

BENHS Exhibition, 2023

Lepidoptera of interest from East Kent (VC15)

Exhibitor: Sean Clancy

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Microlepidoptera

Acroclita subsequana

The second confirmed VC 15 record, taken in a light-trap in New Romney on 4 September 2023.

Psammodis pulveralis

An example of this occasional immigrant taken at Lydd-on-sea on 8 July 2023.

Herpetogramma licarsisalis

The second VC 15 example of this scarce immigrant taken at light at Dungeness on 29 September 2023.

Euchromius ocella

Examples of this scarce immigrant from New Romney & Lydd on 9 & 11 September 2023 respectively.

Blastobasis vittata

A specimen taken in Folks Wood on 22 August 2023; probably only the second confirmed VC15 record.

Sciota rhenella

A dark, heavily suffused form of this migrant colonist taken at St Margaret's Bay by A.J. Morris on 13 June 2023; one of three records from this VC 15 locality during 2023.

Macromoths

Idaea rusticata

(Least Carpet)

A strongly marked & suffused form taken in New Romney on 27 June 2023.

Anarta odontites

(Marbled Nutmeg)

The first British example of this species taken at light at Lydd-on-sea on 7 July 2023; an upland species across much of southern & central Europe associated with limestone grassland where the larval foodplants *Hippocrepis comosa* & *Coronilla varia* occur; whilst not a recognised migrant its range extends as far north as northern France and it has occurred in the past in southern Belgium.

Peribatodes secundaria

(Feathered Beauty)

An immigrant example of this species that was formerly resident in VC 15; taken by N. Jarman at Kingsdown on 11 June 2023.

Spodoptera littoralis

(Mediterranean Brocade)

A presumed immigrant example taken at St Margaret's Bay by A.J. Morris on 28 June 2023; only the second VC 15 record of a wild-caught adult, following the first in 2020.

Aedia funesta

(Druid)

The second area and fourth Kent example of this species, taken in Lydd on 18 July 2023.

Dysgonia algira

(Passenger)

An example of this scarce migrant recorded at Lydd-on-sea on 7 September 2023; the sixth area record and first since 2006.

Catocala promissa

(Light Crimson Underwing)

An immigrant example taken in Lydd on 13 July 2023; the third area record, with two more recorded later in the month.

Eupithecia abietaria

(Cloaked Pug)

An immigrant example taken at Dungeness on 10 June 2023; only the second area record.

Xestia xanthographa

(Square-spot Rustic)

An unusual form of this species showing solidly dark reniform stigmata on the forewings; taken in Saltwood on 16 September 2023.

Also shown:

Acronicta megacephala

(Poplar Grey)

An extreme, rarely recorded, melanic example taken in Rampside, south Cumbria (VC 69) by L.E. Cross on 31 May 2023.