

Despite the weather – a cool spring, warm and humid early summer and an unsettled late summer and autumn – the year provided good opportunities for trapping with very few trapping sessions at Lyndon being postponed due to bad weather. The RNHS Committee generously provided a new mercury vapour box trap, designed and constructed by the County Recorder, which has proved to be reliable, easy to assemble, and weather proof enabling it to be left out overnight in most conditions. This may have been a factor in the number of captures. Although there were no exceptional catches the year proved to be most successful in terms of both the numbers and variety of species caught.

The Lyndon group now consists of up to five regular trappers with a few more seasonal participants. The greatest number of species recorded from a single session was 63 (18 June), with 245 the most moths trapped (22 August). Of the single records the most noteworthy were *Cream-bordered Green Pea*, a first for the site, *Square-spotted Clay* – a rather dowdy specimen but categorised as Nationally Scarce – and *Dark Spectacle*, the first Rutland record for ten years and only rarely recorded in this part of England.

Observations were also made about the most likely food plants that these moths, or their larvae, were probably consuming. Hawthorn was found to be most popular, being used by roughly a quarter of the recorded species, almost twice the number discovered on Oak. On plants, nettles, docks and bedstraws appeared to be most favoured.

The overall Lyndon species list currently stands at approximately 270. In 2018 the intention is to begin trapping earlier in the year, hopefully to add more!

A display stand erected in the Lyndon Visitor Centre with information and photographs attracted the attention of many visitors to the reserve.

This year a book on the status and distribution of Britain's larger (macro) moths is due to be published. It will almost certainly reveal steep declines in the numbers of many species, but it should also report increased recorder input as moth trapping is becoming a more popular pastime, especially in private gardens.

As can be seen from my records there is a distinct Rutland Water area bias to them. It would be good to see records from other parts of Rutland to better judge how well our moths are faring county-wide. I would be happy to advise new moth-ers on moth identification and about purchasing moth traps which can be supplied by our own county recorder at very reasonable prices – provided that he receives your records!

Results for moths trapped at Lyndon Reserve are tabled (p3 ~ p6).

Records away from Lyndon reserve including day-flying moth

MACRO MOTHS

Ghost Moth	RWeg
Currant Clearwing	Ryll
Narrow-bordered Five- spot Burnet	CQ
Hummingbird Hawkmoth	EW, Man, Seat, Upp
Small Blood-vein	EW
Maiden's Blush	EW
Shaded Broad-bar	BOV, CQ, EW
Garden Carpet	Oak
Yellow Shell	EW
Shoulder Stripe	EW

Rutland macro cont

Spruce Carpet	EW
Purple Bar	EW
Phoenix	EW
Lime-speck Pug	EW
Treble-bar	BP, CQ, KQ
Scorched Carpet	EW
Latticed Heath	CQ
August Thorn	Ext
Swallow-tailed Moth	RWeg
March Moth	EW
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Mottled Umber	EW
Common Heath	CQ
Black Arches	Ext, Rweg
Vapourer	EW
Garden Tiger	EW
Cinnabar Moth	CQ, KQ
Burnet Companion	BOQ, CQ, KQ, Ryll
Mother Shipton	BOQ, KQ
Gold Spot	Wg
Sycamore	EW
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Early Grey	EW
Marbled Beauty	EW
Pale Mottled Willow	EW
Vine's Rustic	EW
Straw Underwing	EW
Large Wainscot	EW
Clouded Drab	EW
Common Quaker	EW
Small Quaker	EW
Hebrew Character	EW
Lychnis	EW

MICRO MOTHS

<i>Nemophora degeerella</i>	EW
Tinted Tubic	Leigh
<i>Esperia sulphurella</i>	EW
Nettle-tap	EW, RWLr
Light Brown Apple Moth	EW
<i>Isotrias rectifasciana</i>	Leigh
Bee Moth	EW
Gold Triangle	EW
Beautiful China-mark	Ext, Leigh
Small Purple & Gold	KQ

LARVAE

Lime Hawk-moth	BarnsG
Elephant Hawk-moth	Emp
Sallow Kitten	BarnsG
Buff-tip	Leigh
Yellow-tail	GtCast
White Ermine	Lcast
Grey Dagger	RWLr

