

Our Orthoptera ‘season’ started during the Society’s 30 April field meeting at Burley Woods when Anthony Biddle’s sharp eye caught a movement in the dry, muddy ruts of the lower ride. A Slender Groundhopper was promptly ‘potted’ by Martin Grimes.

The May/June period was unusual only nymphs of grasshoppers and crickets were recorded, all seen by Tim Caldicott. I wonder if the poor weather in May was responsible for suppressing both the development to adults and the number of observers?

Orthopterans thrived in July/August period really took off with reports from 7 contributors.

2016 saw 23 new Tetrads plots. 2017 was more modest but the highspot was the discovery of five species at a new site alongside the Hereward Way (on the outskirts of Empingham) in conservation margins, and old mixed hedgerows. Other finds were Leighfield Meadow (one species), and Crown Well Bridge at Wing evidence for two more.

Egleton Reserve, RW was surveyed 23 July. Jane and Duncan Ball organised a wildlife survey at Cottesmore Churchyard, 31 August.

During the Lyndon Reserve Bat Meeting (6 September) members heard four Roesel’s Bush Crickets quietly stridulating in East Meadow at 8.30 pm, and later, at 11.00 pm, Speckled Bush Crickets in trees near the Centre.

Egleton Reserve, RW was surveyed 16 September.

Two new sites were identified late in the year. In Braunston Churchyard during the Society’s field meeting (14 October), and at Home Farm, Barn Hill just outside of Ketton Quarries Reserve, 25 October.

Last stridulating: 29 October. Long-winged Conehead, and Speckled Bush Cricket, both heard in the afternoon, at Lyndon Reserve RW next to the Visitor Centre.

Note: ● new site(s)

Bush Crickets

- 2 Oak Bush Cricket
- 3 Dark Bush Cricket
- 4 Roesel’s Bush Cricket ●
- 5 Long-winged Conehead ●
- 6 Short-winged Conehead
- 7 Speckled Bush Cricket ●
- 8 House Cricket

Groundhoppers

- 9 Common Groundhopper
- 10 Slender Groundhopper ●

Grasshoppers

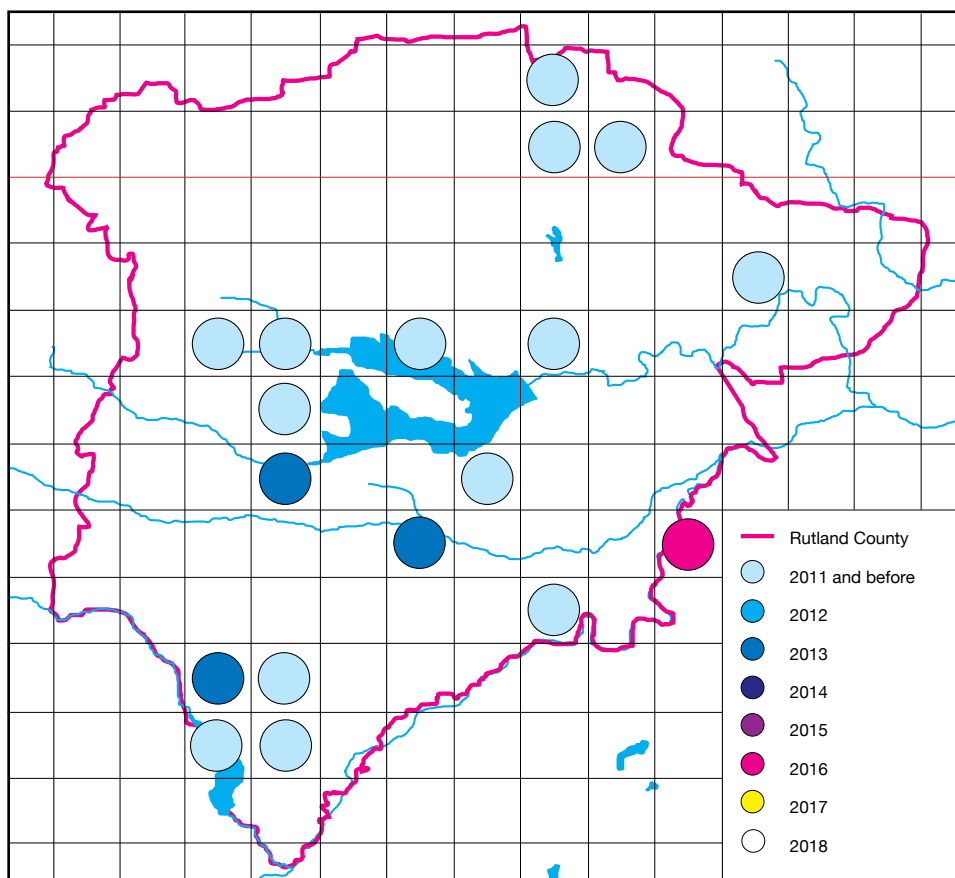
- 11 Common Green Grasshopper ●
- 12 Field Grasshopper ●
- 13 Meadow Grasshopper ●
- 14 Lesser Marsh Grasshopper ●

