

Clouded Silver  
May-Jul



Oak Hook-tip  
May-Sep



Bright-line Brown-eye  
May-Sep



Magpie  
Jun-Aug



Angle Shades  
May-Oct



Large Yellow Underwing  
Jun-Nov



Swallow Prominent  
Apr-Aug



Burnished Brass  
Jun-Sep



Ruby Tiger  
Apr-Sep



Poplar Hawk-moth  
May-Sep



Peach Blossom  
May-Sep



Buff Arches  
Jun-Aug



Buff-tip  
May-Jul



White Ermine  
May-Oct



Buff Ermine  
May-Jul



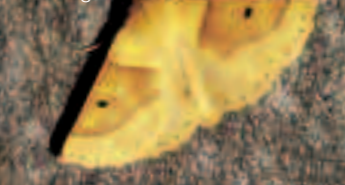
Pink-barred Sallow  
Aug-Oct



Light-brown Apple Moth  
May-Oct



Scalloped Oak  
Jul-Aug



Canary-shouldered Thorn  
Jul-Oct



Grey Dagger  
May-Oct



Privet Hawk-moth  
Jun-Jul



Shark  
Jun-Aug



## Further information

There is plenty of help to identify moths, and other information, on the Moths Count website at [www.mothscount.org](http://www.mothscount.org), which also has links to further sources. The books below are good identification guides:

**British Moths (second edition)  
A photographic guide.**  
Manley, C. 2015 (Bloomsbury)

**Concise Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland.**  
Townsend, M., Waring, P. & Lewington, R. 2007 (British Wildlife Publishing)

**Field Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland.**  
Waring, P., Townsend, M. & Lewington, R. 2009 (British Wildlife Publishing)

**The Colour Identification Guide to Moths of the British Isles.**  
Skinner, B. 2009 (Apollo Books)

Butterfly Conservation is working to save butterflies, moths and their habitats. Why not become a member? More information at [www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org)

The ongoing Moths Count project is supported financially by Butterfly Conservation, Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, Scottish Natural Heritage, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, The Royal Entomological Society and many individual donors, as well as business partners Nectar Creative and Watkins & Doncaster.

## www.mothscount.org

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Elephant Hawk-moth May-Aug

R. Thompson

# garden moths some common species

Your garden is home to many beautiful moths which have important roles in the garden ecosystem.



Hummingbird Hawk-moth Apr-Dec

S. Farrell

# Moths and gardens

Gardens are important for moths. While most butterflies, birds and other wildlife just visit to look for food, our gardens provide a year-round home for many moths, throughout their life-cycles. Moths are also important for gardens. They are a vital part of the garden ecosystem, pollinating flowers and providing food for other garden wildlife like birds, bats, toads and hedgehogs. For example, each brood of Blue Tit chicks will eat about 15,000 moth caterpillars!

Many of the UK's 2,500 species of moths can be found in gardens. In general, gardens with a greater mix of plants and more diverse structure (i.e. shrubs and trees as well as grass and flowers) will support a wider variety of moths. This is because some moth caterpillars only feed on tree leaves, some only on grasses, and others on herbaceous plants. Native trees like oak and willow are especially good for moths, even if they're pruned to limit size.



**Blood-vein**  
May-Nov

You can also increase moth numbers through simple sensitive gardening practices such as reducing chemical use; having plants rather than concrete, decking or gravel; leaving an area for long grass and wild plants; and not tidying up all dead plant matter at the end of the year (caterpillars and pupae spend the winter here). Even a small garden can easily support over a hundred species, and you may find many more if yours adjoins other suitable gardens or has trees nearby. This leaflet shows only a selection of the moths that could be in your garden, but the back page gives sources of information about more species.

Many moths, including garden species, are in serious decline. For example, Garden Tiger numbers have decreased by 92% since the late 1960s. Butterfly Conservation has established the Moths Count project and its National Moth Recording Scheme to raise awareness and improve knowledge and conservation of UK moths. You can contribute to this work by passing on your sightings (records) of garden moths. Records from gardens are very important to help build a picture of which moths are faring well and which are in decline.

