

There was a huge increase in numbers this week with 38 of the 46 reported routes having their highest returns of the year. A total of 4,578 butterflies were recorded at a density of 43 butterflies/km, nearly three times that of last week and the highest recorded in the group for Week 12, which previously stood at 34.8 in 2018.



Small Skipper - Sue Sutton

Results Week 12 (Preliminary counts subject to final verification)

Count	No of Species	Count	No of Species	Count	No of Species
Acres Down97	3	Fields Heath 167	15	Normandy Marsh34	3
Badminton..... 100	10	Frohawk.....50	6	Perrywood Ivy99	9
Ballard27	4	Furzey Gardens.....	l/d	Pignal141	10
Barton Common42	8	Godshill30	4	Pimlico Fields.....96	9
Beaulieu Heath87	4	Great Linford 17	4	Pondhead.....36	9
Black Down.....217	3	Hasley259	9	Pondhead Wood20	3
Blackwater37	4	Hawkhill43	6	Rockford.....105	4
Blashford North.....62	6	Hightown Common.....3	2	Roe North.....23	5
Blashford South.....	a/r	Holmsley.....80	5	Roe South.....136	8
Breamore440	16	Ibsley28	2	Roydon The Commons.....	l/d
Broadley39	7	Janesmoor..... 10	2	Southern Fields.....	l/d
Brockishill94	5	Janesmoor Plain.....0	0	Standing Hat..... 12	3
Broomy Plain 169	3	Keeping Marsh26	2	Studland Common 184	4
Claypits Bottom38	4	Kings Copse.....59	10	Vales Moor.....446	1
Cloven Hill25	6	Lepe139	6	Warren Farm.....31	8
Dibden Bottom.....485	3	Little Linford.....69	7	Wilverley Plain43	2
Dur Hill*	*	Mockbeggar.....233	14		

*'Single species' transects due to start in Week 14 l/d - still subject to lockdown. a/r - awaiting results

Species	Count	No of Routes	Species	Count	No of Routes	Species	Count	No of Routes
Silver-studded Blue.....	1827	19	Small White	61	11	Green-veined White..	11	6
Meadow Brown	1349	40	Gatekeeper.....	36	5	Small Tortoiseshell.....	8	2
Marbled White.....	357	13	Red Admiral.....	34	11	Small Skipper	6	4
Large Skipper.....	218	29	Large White	33	15	Brimstone	5	3
Small/Essex Skipper	207	20	Speckled Wood	31	12	Small Copper.....	5	4
Silver-washed Fritillary...	143	21	White Admiral	15	6	Peacock.....	2	2
Small Heath	106	11	Comma.....	13	8	Common Blue.....	1	1
Ringlet.....	96	13	Dark Green Fritillary ..	13	5	Holly Blue	1	1



Meadow Brown - Samantha Kelley

Three routes (Breamore, Dibden Bottom & Vales Moor) provided 30% of all this week's records with two species (Silver-studded Blue & Meadow Brown) responsible for 72% of the total count. There were a few issues with identification this week, particularly with Skippers & Blues so please be careful and ask your Team Leaders for help if necessary. Even experienced recorders note Small & Essex Skippers as Small/Essex so please only record as Small or Essex if you are very sure of the identity. We will soon need to be vigilant with identification of Meadow Brown, Ringlet & Gatekeeper as they increase in numbers - again your Team Leaders will be pleased to help. It is good to see Dark Green Fritillary over a greater number of transects and a few White Admiral in the woodlands. Also Marbled White are around in good numbers for New Forest. Purple Hairstreak are now flying and we know there are colonies at Warren Farm & Lepe so maybe a chance of a sighting this week.

Moth Report: Thank you for your continued observation and recording of day flying moths. Only one Common Heath was spotted last week, suggesting we are reaching the end of its flight period, but Brown Silver-line , Clouded Buff and Cinnabar continue to be seen. As well as Six-spot Burnet moths, look out for Yellow Shell as the summer progresses as this is an eye-catching and widespread species.