Bush Crickets

Oak Bush Cricket, *Meconema thalassinum*

Under-recorded, no new sites

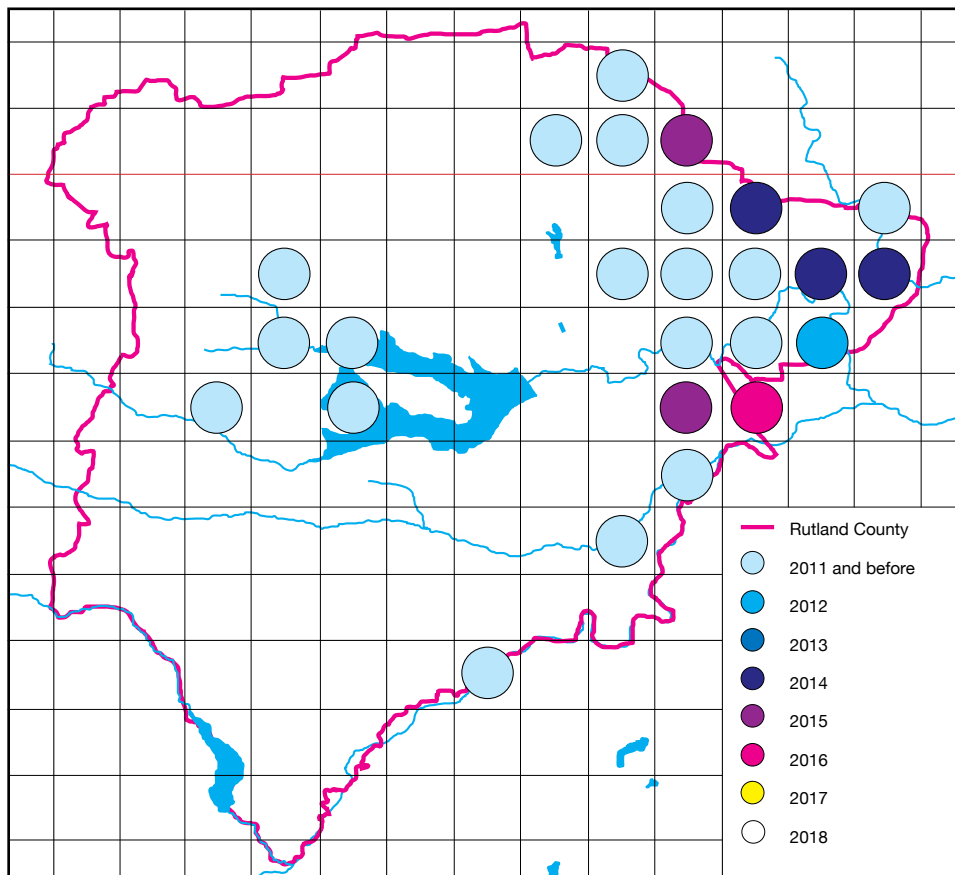
Date first detected in Rutland



Dark Bush Cricket, *Pholidoptera griseoaptera*

Widespread and locally common, no new sites

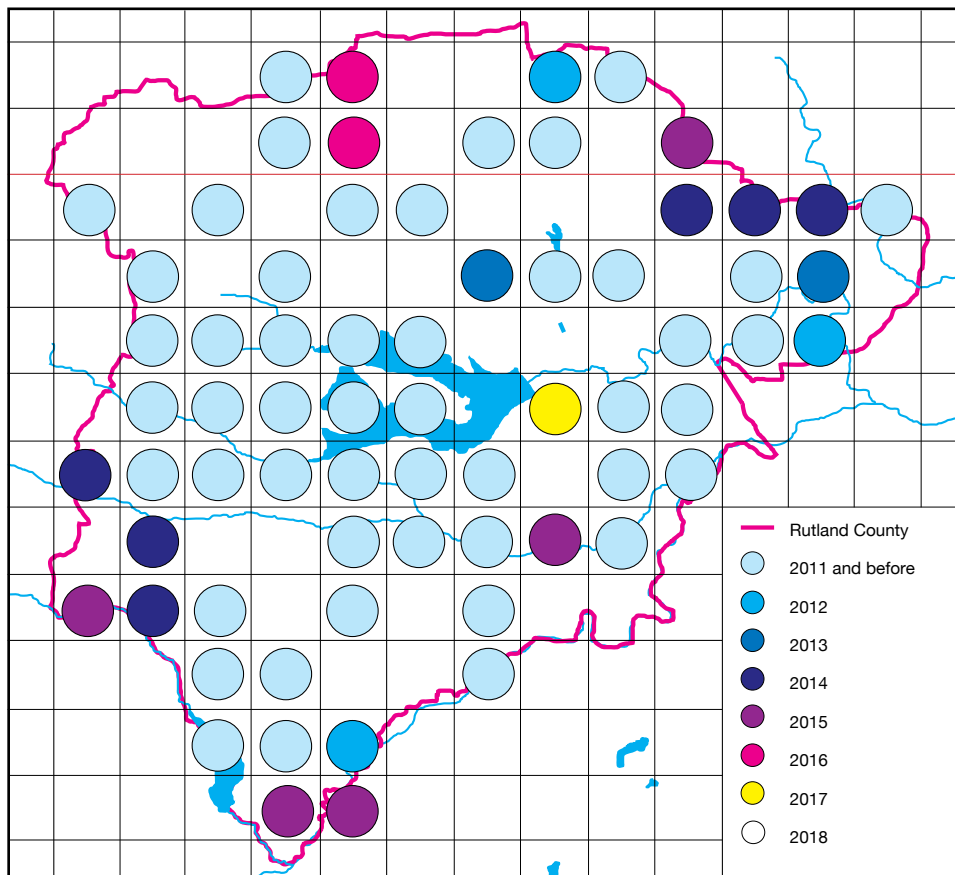
Date first detected in Rutland



Roesel's Bush Cricket, *Metrioptera roeselii*

