

Most of the high counts this week were on Monday but fortunately there were other opportunities later in the week. A total of 662 butterflies were seen this week at a density of 6.35 butterflies/km (compared to 2.69/km in 2018) - the highest density for Week 2 since we began recording in 2010.

Twelve different species were seen this week, including Green-veined White and an early Clouded Yellow at Blashford. Full numbers were Brimstone (308), Peacock (142), Speckled Wood (137), Orange-tip (40), Comma (12), Small White (6), Red Admiral (6), Green-veined White (4), Large White (3), Holly Blue (2), Clouded Yellow (1) and Small Tortoiseshell (1).

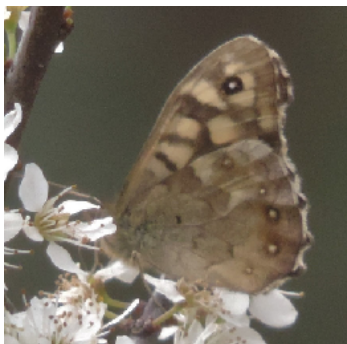


Peacock (Ron Taylor)

Results for Week 2

2019		2018		2019		2018		2019		2018	
Acres Down	2	0	Fields Heath	12	10	Mockbeggar	39	17			
Badminton	27	7	Frohawk	32	8	Normandy Marsh	9	1			
Ballard	11	-	Furzey Gardens	4	-	Perrywood Ivy	13	5			
Barton Common	9	4	Godshill	2	27	Pignal	28	1			
Beaulieu Heath	1	5	Great Linford	11	5	Pimlico Fields	4	-			
Black Down	*	-	Hasley	22	9	Pondhead	16	19			
Blackwater	5	3	Hawkhill	21	7	Pondhead Wood	7	6			
Blashford North	41	14	Hightown Common	0	3	Rockford	4	n/w			
Blashford South	57	12	Holmsley	17	6	Roe North	13	24			
Breamore	22	21	Ibsley	9	n/w	Roe South	33	22			
Broadley	33	8	Janesmoor	1	2	Roydon Commons	15	-			
Broomy Plain	*	-	Janesmoor Plain	1	2	Southern Fields	12	8			
Claypits Bottom	*	-	Keeping Marsh	11	7	Standing Hat	25	10			
Cloven Hill	12	-	Kings Copse	42	7	Studland Common	10	7			
Dibden Bottom	0	0	Lepe	11	3	Vales Moor	1	0			
Dur Hill	*	-	Little Linford	5	4	Warren Farm	12	0			
						Wilverley Plain	*	-			

*'Single species' transects due to start in Week 9. n/w - not walked
 - New transects for 2019 / not monitored in 2018



Speckled Wood
(Leisa Chapple)

Green Hairstreak (the only hairstreak to overwinter as a chrysalis) & Grizzled Skipper (occasional but scarce in the New Forest) have now been seen in Hampshire so something more to look out for. A little bit early, but very soon the first species that have overwintered as caterpillars will be emerging, Pearl-bordered Fritillary (first seen 23 April in 2017 but 08 May last year) and Small Heath.

Good luck to more new recorders walking in Week 3 and also to a number of experienced recorders who are having their first time out for our Group.

Moths to spot: If you're very lucky you may catch sight of a female Muslin Moth. These tend to be on the wing in Hampshire during April and May and are seen in parts of the New Forest and along the Avon Valley. With a wingspan of about 40mm, the female is white, with slightly translucent wings. The males are duller grey in colour and only tend to fly at night. This is probably the last week the Orange Underwing is likely to be seen, although the best chance to see the Emperor Moth will be over the next three to four weeks.



Green-veined White
(Neil Smith)