

With the weather as it was, we didn't expect to get so many results for this last week. Thank you all, especially those who went out more than once. While not unexpected, there was another drop in numbers with a total count for all walked transects of 1,485, a density of 12.27 butterflies/km, the lowest for Week 20 since 2014 (7.60). There are still plenty of Grayling around on the heathland transects and a Purple Hairstreak was seen at Warren Farm. Although species diversity is now falling, double figures were still achieved at Mockbeggar, Blashford South and Pimlico Fields. There was a clear distinction between counts of the top five species, with totals well over 100, and the sixth placed Large White with a count of 71.



Small Copper - Mike Curnow

Results Week 20 (Preliminary counts subject to final verification)

Count	No of Species	Count	No of Species	Count	No of Species
Acres Down4	3	Fields Heath35	6	Normandy Marsh19	6
Badminton.....23	5	Frohawk.....11	3	Perrywood Ivy16	7
Ballard16	5	Furzey Gardens.....	l/d	Pignal1	1
Barton Common22	6	Godshill2	1	Pimlico Fields.....41	10
Beaulieu Heath22	5	Great Linford24	5	Pitts Wood.....40	7
Black Down.....63	5	Hasley44	8	Pondhead.....13	6
Blackwater10	4	Hawkhill23	3	Pondhead Wood18	5
Blashford North.....44	8	Hightown Common.....5	1	Rockford.....36	4
Blashford South.....36	11	Holmsley.....63	6	Roe North.....21	5
Breamore140	8	Ibsley38	5	Roe South34	9
Broadley29	4	Janesmoor.....7	5	Roydon The Commons26	7
Brockishill19	6	Janesmoor Plain.....3	3	Southern Fields.....31	6
Broomy Plain30	4	Keeping Marsh24	6	Standing Hat8	3
Claypits Bottom16	6	Kings Copse31	8	Studland Common70	7
Cloven Hill18	5	Lepe36	8	Vales Moor41	7
Dibden Bottom.....8	3	Little Linford.....25	3	Warren Farm.....42	9
Dur Hill.....24	5	Mockbeggar.....112	13	Wilverley Plain21	5

l/d - still subject to lockdown.

Species	Count	No of Routes	Species	Count	No of Routes	Species	Count	No of Routes
Gatekeeper380	46	Common Blue36	9	Peacock.....7	7			
Meadow Brown239	28	Small Copper19	9	Ringlet7	3			
Small White.....187	28	Brown Argus.....18	4	Large Skipper3	1			
Speckled Wood.....176	28	Silver-studded Blue17	6	Comma3	3			
Grayling.....146	15	Brimstone16	9	Small/Essex Skipper...2	1			
Large White.....71	22	Green-veined White13	8	Purple Hairstreak.....1	1			
Small Heath70	14	Silver-washed Fritillary ..11	6	Painted Lady.....1	1			
Holly Blue.....51	25	Red Admiral.....10	6	Small Tortoiseshell.....1	1			

Thank you those who completed a Big Butterfly Count. Please enter any outstanding results as soon as possible as it will speed the process up and enable verification hopefully during October.

Moth Report: The warm weather in Week 20 saw an influx of Silver Y moths which were seen on a number of transects. Please continue to look out for these regular migrants in coming weeks. The other of our regular day flying moth migrants, the delightful Humming-bird Hawk-moth, was not seen on transect but has been spotted in local gardens so is also



Elephant Hawkmoth caterpillar - Mike Gibson

around. At this time of year a number of distinctive moth caterpillars may also be spotted. This week an Elephant Hawk caterpillar was seen on transect, with a Buff Tip moth caterpillar recorded the week before. Records of caterpillars are very welcome but please make clear on the recording sheet that it is the larval and not adult form that has been seen to avoid confusion. Also remember never to touch hairy caterpillars with bare hands as many of the hairs can be irritants.