Widespread and locally extremely common, two new sites, one new tetrad

Date first detected in Rutland



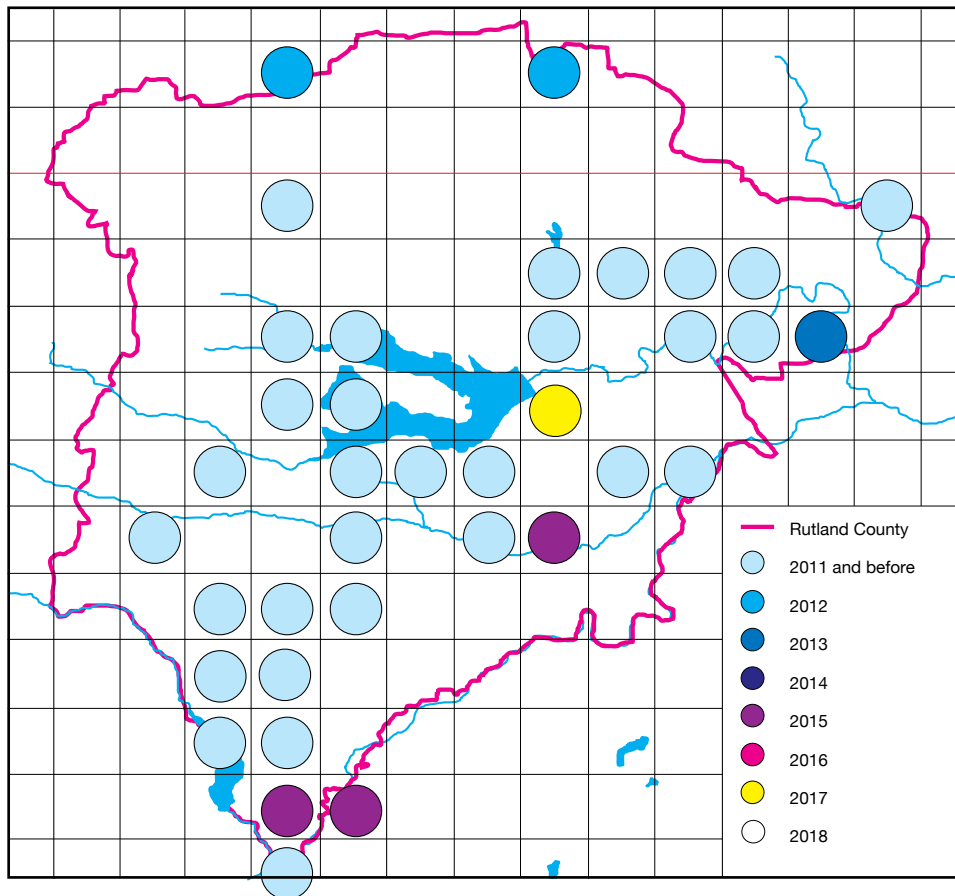
One female, in porch at The Stone House, Reeves Lane, Wing, 26 July, SK 889 032

Masses of stridulating males, in conservation margins along the Hereward Way, just outside Empingham village, off the A606. 1 August, SK 958 078