For more information about moths, moth recording and the Moths Count project visit [www.mothscount.org](http://www.mothscount.org)

**Species illustrated are relatively common and most are widespread in Britain and Ireland. They are not to scale. Flight periods are given for guidance but may vary to the north and south.**



**Foxglove Pug**  
May-Aug



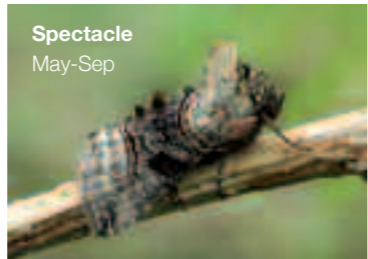
**Eyed Hawk-moth**  
May-Jul



**Merveille du Jour**  
Sep-Oct



**Willow Beauty**  
Jun-Oct



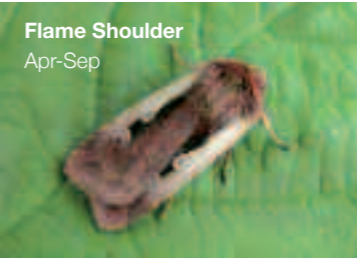
**Spectacle**  
May-Sep



**Light Emerald**  
May-Sep



**Early Grey**  
Mar-May



**Flame Shoulder**  
Apr-Sep



**Chinese Character**  
Apr-Sep



**Heart & Dart**  
May-Sep



**Drinker**  
Jul-Aug



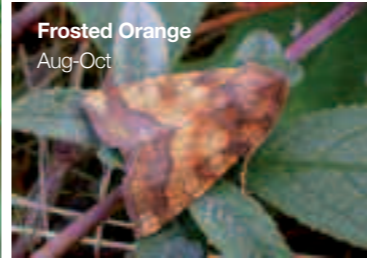
**Swallow-tailed Moth**  
Jun-Aug



**Mint Moth**  
May-Aug



**Garden Tiger**  
Jul-Aug



**Frosted Orange**  
Aug-Oct



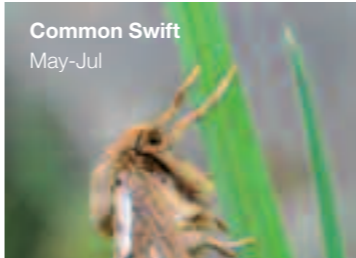
**Common Swift**  
May-Jul



**Flame**  
Apr-Sep



**Common Footman**  
Jul-Aug