Moths trapped at Lyndon Reserve

MACRO MOTHS: 1371 moths (153 species)

month(s) traps set	05/06	07	08	09/10	total	most	other sites
number of traps	4	4	4	4	caught	trapped	
Orange Swift			8		8	4	
Common Swift	12				12	11	RWeg
Leopard Moth	1				1	1	
Six-spot Burnet		1			1	1	BOV
Chinese Character		1			1	1	EW
Peach Blossom	1				1	1	
Buff Arches	2	4			6	2	Ext
Figure of Eighty	2		1		3	1	
December Moth				12	12	12	EW
Lackey	2				2	2	
Drinker	3	9			12	7	
Eyed Hawk-moth		1			1	1	Ext
Poplar Hawk-moth	6	6	3		15	3	EW, RWeg
Privet Hawk-moth	1	1			2	1	
Elephant Hawk-moth	2	1			3	2	
Dwarf Cream Wave		3			3	2	
Single-dotted Wave		3			3	2	EW
Small Fan-footed Wave	1				1	1	
Riband Wave	2	5	1		8	3	EW, Ext
Lesser Cream Wave			3		3	2	
Blood-vein	8	2	13	1	24	5	EW, PGW, RWeg
Flame Carpet	1				1	1	
Silver-ground Carpet	2				2	2	EW, Oak, RWLr
Common Carpet	3		6		9	5	EW, Oak
July Highflyer	1	8	1		10	4	
Blue-bordered Carpet	2				2	2	
Barred Yellow	2	1			3	2	
Barred Straw	1	1			2	1	EW
Small Phoenix	1	1	1		3	1	Ext
Red-green Carpet				1	1	1	EW
Common Marbled Carpet	4		3	3	10	3	EW
Green Carpet	14		7	1	22	9	EW
Winter Moth				3	3	3	
November Moth sp.				9	9	9	EW
Double-striped Pug			1		1	1	
Green Pug	1	1			2	1	EW
Brindled Pug	1				1	1	
Common Pug	2				2	1	EW
Mottled Pug		1			1	1	EW
Yellow-barred Brindle			1		1	1	
Magpie			5		5	2	RWeg
Clouded Border	6	3			9	4	
Canary-shouldered Thorn		1	3	1	5	1	RWeg
Dusky Thorn			4	2	6	2	
Brimstone Moth	1	3	24	8	36	8	EW, KQ, Oak
Early Thorn		3			3	1	EW
Purple Thorn		1			1	1	RWeg
Scalloped Oak		10			10	5	EW, Ext

Lyndon macro cont

month(s) traps set number of traps	05/06	07	08	09/10	total caught	most trapped	other sites
Feathered Thorn				3	3	3	EW
Peppered Moth	1				1	1	
Scarce Umber				1	1	1	
Willow Beauty	4				4	3	EW
Engrailed	1				1	1	
Common Wave	1	1	3		5	2	RWLR
Clouded Silver	7		1		8	6	
Light Emerald	1		2	5	8	3	EW
Common Emerald	1				1	1	
Puss Moth	2				2	2	
Pebble Prominent	1	4	1		6	3	
Swallow Prominent	1	1	1		3	1	EW
Lesser Swallow Prominent			1		1	1	EW
Pale Prominent	1	4	1		6	1	EW
Coxcomb Prominent	1				1	1	
Buff-tip	2	4			6	2	EW
Herald			1		1	1	EW
Straw Dot	10	3	49		62	19	EW, KQ
Snout	4	6	4	6	20	5	EW
White Satin Moth		1			1	1	
Yellow-tail	1	4			5	3	EW
Pale Tussock	1				1	1	Oak
Buff Ermine	5				5	5	EW
White Ermine	10				10	9	EW
Muslin Moth	2				2	2	
Ruby Tiger		6			6	4	EW, Lang
Buff Footman		4	2		6	3	EW
Dingy Footman		5	3		8	4	EW
Common Footman	2	8			10	6	EW
Scarce Footman			1		1	1	
Beautiful Hook-tip	3	1			4	3	
Red Underwing		1	8	5	14	4	EW
Spectacle		1	3		4	1	
Dark Spectacle	1				1	1	
Burnished Brass	2	2	1	1	6	1	EW
Silver Y	1		1	1	3	1	CQ, EW, Emp, GtCast
Plain Golden Y		1			1	1	EW
Grey/Dark Dagger sp.	1				1	1	
Miller	1				1	1	
Knot Grass	1				1	1	
Poplar Grey	2				2	2	
Coronet	6	6			12	6	EW
Copper Underwing		2	4		6	2	EW
Mouse Moth			3		3	2	EW
Sprawler				2	2	2	
Green-brindled Crescent				5	5	5	
Bordered Sallow	1	6			7	4	
Mottled Rustic	2	8	3		13	4	EW
Uncertain	8	10			18	6	EW
Rustic			3		3	3	EW
Treble Lines	7		1		8	6	EW
Old Lady			1		1	1	

