

# Mothing in Montgomeryshire – 2022 Annual Report

## New Species Recorded in Montgomeryshire During 2022

Overall, it was a pretty quiet year where new species for the county was concerned (especially with the micro moths with only three species added), but we certainly had some great addition in the macro moths, details below.

There were 3 new micro species recorded, the details are. Old bf log numbers in brackets: -

38.029 (0600) - *Elachista luticomella*, recorded at Llanfyllin in the north of the county recorded by MDH on the 19<sup>th</sup>. June. Generally, well distributed and common throughout much of the UK.

49.190 (1101) - *Endothenia ustulana*, recorded at Llanfyllin in the north of the county on the 13<sup>th</sup>. July. Very local throughout the southern half of Britain.



***Endothenia ustulana* - MDH**

35.138 (0833) - *Caryocolum junctella*, recorded at Powis Castle near Welshpool in the east of the county on the 19<sup>th</sup>. August. Only the fifth record for north Wales. A rather local species occurring in parts of England and northern Scotland.

There were 5 new macro species recorded, the details are: -

52.008 (0380) - Red-tipped Clearwing, *Synanthedon formicaeformis*, recorded in 2022 at Cemmaes, in the far west of the county. Only the fourth record for north Wales. National scarce B. Recorded in much of the southern half of England, southern Scotland and parts of Wales.



**Red-tipped Clearwing - SAL**

73.300 (2202) - L-album Wainscot, *Mythimna l-album*, Resident & Migrant, recorded in 2022 at Cemmaes, in the far west of the county. National scarce B. Recorded in mainly coastal areas of southern & eastern England and coastal parts of Wales.

73.297 (2194) - White-point, *Mythimna unipuncta*, first recorded in the far north of the county at Llanfyllin in 2022. Only the c-second record for north Wales National scarce B. Recorded in much of the southern half of England and parts of Wales.

73.295 (2195) - Delicate, *Mythimna vitellina*, Migrant. First recorded in 2022 at Cemmaes, in the far west of the county. Varying numbers each year, sometimes abundant. Recorded in much of England, southern and west Wales and the south of Scotland.

73.009 (2429) - Tunbridge Wells Gem, *Chrysodeixis acuta*, Rare Migrant. First recorded in the far north of the county at Llanfyllin in 2022. This species is new for the whole of north Wales. To date there have only been around 30 Tunbridge Wells Gems recorded in the UK. However, what makes this particular record outstanding is that the recorder SS (Simon Spencer) trapped two on the same night, which is truly remarkable. Recorded at various, mainly coastal sites in England and Wales.



**Tunbridge Wells Gem - SS**

**Notable micro species recorded during the year (where there are 5 or less records in the database).**

37.035 Clover Case-bearer *Coleophora alcyonipennella* 12/08/22, SJ250154, PT, Ardleen – 2<sup>nd</sup>. county record.

49.139 *Cochylis atricapitana* 31/07/22, SH786034, RP2, Llanwrin – 4<sup>th</sup>. county record.

49.04 *Lozotaeniodes formosana* 17/06/22, SJ305121, CBo, Middletown – 4<sup>th</sup>. county record.

49.01 *Philedonides lunana* 29/03/22, SH975262, GS2, Lake Vyrnwy RSPB – 4<sup>th</sup>. county record.

49.09 *Eulia ministrana* 12/06/22, SH956224, MDH, AHM Lake Vyrnwy RSPB – 2<sup>nd</sup>. county record.



**Eulia ministrana MDH**

- 49.2 Cherry Bark Tortrix *Enarmonia formosana* 25/07/22, SH843058, SAL, Cemmaes – 5<sup>th</sup>. county record.  
 49.342 *Cydia fagiglandana* 18/07/22, SH843058, SAL, Cemmaes – 4<sup>th</sup>. county record.  
 63.028 European Corn-borer *Ostrinia nubilalis* 04/09/22, SH845028, PRW, Commins Coch – 2<sup>nd</sup>. county record.  
 62.047 *Assara terebrella* 12/08/22, SJ250154, PT, Ardleen – 2<sup>nd</sup>. county record.  
 45.038 *Hellinsia tephradactyla* 15/09/22, SN737913, ANG JEG, Coed cae'r-bobian, lane nr. – 3<sup>rd</sup>. county record.  
 45.038 *Hellinsia tephradactyla* 15/09/22, SN740989, ANG JEG, Coed cae'r-bobian, lane nr. – 4<sup>th</sup>. county record.