Long-winged Conehead, *Conocephalus discolor*

Widespread and common, one new tetrad

Date first detected in Rutland

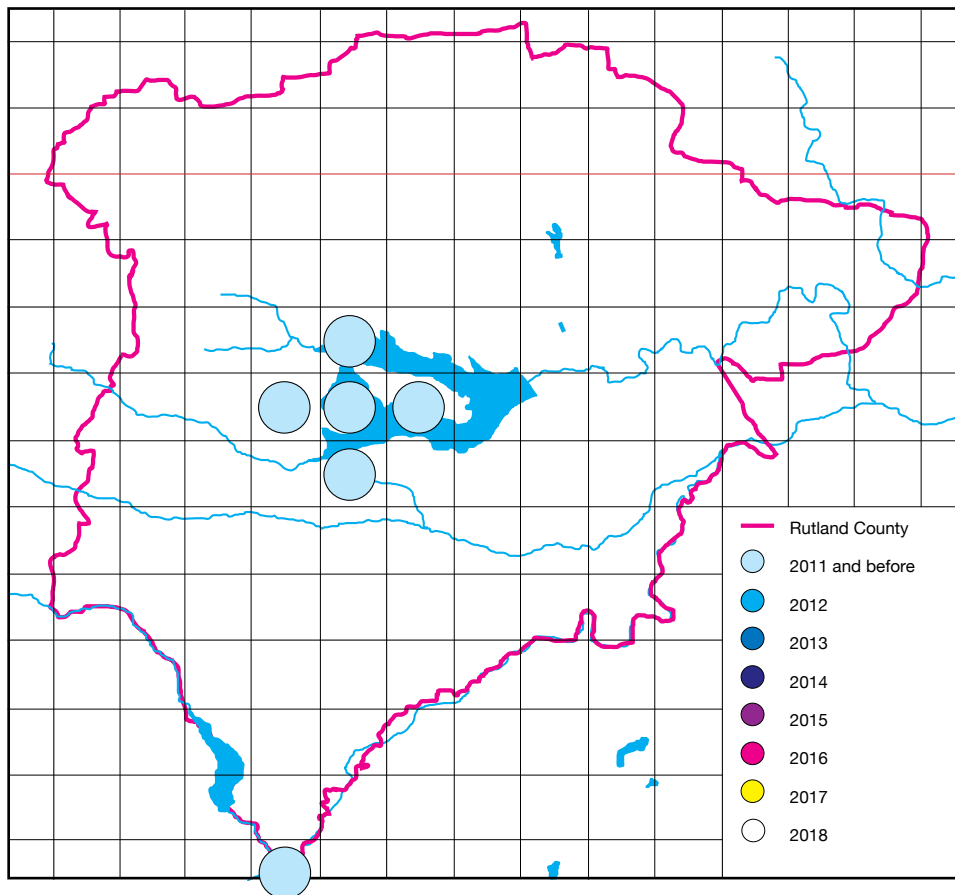


Fifteen stridulating males, in rough grasses at the edge of large wheat field adjacent the Hereward Way. 1 August, SK 958 078

Short-winged Conehead, *Conocephalus dorsalis*

Well established around Rutland Water, no new sites

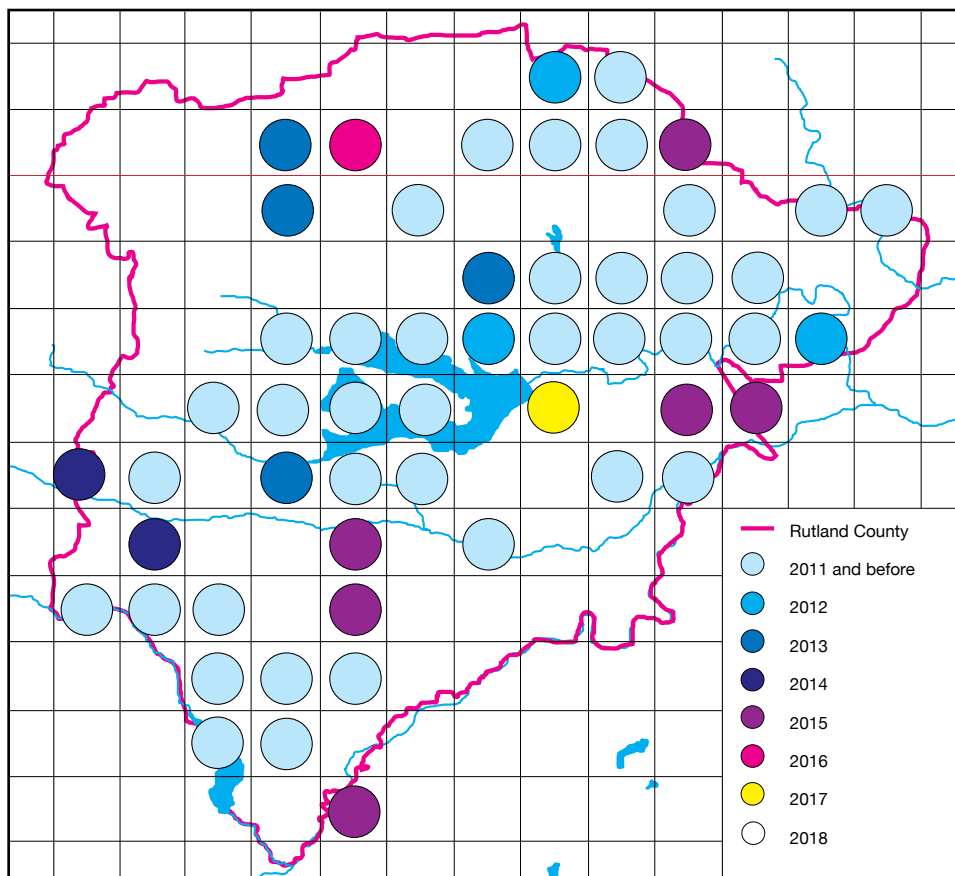
Date first detected in Rutland



Speckled Bush Cricket, *Leptophyes punctatissima*

Widespread and common, three new sites, one new tetrad

Date first detected in Rutland



Large colony detected (35 kHz), in old, mixed Hedgerows adjacent the Hereward Way. 1 August, SK 958 078

