

Undoubted highlight of the year occurred during the Society visit to Ketton on 6 August, when a single specimen of the valesina form of the Silver Washed Fritillary gave a prolonged viewing to numerous members. This is the first recording of this form in Rutland, though not a great surprise as the form has been increasingly recorded in recent years from counties north of its regular stronghold in southern England.

Both Grizzled and Dingy Skipper remain recorded only from their traditional sites in the three quarries, though Grizzled Skipper was not recorded from Clipsham in 2016. And there was no record this year from the new site for these two species found at Essendine in 2015.

A disappointment this year is the lack of records of Chalkhill Blue in 2016. The first recent record for this species was at BOQ in 2013. A maximum of 6 specimens were recorded in that year, then 5 in 2014, then just a single specimen on one occasion in 2015, and now no records at all this year. Is the colony lost? All observers on deck next July/August please.

After the excitement of the finding of a Purple Emperor at Egleton in 2014 two seasons have now passed without any records to the RNHS. However a report on another website from a highly experienced observer hints that Stretton Wood might be a good place for members to search for this species next year

Overview

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of species recorded	29	33	32	31	30
Number of recorders submitting records [§]					16
Number of sites from which records received [§]					37
Number of records of all species received					686

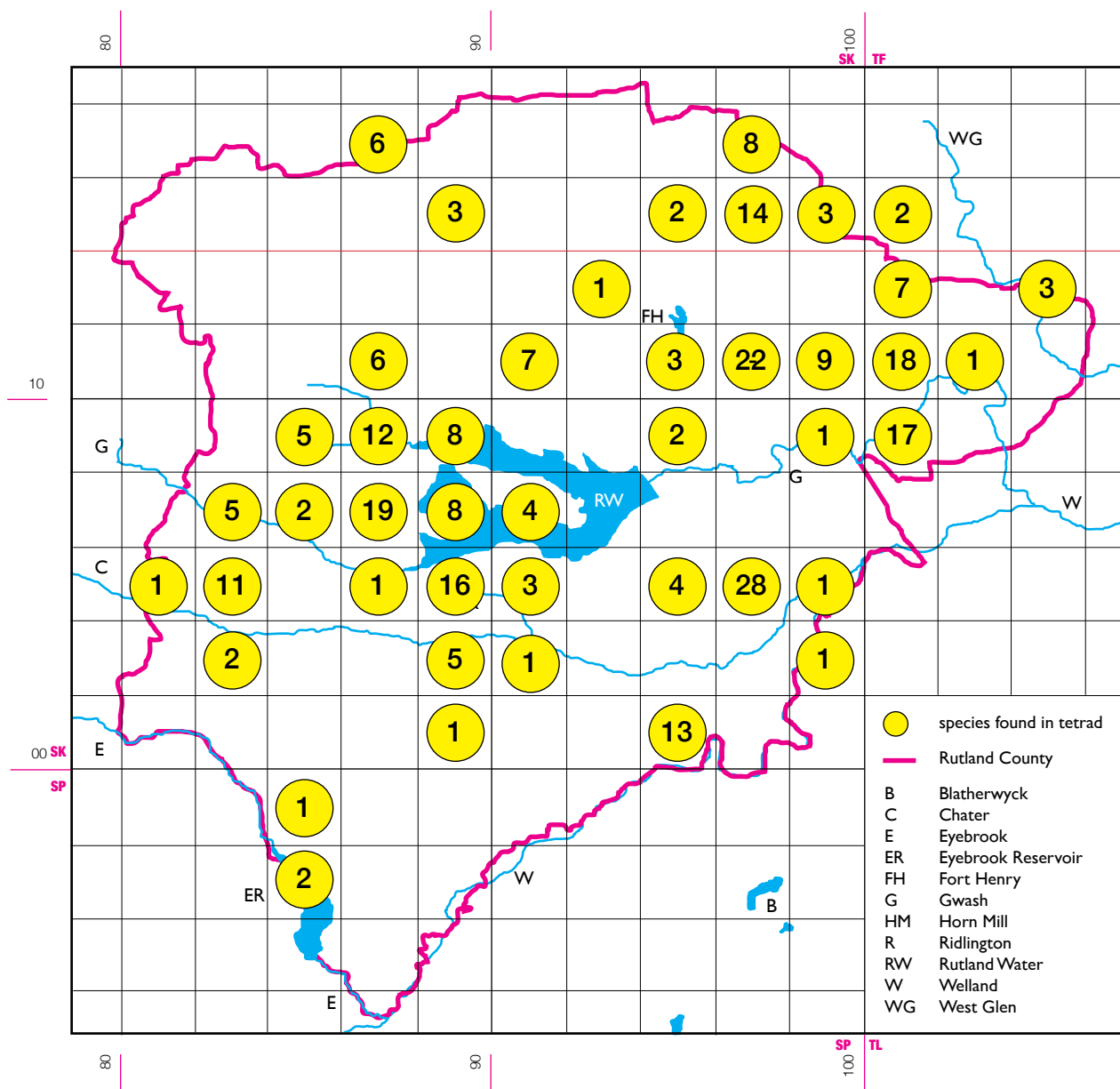
Notes: [§] data incomplete

Species sightings for 2016

	sites seen	number records	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	noteworthy record for this species
Small Tortoiseshell	17	50	20						12			Max 30+ Stretton: 29 Aug
Brimstone	18	52	20							31		
Comma	10	25	31							3		
Orange Tip	19	41		10		7						Max 12 BW: 4 May
Peacock	13	30		10				26				Less widespread than 2015
Small White	19	47		13					28			Widely reported in 2016
Large White	15	44		21					14			
Holly Blue	8	24		23				22				
Green-veined White	13	29			1				12			2016 numbers low
Grizzled Skipper	2	11			4	21						
Dingy Skipper	3	12			5	17						
Speckled Wood	18	41			7					2		Max 15 MO: 14 Sept
Green Hairstreak	2	5			7	7						
Red Admiral	10	29			12					6		Very high numbers Sep/Oct
Large Skipper	8	17			16			6				Modest numbers in 2016
Small Heath	7	17			16				8			
Common Blue	10	23			20				11			
Painted Lady	14	38				4			22			Mostly singletons
Ringlet	14	28				18		6				50 KQ: 27 June
Small Skipper	7	13				18		23				No count >3 in 2016
Marbled White	7	20				21		14				
Meadow Brown	13	35				21			8			
Dark Green Fritillary	2	10				21		6				Still only 2 sites; KQ & BOQ
Brown Argus	4	8				30			11			Singletons only
Gatekeeper	11	20					12	31				
Essex Skipper	2	2					12/24					? Under-recorded in 2016
White Admiral	1	1					14					
Silver Washed Fritillary	3	4					24	6				Valesina form – see intro.
White Letter Hairstreak	3	4						4	1			Singletons only
Small Copper	4	6						18		2		

KEY  First and last dates species observed and intervening months in which recorded

Number of Lepidoptera species identified within tetrad 2016



NOTE: across the County a total of 30 species were observed during 2016

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