

# A Summary of the New UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Moths

## Introduction

The following species have been published as new UK BAP Priority Species (see the Species and Habitat Review 2007 on [www.ukbap.org.uk](http://www.ukbap.org.uk)). The purpose of this document is to provide a brief overview of the status and ecology (where known), as well as identifying initial conservation priorities, although some actions are already underway for some of these species.

### 71 *Stigmella zelleriella*

#### Ecology

The larva mines the leaves of Creeping Willow on coastal sandhills during July and again in September – October. The mine is a gallery which follows the leaf margin before widening to a small blotch. It can be confused with that of *S. salicis*.

#### Past Distribution

Only known in the UK from Sandwich Bay, Kent and an unconfirmed record from Lindisfarne, Northumberland.

#### Current Distribution

Reported from Lindisfarne in 1997. May still occur at Sandwich Bay but confirmation is needed.

#### Initial Conservation Priorities

- determine status, size of population, area of available habitat and threats at Lindisfarne
- establish current status at Sandwich Bay
- if still present at Sandwich Bay, liaise with land owner over management to increase foodplant resource
- raise profile to encourage survey at suitable sites on east coast of England

### 133 *Lampronia capitella*

#### Ecology

The larvae feed on the seeds of currant and Wild Gooseberry. Tenanted fruits appear prematurely ripe. In the following spring it feeds in a bud, usually causing the death of the developing shoot. The adult flies in late May and June. It is found in gardens and also woodlands where the foodplants occur.

#### Past Distribution

Widely distributed in southern England, the Midlands and East Anglia. Also in Glamorgan, Yorkshire and Aberdeenshire.

#### Current Distribution

Recent records from all the above areas except Yorkshire but much reduced in all areas.

#### Initial Conservation Priorities

- collate records to determine current distribution and priorities for re-survey
- wide publicity for members, gardeners, etc., to encourage organic practices which will benefit a range of other scarce / declining moths

### 143a *Nematopogon magna*

#### Ecology

Larval stages unknown. It frequents sheltered parts of moorland and wooded heathland, especially around Bilberry which may be a larval foodplant. The adult flies in May and June from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m.

#### **Past Distribution**

Recorded from Denbighshire, Yorkshire, Perthshire, Morayshire, Aberdeenshire and Inverness-shire.

#### **Current Distribution**

Has been recorded from single sites in Aberdeenshire (1990) and Denbighshire (date unknown) and from two sites in Perthshire (dates unknown) and Inverness-shire (1998) in the period since 1969.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- check with County Recorders in upland areas to ensure BC have all records
- survey former sites to determine current distribution
- undertake autecological studies at a site with a strong population to determine larval foodplant, management requirements, etc.

### **144 *Nemophora fasciella***

#### **Ecology**

Found on marshes, chalk grassland and brownfield sites where the larval foodplant, Black Horehound, is found. The larva feeds initially on the seeds and then constructs a flat, fiddle-shaped case from leaf fragments and continues feeding on the lower and fallen leaves. The adult flies in sunshine in July around the foodplant and nectars on various plants.

#### **Past Distribution**

Known from a number of counties in the south from Devon to Kent, also in East Anglia, West Midlands, Cheshire, Yorkshire and Westmorland.

#### **Current Distribution**

Since 1969 it has been recorded from Kent, Surrey, Essex, Hertfordshire, Middlesex and Suffolk.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- collate records to determine current distribution
- determine any preferences in the type / locality of larval foodplant used
- ensure site protection on occupied sites

### **162 Goat Moth *Cossus cossus***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed internally in a number of deciduous tree species including willows, poplars, ash, oak, etc. Found in a range of habitats including riverbanks, marshes, parkland and woodland edges. The adult flies in June and July and comes sparingly to light. There is now a pheromone lure which seems to have a positive attraction when used in conjunction with light traps.

#### **Past Distribution**

Scattered throughout England, Wales and Scotland as far north as the Great Glen.

#### **Current Distribution**

Recently recorded from 21 vice counties from South Devon to West Sutherland.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- collate records to determine current distribution
- protect all infected trees, perhaps using Tree Preservation Orders if necessary
- undertake research to determine why particular trees are infected and any management that may encourage colonisation of new trees
- promote conservation of the species which is still considered a pest by some local authorities and foresters

### **163 Forester *Adscita statices***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed on Common Sorrel and Sheep's Sorrel in a range of grassland habitats. The adults are day-flying and can be found nectaring on a range of plants such as thistles and knapweed from late May to July.