Lyndon macro cont

month(s) traps set	05/06	07	08	09/10	total	most	other sites
number of traps	4	4	4	4	caught	trapped	
Angle Shades	2		1	2	5	2	Cottes, EW, Wg
Small Angle Shades	1				1	1	
Dusky Sallow		1			1	1	EW, Leigh, Pilt
Frosted Orange				4	4	2	
Rosy Rustic			2	1	3	1	
Flounced Rustic			1		1	1	BarnsG, EW
Small Wainscot			1		1	1	
Small Dotted Buff		2			2	2	
Clouded-bordered Brindle	3				3	2	EW
Large Nutmeg	2				2	1	
Rustic Shoulder-knot	1				1	1	EW
Dark Arches	2	10	2		14	4	EW
Light Arches		1			1	1	
Common Rustic		6	5		11	4	EW
Cloaked Minor			1		1	1	
Marbled Minor	7	1			8	3	EW
Tawny Marbled Minor	3				3	2	
Middle-barred Minor	5				5	4	
Barred Sallow				8	8	5	
Pink-barred Sallow				4	4	2	
Sallow				6	6	5	
Beaded Chestnut				8	8	4	EW
Red-line Quaker				1	1	1	
Yellow-line Quaker				13	13	11	EW
Lunar Underwing				10	10	9	
Dun-bar		13	1		14	5	EW
Lunar-spotted Pinion		2			2	1	
Centre-barred Sallow				9	9	9	EW
Black Rustic				2	2	2	
Bright-line Brown-eye		1	1		2	1	
Brown-line Bright-eye		1			1	1	EW, Ext
Common Wainscot	4	2	8	5	19	5	EW
Smoky Wainscot	1	50	4		55	22	EW
Clay		1			1	1	
Shoulder-striped Wainscot	2				2	2	
Heart and Dart	4				4	2	EW, Ext
Turnip Moth			1		1	1	
Shuttle-shaped Dart			3		3	1	
Flame	7				7	4	EW
Flame Shoulder	48	5	118	2	173	48	EW
Small Square-spot	5		7		12	5	EW, RWeg
Large Yellow Underwing	4	8	128	22	162	54	BarnsG, EW
Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing		1			1	1	
Lesser Yellow Underwing			5	1	6	2	EW
Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing		6	28		34	11	EW
Dotted Clay			2		2	1	
Square-spotted Clay			3		3	1	
Square-spot Rustic			22	6	28	20	EW
Six-striped Rustic			8		8	4	BarnsG
Setaceous Hebrew Character	1	1	68	26	96	36	BarnsG, EW
Double Square-spot	7	5			12	5	EW
Short-cloaked Moth	1				1	1	
Cream-bordered Green Pea	1				1	1	

MICRO MOTHS: 197 moths (21 species)

month(s) traps set number of traps	05/06	07	08	09/10	total caught	most trapped	other sites
Bird Cherry Ermine	1	1	16		18	7	EW
Hook-marked Straw Moth	1	3			4	1	EW, KQ
Large Fruit-tree Tortrix	1	1			2	1	
Green Oak Tortrix	21				21	20	
Maple Button		11	1		12	4	EW
<i>Acleris literana</i>				1	1	1	
Plum Tortrix	5	1			6	2	
Common Marble			4		4	2	
Bramble Shoot Moth	1				1	1	
Rosy Tabby		1			1	1	
Ash-bark Knot-horn			1		1	1	EW
Garden Grass-veneer	12	10	7		29	10	EW
<i>Agriphila straminella</i>		1			1	1	
Common Grass-veneer			9		9	4	BarnsG, EW
Brown China-mark	1				1	1	RWvc
Small China-mark	6	12	22		40	10	EW, Wg
Small Magpie	3	4			7	3	EW, RWeg
<i>Phlyctaenia perlucidalis</i>	1				1	1	
Mother of Pearl		15	19		34	14	EW
Common Plume		1			1	1	
<i>Cnephasia sp.</i>	2	1			3	2	

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