**Setaceous Hebrew Character**  
May-Oct



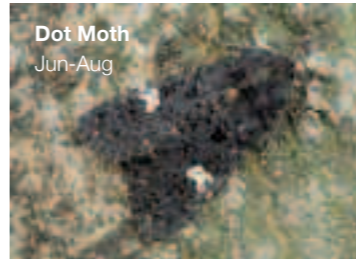
**Herald**  
Mar-Nov



**Lackey**  
Jul-Aug



**Common Rustic**  
Jul-Aug



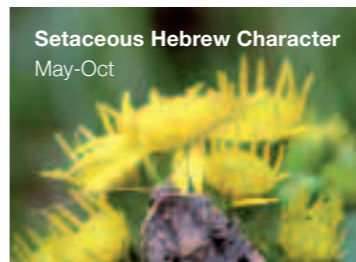
**Dot Moth**  
Jun-Aug



**Brimstone Moth**  
Apr-Oct



**Riband Wave**  
Jun-Oct



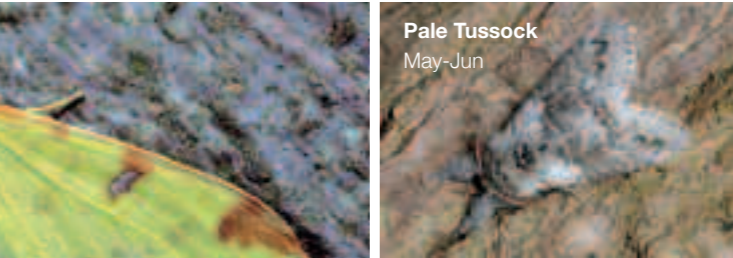
**Green Carpet**  
May-Sep



**Garden Carpet**  
Apr-Sep



**Green Silver-lines**  
May-Jul



**Pale Tussock**  
May-Jun



**Snout**  
Jun-Oct



**Peppered Moth**  
May-Aug



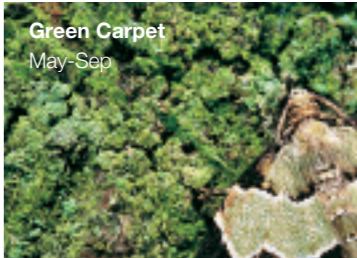
**Yellow Shell**  
Jun-Aug



**Dark Arches**  
Jun-Nov



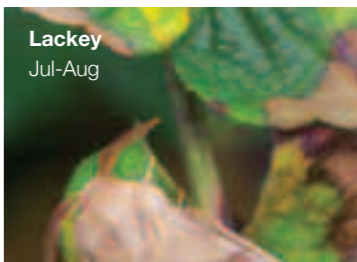
**Red Underwing**  
Aug-Oct



**Garden Carpet**  
Apr-Sep



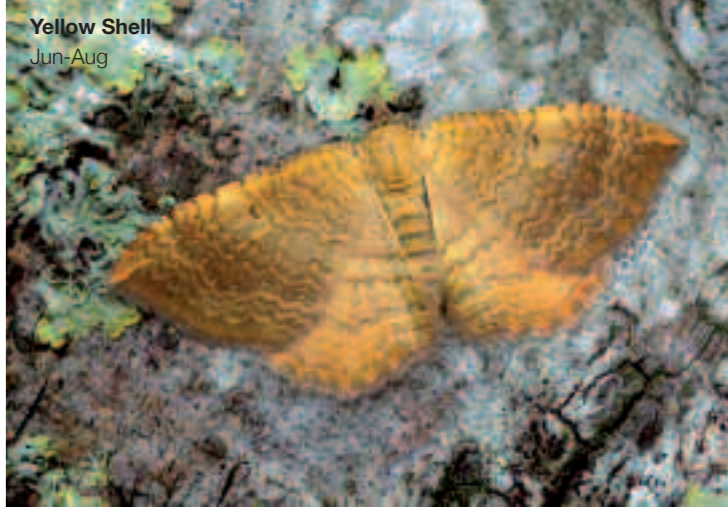
**Snout**  
Jun-Oct



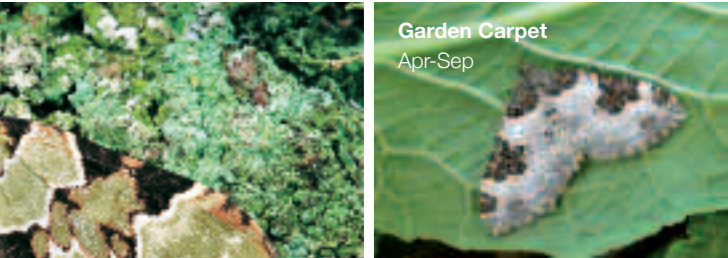
**Lackey**  
Jul-Aug



**Peppered Moth**  
May-Aug



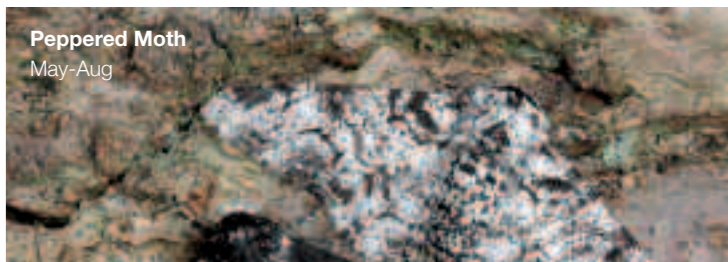
**Yellow Shell**  
Jun-Aug



**Garden Carpet**  
Apr-Sep



**Snout**  
Jun-Oct



**Lackey**  
Jul-Aug



**Peppered Moth**  
May-Aug