**Notable macro species recorded during the year (where there are 5 or less records in the database).**

- 52.003 Lunar Hornet Moth *Sesia bembeciformis* 21/06/22, SO141994, DMD, Berriew – 5<sup>TH</sup>. county record.  
 70.166 Plain Pug *Eupithecia simpliciata* 18/07/22, SO194950, MEG, Llandyssil – 2<sup>nd</sup>. county record.  
 70.166 Plain Pug *Eupithecia simpliciata* 22/07/22, SO194950, MEG, Llandyssil – 3<sup>rd</sup>. county record.  
 70.159 Cypress Pug *Eupithecia phoeniceata* 12/09/22, SO194950, MEG, Llandyssil – 2<sup>nd</sup> county record.



**Cypress Pug - MEG**

- 73.074 Bordered Straw *Heliothis peltigera* 03/06/22, SO225965, JeH, Montgomery – 2<sup>nd</sup>. county record.  
 73.074 Bordered Straw *Heliothis peltigera* 23/06/22, SO194950, MEG, Llandyssil – 3<sup>rd</sup>. county record.  
 73.074 Bordered Straw *Heliothis peltigera* 09/08/22, SO194950, MEG, Llandyssil – 4<sup>th</sup>.county record.  
 73.074 Bordered Straw *Heliothis peltigera* 16/08/22, SO194950, MEG, Llandyssil – 5<sup>th</sup>. county record.  
 72.073 Small Marbled *Eublemma parva* 11/07/22, SO194950, MEG, Llandyssil – 3<sup>rd</sup>. county record.



**Small Marbled - MEG**

Key to all recorders in this report

MDH – Mike Haigh  
JEG – Janet Graham  
GS2 – Grove Sykes  
PT - Peter Terry  
CBo – Clare Boyes

PRW – Peter Williams  
JeH – Jeny Heard  
SAL – Simon Layton  
MEG – Meurig Garbutt  
RP2 – Robert Payne

DMD – Daisy Dunn  
SS – Simon Spencer  
BF – Brian Formstone  
ANG – Andrew Graham

**End of Year Statistics for 2022**

Summary of end of year statistics; figures in parenthesis show 2022 totals.

- Numbers of records overall were steeply down for the year by about 500 records, which was reflected in both the macro and micro statistics.
- The breakdown is: - we added a total of 14,985 (19,983) of records to our database. The share between macro and micro records was; 13,132 (17,788) macro and 1,853 (2,195) micros. We now have 274,108 (259,123) macro records and 44,672 (42,819) micro records, giving us a grand total of 346,614 (301,942) records in the database.
- Total number of species now held in our database is 542 (537) macro species and 678 (676) micro species giving us a total of 1222 species recorded in the county.
- Total species recorded in 2022 was 414 (421) macro species, 7 species down on 2021, but still pretty good and 219 (258) micro species, 39 species down on 2021, probably due to less overall recording. Giving a grand total of 633 (679) species for the year – an overall fall of 46 species on the previous year.

The following charts show the 2022 rank of the top five species in various categories recorded in Montgomeryshire.

Please note the previous year's rank/records are shown in parenthesis and a dash indicates that the species was not in top five the previous year. As usual I have separated the macro (left hand charts) from the micro moths (right hand charts) so that you get a better overview of how both groups are doing.

The two charts below show the top five most numerous species 'by records' for the year.

Rank	Log No.	Macro Species	Records
1 (2)	73.342	Large Yellow Underwing	306 (310)
2 (4)	70.226	Brimstone Moth	241 (315)
3 (1)	73.329	Flame Shoulder Common Marbled Carpet	196 (261)
4 (3)	70.097		195 (275)
5 (-)	73.249	Hebrew Character	183 (-)

Rank	Log No.	Micro Species	Records
1 (-)	63.064	Scoparia ambigualis	72 (-)
2 (5)	63.08	Chrysoteuchia culmella	66 (56)
3 (2)	63.067	Eudonia lacustrata	64 (70)
4 (-)	63.074	Eudonia mercurella	56 (-)
5 (3)	63.025	Anania hortulata	55 (59)

In the macro moths the Large Yellow Underwing has gone back to the top spot. Only the Hebrew Character, in at number 5 (of the spring species) did well in this category.

In the micros the top five species were all *Pyralidae*, with *Chrysoteuchia culmella* moving up to the top spot and one species *Eudonia mercurella* coming into number three.

The next two charts show the top five species by the 'quantities' recorded.