#### **Past Distribution**

Throughout England, Wales, western Scotland and Northern Ireland.

#### **Current Distribution**

Recently recorded from 32 vice-counties from Somerset to Argyll. Also in Northern Ireland.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- collate records to determine current distribution
- carry out research into optimal management
- ensure that all known sites are suitably managed

### **202 *Eudarcia richardsoni***

#### **Ecology**

The larva probably feeds on *Desmococcus* algae, possibly supplemented with insect remains from spiders webs, from within a portable case. The case can be found in autumn on the lower surface of loose stones. It is found on limestone scree and rubble in exposed coastal localities but where there is habitat stability and some degree of shelter. The adult flies in June and July.

#### **Past Distribution**

Isle of Portland in Dorset and Punfield Cove, Dorset. An endemic species.

#### **Current Distribution**

Still found at Punfield Cove. On Portland it is known from several localities.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- ensure invading Cotoneaster and other scrub is controlled on Portland
- survey suitable sites on the Isle of Portland and elsewhere

### **221 *Nemapogon picarella***

#### **Ecology**

Precise larval requirements are not known but the larva feeds on bracket fungi, especially *Piptoporus betulinus* and bores into the adjacent wood. It has also been recorded from *Inonotus radiatus* on alder, from *Trametes* sp. and from excrescences on oak. The adult flies in June and July.

#### **Past Distribution**

Recorded from Monmouthshire, Staffordshire, Durham, Northumberland, Cumbria, Berwickshire, Perthshire, Aberdeenshire, Banffshire, Moray and Inverness-shire.

### **Current Distribution**

Since 2000 it has been found at one site in Banffshire, one in Aberdeenshire and one in North Lanarkshire. The last previous record was from Braemar in 1992.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- survey previously known and other suitable sites to determine current status
- carry out autecological studies
- ensure dead / dying trees are preserved at sites where the moth is found

### **355 *Phyllonorycter scabiosella***

#### **Ecology**

The larva forms blotch mines on the lower leaves of seedling Small Scabious on chalk downland, reportedly in July – August and again from October – April although there is a suggestion that it is actually only single brooded in England.

#### **Past Distribution**

Surrey and Kent.

#### **Current Distribution**

Known from about 5 sites in Surrey and two in Kent, possibly under-recorded.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- encourage survey of sites in south-east England
- carry out autecological studies to determine appropriate management

### **366 *Phyllonorycter sagitella***

#### **Ecology**

The larva forms blotch mines in the leaves of Aspen, perhaps particularly saplings, in June and again from August to October.

#### **Past Distribution**

Gloucestershire, Worcestershire and Denbighshire.

#### **Current Distribution**

Currently known from three sites in Worcestershire and single sites in Warwickshire and Gloucestershire.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- ensure protection of Aspen at extant sites
- undertake surveys within former range and surrounding areas
- undertake autecological studies to determine the preferred growth phase of Aspen, etc.

### **500 *Coleophora hydrolapathella***

#### **Ecology**

The larva feeds on the seeds of Water Dock from within a silken case which is attached to seed pod near the petiole. It is found from August to October, the case is then attached to the stem of the foodplant where the larva overwinters. The adult flies for a couple of hours prior to darkness during July and early August.

#### **Past Distribution**

Norfolk Broads, Suffolk coastal wetlands and a single individual in County Durham.

### **Current Distribution**

Known from about 6 sites in the Norfolk Broads. There are no recent records from Suffolk. A single example in Co. Durham in 1989 may indicate a wider distribution.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- carry out autecological studies to determine management requirements
- encourage survey of suitable habitat in East Anglia and more widely

### **538 *Coleophora vibicella***

#### **Ecology**

The larva mines the leaves and also the flowers of Dyer's Greenweed growing in rough pastures and woodland rides, from within a silken case. The pre-hibernation feeding is undescribed and the case is best looked for from mid-May to late June, although vacated cases can still be found in early autumn. The adult flies in late July and August.

#### **Past Distribution**

Dorset, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Sussex, Kent, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

#### **Current Distribution**

Currently known from Dorset (1 site), Hampshire (3 sites), Isle of Wight (1 site) and West Sussex (1 site).