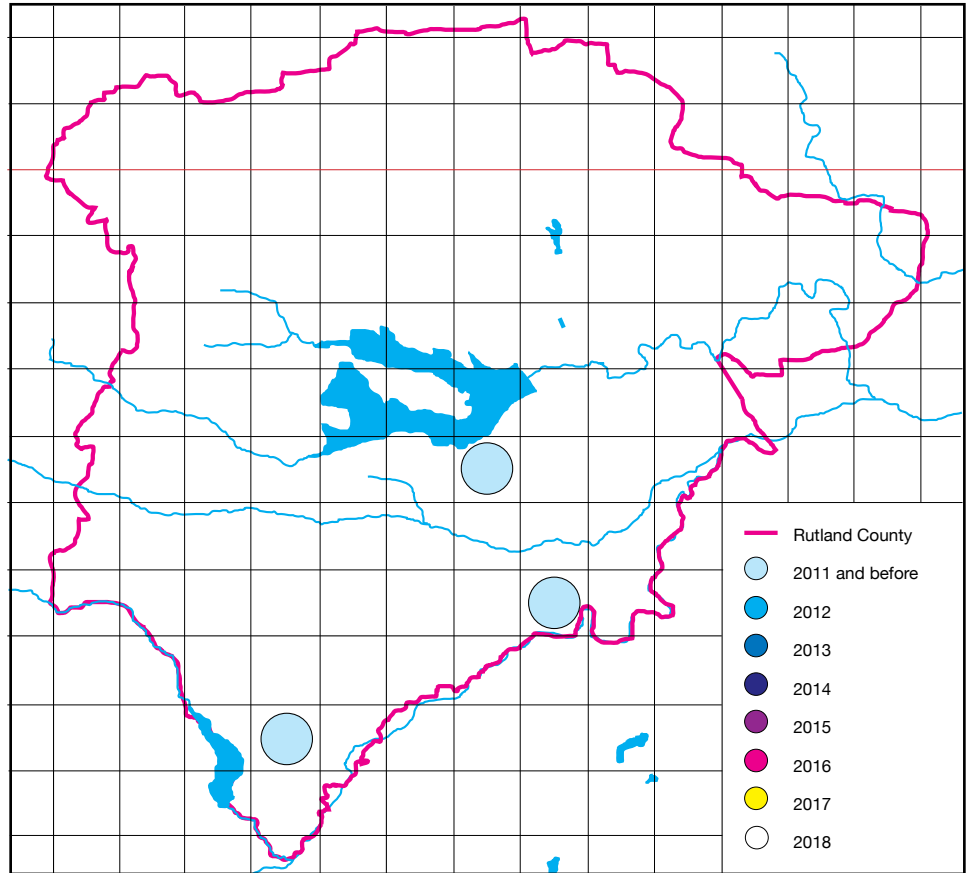
One male found in field, near Tolethorpe Hall, Little Casterton. 10 August, TF 020 102

Six stridulating males, high in Ash tree, Cottesmore Churchyard. 31 August, SK 902 136