Rank	Log No.	Macro Species	Counts
1 (1)	73.342	Large Yellow Underwing	2584 (2670)
2 (4)	73.245	Small Quaker	1735 (924)
3 (-)	73.317	Heart & Dart	973 (-)
4 (-)	73.244	Common Quaker	943 (-)
5 (-)	73.242	Clouded Drab	938 (-)

Rank	Log No.	Micro Species	Counts
1 (4)	63.08	Chrysoteuchia culmella	398 (239)
2 (-)	63.093	Agriphila straminella	352 (-)
3 (-)	63.067	Eudonia lacustrata	350 (-)
4 (2)	63.089	Agriphila tristella	265 (255)
5 (-)	62.001	Aphomia sociella	233 (-)

Quantities recorded for the macro moths were rather mixed again when viewed against 2021 figures, with a lot of movement in the top five. Large Yellow Underwing remained at the top spot and three of the other four places were taken by spring species. Common Quaker and Clouded Drab moved into number four and five respectively and the summer species Heart & Dart moved into third place.

The top four place in the micro species by quantity recorded were all from the *Crambidae*, with *Chrysoteuchia culmella* moving into the top spot with increased figures. Moving in to the top five places were *Agriphila straminella*, *Eudonia lacustrata* and *Aphomia sociella*.

The last two charts show the top five all-time records in our database.

Rank	Log No.	Macro Species	All records
1 (1)	73.342	Large Yellow Underwing	4706 (4389)
2 (2)	73.329	Flame Shoulder	4137 (3932)
3 (3)	70.226	Brimstone Moth Common Marbled Carpet	3933 (3680)
4 (4)	70.097		3613 (3413)
5 (5)	73.249	Hebrew Character	3600 (3407)

Rank	Log No.	Micro Species	All records
1 (1)	63.038	Pleuroptya ruralis	1361 (1330)
2 (2)	63.064	Scoparia ambigualis	1343 (1271)
3 (3)	63.067	Eudonia lacustrata	1297 (1232)
4 (4)	63.089	Agriphila tristella	1216 (1161)
5 (5)	63.08	Chrysoteuchia culmella	1195 (1129)

The top five species macro species in our database 'by records' for both Macro and micro species unchanged.

### The 2022 Moth Group Events – MMG

We managed to run a full programme of public mothing events during the year and all of these were very well attended.

To see reports and species lists of these events please look on the 'Events' page of our website.

News as regards the 'Events team.

A full programme of events will soon be published for 2023 (please see the 'Events' page of our website. Current members of the 'events team' are Julie Pearce, Mark Thomas, Paul Roughley, Phil McGregor, Peter Williams and Daisy Dunn.

MMG Fundraising

I would like to thank all those who have helped to put some funds in our kitty during the last year via donations and 'Easyfundraising'. Running a website, updating reference books and the upkeep of the mothing kit has to be paid from somewhere, so every bit of funding raised is very much appreciated.

To all those who sometimes shop on the internet but have not yet used 'Easyfundraising', please do so, as it costs you nothing extra to go via 'Easyfundraising' and you may be able to purchase your goods even cheaper with some of the deals on offer. If you use the Montgomeryshire Moths link at the bottom of our home page of our website, you can contribute to our funds - every little bit helps!

**MMG cash flow from 01/01/22 to 31/12/22**

Cash in bank - Start Balance 01/01/2022.....£258.97

**Outgoings**

**Butterfly Conservation**..... 50.00

Total expenditure during the year.....£50.00

**Income**

Donations..... £110.00

Easyfundraising.....00.00

Total income + cash in bank.....£368.00

Total expenditure during the year..... 50.00

**End balance at 31/12/22.....£318.97**

The Website

There weren't any major changes to the website during the year, but it carries on being an excellent tool for id and for keeping an eye on events. Also, the Blog, for articles and event reports the group Facebook page for id and sharing information and photos and the Stop Press for any interesting and new species as they are recorded, and, just generally promoting everything 'mothy' the best way we can.

So, I would again, like to say a big thank you to Mike Haigh for all his continued hard work during the year with the website, and for updating and maintaining our database. Also, many thanks to Julie Pearce for her sterling effort as 'events coordinator' and for overseeing our Facebook group page and finally thanks go to all the other members of the 'Events Team', who helped at all the events throughout the season.

Lastly, thanks to all you moth-ers out there for sending us your records each year and I hope that using the MMG facilities has proved helpful to you all.

I hope we all have a great mothing year in 2023.

Peter.