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- find localities within former range that support good populations of Dyer's Greenweed
- carry out surveys to determine current status
- determine ideal management to promote growth of foodplant
- ensure suitable management at all extant sites, in particular avoiding heavy summer grazing

### **527 *Coleophora wockeella***

#### **Ecology**

The larva mines the leaves of Betony along the edges of woodland rides, from within a case formed from fragments of foodplant. It feeds from September to October and after hibernation from mid-April to the end of May. The spring feeding is easier to find. The adult flies in July and comes to light.

#### **Past Distribution**

Essex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Isle of Wight, Dorset, Gloucestershire and Herefordshire.

#### **Current Distribution**

Known from two small areas of one site in Surrey.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- ensure the appropriate management of the single known extant site
- ensure ride management elsewhere at this site encourages the growth of Betony
- undertake surveys at former sites throughout its range

### **653 *Aplota palpella***

#### **Ecology**

The larva feeds in silken tubes amongst sparse growth of moss on the trunks of old trees growing in an open, non-woodland situation, possibly also on walls and rocks. Its presence is revealed by lines of fine-grained greyish frass mixed with silk on the surface of the moss. The

adult flies in July and August and rests on the moss by day. It flies at night but is only weakly attracted to light.

### **Past Distribution**

Kent, Wiltshire, Hampshire, Dorset, Devon, Essex, Middlesex, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire.

### **Current Distribution**

Since 1990 it has been recorded in Sussex, Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire and Staffordshire, although many of these were just single individuals and may not indicate the presence of a colony.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- undertake surveys at former sites
- ensure protection of ancient trees at extant sites
- undertake autecological studies to determine precise requirements and possibly improved methods of recording

## **703 *Agonopterix atomella***

### **Ecology**

The larva feeds on Dyer's Greenweed in leaves spun into a tube along the stem or in spun shoots during April to June (possibly only till mid-May in the south). The adult flies in July and August but is rarely seen.

### **Past Distribution**

Southern England from Dorset eastwards and north to Worcestershire and Cambridgeshire. Apparently absent from the north Midlands but recorded from Cheshire north to Northumberland. In Wales it has been recorded from Monmouthshire and Pembrokeshire. Records from Shropshire are considered to be unreliable.

### **Current Distribution**

Since 1990 it has only been recorded from Sussex, Durham, Cumbria and Dorset.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- find localities within former range that support good populations of Dyer's Greenweed
- carry out surveys to determine current status
- determine ideal management to promote growth of foodplant
- ensure suitable management at all extant sites

## **715 *Agonopterix capreolella***

### **Ecology**

The larva feeds in a rolled or folded basal leaf of Burnet Saxifrage in calcareous districts during July and early August. The adult flies from August to May, hibernating through the winter. In the spring it can be disturbed on warm afternoons and has been recorded flying in sunshine.

### **Past Distribution**

Widely, but thinly, scattered throughout England, also Pembrokeshire and Co. Antrim. Known English records from Dorset, Hampshire, Kent, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Gloucestershire, Cheshire, SW Yorkshire and Westmoreland.

The record from Shropshire is considered to be unreliable.

### **Current Distribution**

The only recent records are from the Isle of Wight and Kent.

**Initial Conservation Priorities**

- carry out surveys of former and potential sites to determine current distribution
- autecological studies to determine management requirements

**848 *Syncopacma albipalpella*****Ecology**

The larva feeds on Petty Whin, spinning together leaves which it then mines, turning them bright yellow. Larvae occur from September to June but are probably best looked for in the spring. The adult flies in July.

**Past Distribution**

Formerly known with certainty from Hampshire, Sussex, Surrey, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Yorkshire and Durham. There are unconfirmed records from Devon, Kent, Suffolk, Warwickshire and Lancashire.

**Current Distribution**

Only now known from a single site in Hertfordshire.

**Initial Conservation Priorities**

- determine the best form of management to promote Petty Whin reproduction
- implement this management at the one remaining Hertfordshire site
- find localities within former range that support good populations of Petty Whin
- carry out surveys of former and potential sites

**848a *Syncopacma suecicella*****Ecology**

The larva feeds between spun leaves of Hairy Greenweed, often mining them, usually at or near the tip of a stem. Fully fed larvae are found in May and June. The adult flies in June and July.

**Past Distribution**

Known from one area on the Lizard, Cornwall.

**Current Distribution**

As past distribution.