House Cricket, *Acheta domesticus*

No sightings, no longer considered wild

Date first detected in Rutland

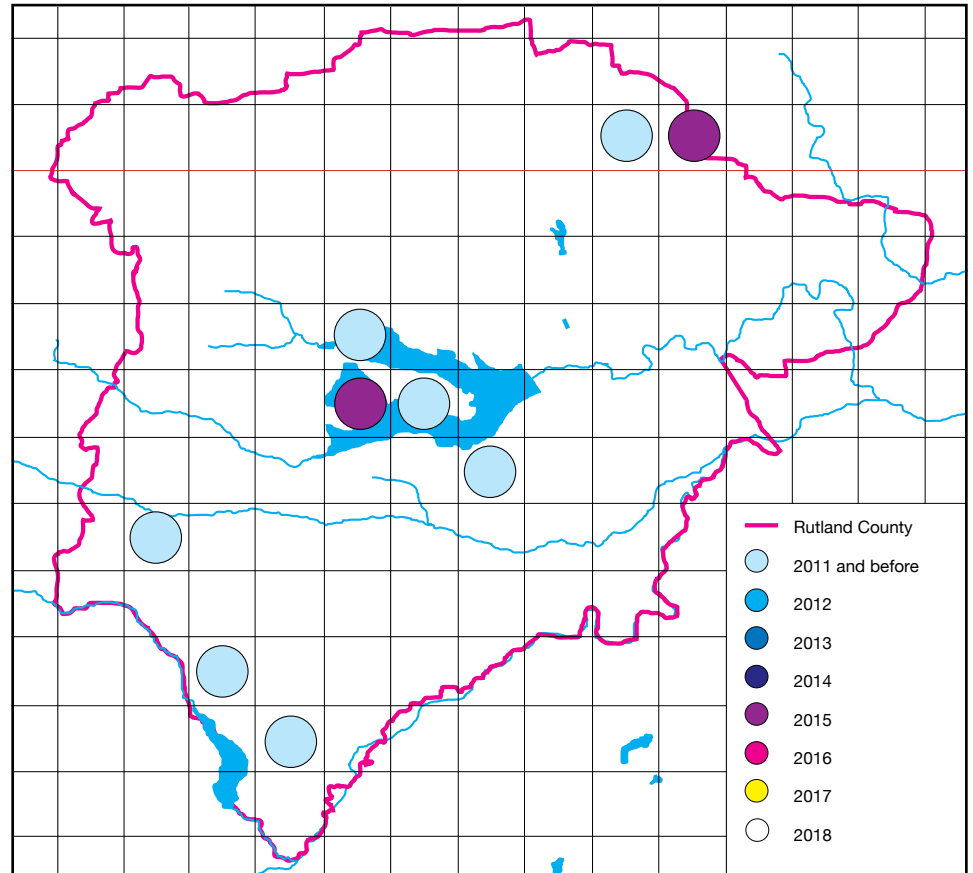


Groundhoppers

Common Groundhopper, *Tetrix undulata*

Under recorded and overlooked, no new sightings

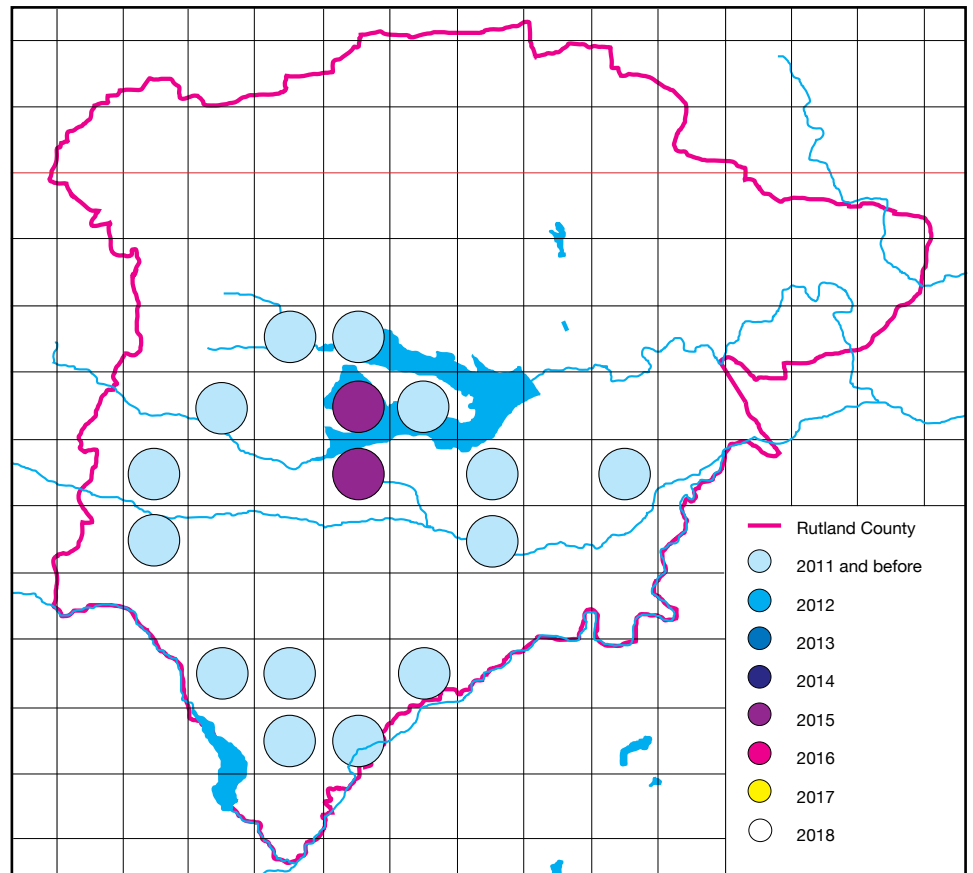
Date first detected in Rutland



Slender Groundhopper, *Tetrix subulata*

Under-recorded due to tiny size, and no stridulating mechanism, one new site

Date first detected in Rutland



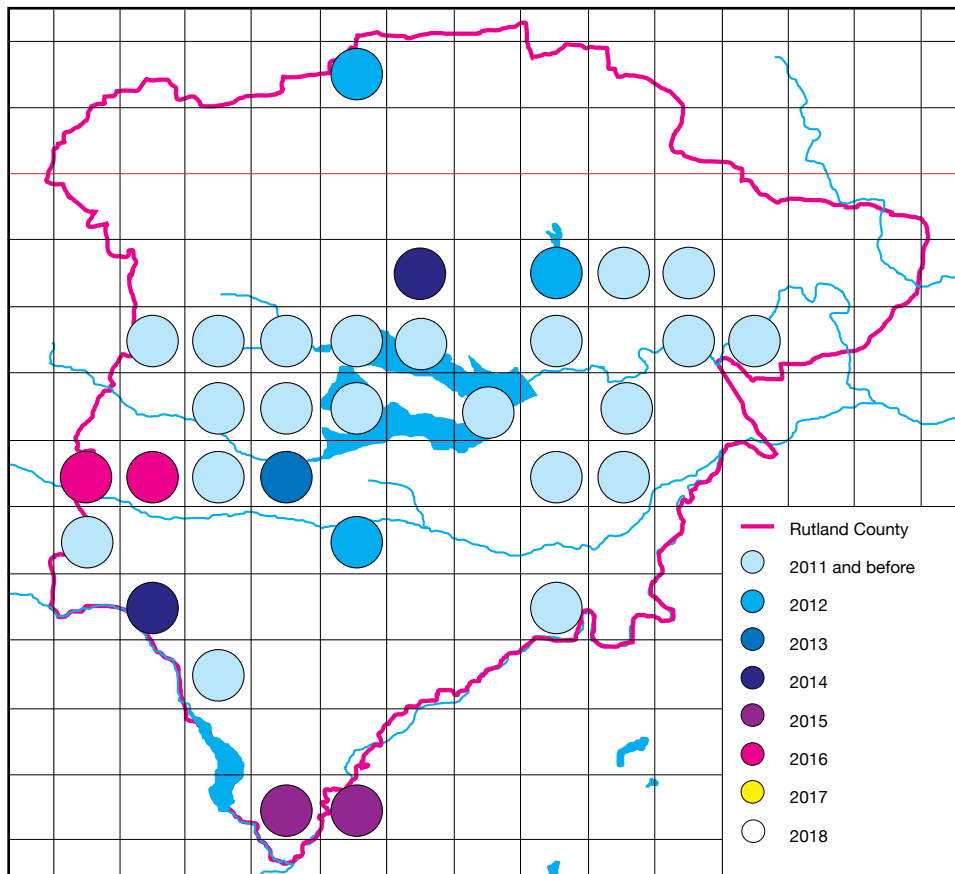
One, found at Crown Well Bridge, Wing. 23 August, SK 884 037

