a variety of herbaceous and woody species.
<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	2
<i>Apamea remissa</i>	Dusky Brocade	1
<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	New. The species gets its name for the extremely long labial palps (mouth parts) that project forwards from the head. A common species in Northumberland reflecting the ubiquity of its larval food plant, the stinging nettle.



Spinach



Gothic



Snout

Images of all of the moths recorded can be seen at <http://ukmoths.org.uk/>