Grasshoppers

Common Green Grasshopper, *Omocestus viridulus*

Widespread but uncommon, two new sites

Date first detected in Rutland



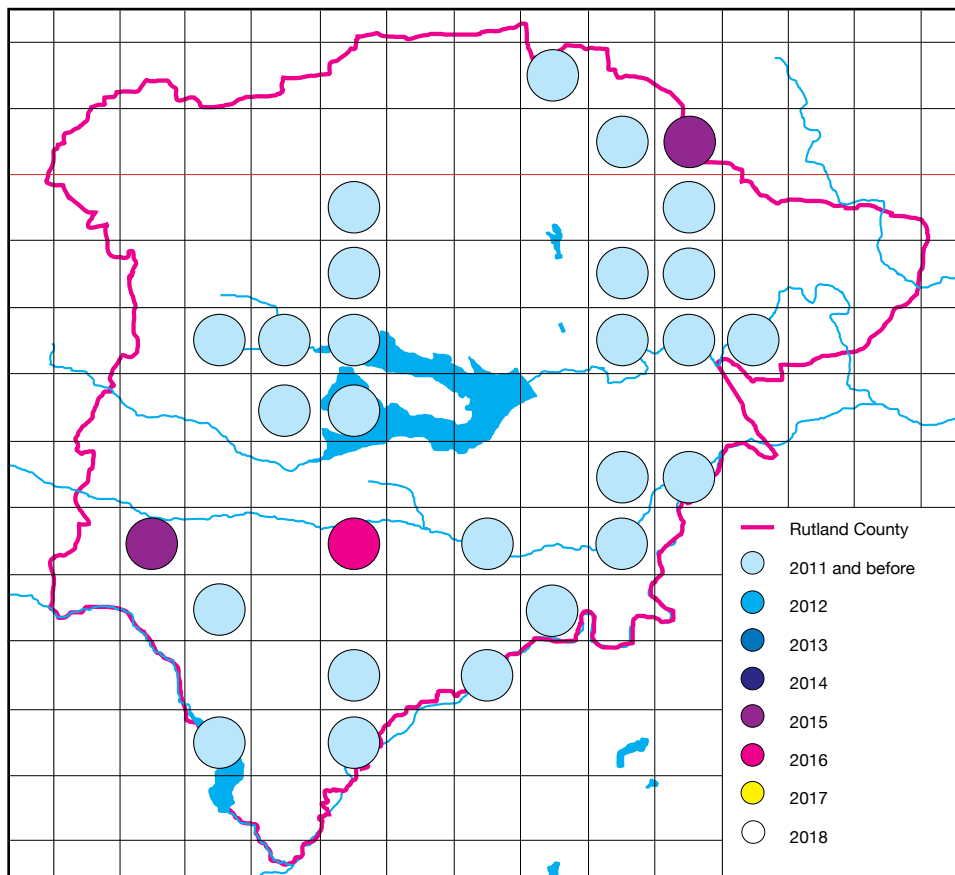
Four stridulating males, 8 July, and 12 on 12 July, all at Leighfield meadow, SK 826 050.

One stridulating male, in Leighfield meadow. 25 August, SK 826 050

Field Grasshopper, *Chorthippus brunneus*

Widespread, locally common, one new site reported

Date first detected in Rutland

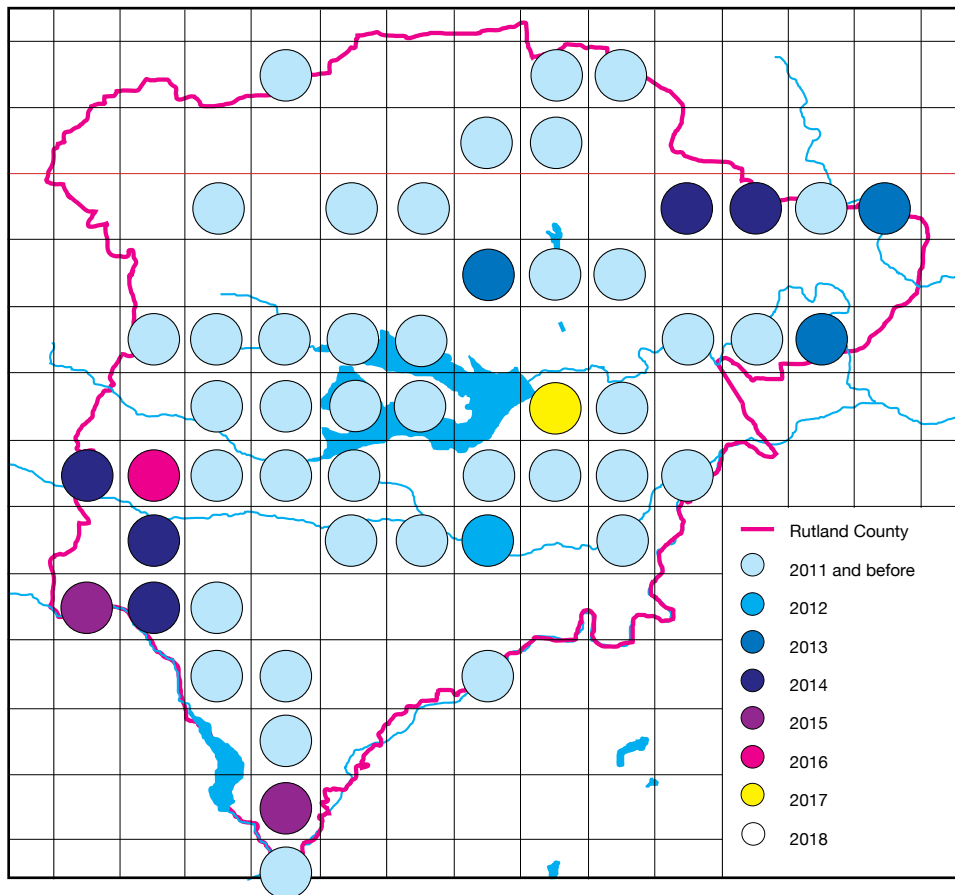


Seven, observed in rough ground, Crown Well Bridge, Wing. 5 August, SK 884 037

Meadow Grasshopper, *Chorthippus parallelus*

Widespread and common, one new tetrad

Date first detected in Rutland

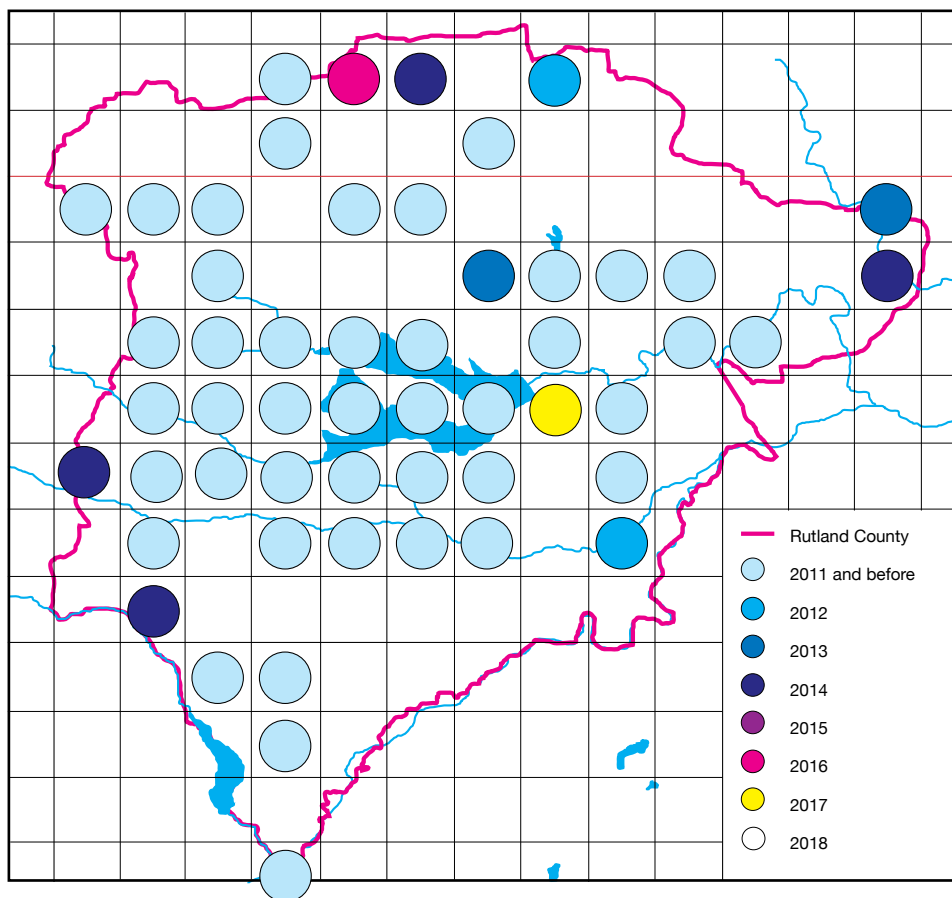


Ten, stridulating males, in conservation margins along the Hereward Way, just outside Empingham village, off the A606. 1 August, SK 958 078

Lesser Marsh Grasshopper, *Chorthippus albomarginatus*

Widespread and common, one new tetrad

Date first detected in Rutland



Five stridulating males, in rough grasses, next to field gate, Hereward Way, just outside Empingham village, off the A606. 1 August, SK 958 078

Contributors

T Caldicott, C Gallimore, M Grimes,
A Tomlinson, D Needham, C Jones, P Rudkin

Compiled by Phil Rudkin

10 Brooke Avenue Stamford PE9 2RU
01780 762998

phil.rudkin@talktalk.net