**Initial Conservation Priorities**

- ensure appropriate management for foodplant takes place
- survey additional sites where the foodplant occurs

**916 *Scythris siccella*****Ecology**

The larvae feed within silken tubes and have been found under Bird's-foot Trefoil, Kidney Vetch, Rest Harrow, Cat's-ear, Buck's-horn Plantain and Sea Thrift during May. Larvae are only found where the plants are growing in bare sand. The adult flies in sunshine in July and rests on flowers, especially those of Common Cat's-ear, Sheep's-bit and Hoary Cinquefoil.

**Past Distribution**

Dorset and the Brecks area of Suffolk.

**Current Distribution**

Now known only from one small site in Dorset.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- autecological studies to determine precise requirements
- encourage surveys of potential areas
- create experimental scrapes at known site to encourage early successional vegetation

### **1066 *Celypha woodiana***

#### **Ecology**

The larva mines the leaves of Mistletoe from autumn until April or May. It is often found in old apple orchards but also in hedgerows, etc. The adult flies in July and August, resting on the trunks of apple trees during the day and flying at night when it comes to light.

#### **Past Distribution**

Known from the south-west Midlands and adjacent counties; Somerset, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Monmouthshire.

#### **Current Distribution**

Known from Gloucestershire, Somerset, Herefordshire and Worcestershire since 1990.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- obtain all records from County Recorders within past range
- encourage survey throughout former range
- raise profile of species with owners of orchards through the National Orchard Forum, PTES Traditional Orchard Project and other suitable fora
- investigate potential for agri-environment schemes to assist with the conservation of this species

### **1243 *Grapholita pallifrontana***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed in the seed pods of Wild Liquorice during July and August, a slight discoloration of the pod sometimes betrays the presence of the larva. The adults fly in June and July and have been recorded flying over Milk-vetch in afternoon sunshine.

#### **Past Distribution**

Wiltshire, Sussex, Kent, Surrey, Essex, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Northants, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

#### **Current Distribution**

Since 1990 there are records from Wiltshire (although it is now thought to be extinct there), Essex, Bedfordshire, Northants and Gloucestershire.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- obtain all records from County Recorders
- encourage surveys of former sites
- autecological studies to determine precise requirements

### **482 *Epermenia insecurella***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed on Bastard Toadflax, initially mining the leaves and also in the petiole at the shoot tip. Older larvae feed externally. The adults fly in late afternoon sunshine in May – June and July – August.

#### **Past Distribution**

Somerset, Wiltshire, Dorset, Isle of Wight, Sussex, Surrey and Hertfordshire.

### **Current Distribution**

Since 1990 there are records from 6 sites in Wiltshire, Hertfordshire and Dorset.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- collation of records
- encourage survey of previous sites
- autecological studies to determine precise requirements

### **1364 *Pyrausta sanguinalis***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed in silken tubes amongst the flowers of Thyme. It is known from coastal sandhills and limestone pavement. The adults fly in June and early July in sunshine and also at night when they come to light.

#### **Past Distribution**

Flintshire, Cheshire, Durham, Ayrshire, Isle of Man and County Londonderry. The records from Shropshire are considered highly implausible!

#### **Current Distribution**

Now known from single populations in Co. Londonderry and on the Isle of Man. A single record from North Wales suggests a population may still exist on Anglesey.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- resurvey former and potential sites to determine current status
- ensure suitable conservation management is in place at the Co. Londonderry site

### **1381 *Anania funebris***

#### **Ecology**

The larva feeds on the leaves and flowers of Goldenrod. The adult flies during the daytime from mid-May to early July.

#### **Past Distribution**

Widely distributed throughout England, Wales and Scotland.

#### **Current Distribution**

Since 1990 it has only been recorded from Kent, East Sussex, Surrey, Monmouthshire, Glamorgan, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, Merionethshire, Lincolnshire, Lancashire and Argyll.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- encourage survey of former sites throughout range to determine current status
- undertake autecological studies to determine requirements and appropriate management

### **1410 *Agrotera nemoralis***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed on Hornbeam. The adult flies in May and June with a reputed partial second generation in August. It can be beaten from the foodplant during the day and flies at night when it comes to light.

#### **Past Distribution**

Kent, Sussex, Middlesex, Hampshire, Wiltshire, Somerset, Cornwall.

### **Current Distribution**

Only known from a single site in Kent, with a single record from two other sites in Kent suggesting that a second population may exist. Records elsewhere are thought to relate to immigrants.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- undertake autecological studies to determine the preferred growth form of Hornbeam
- survey Blean Woods thoroughly to determine extent of occupied areas
- encourage survey of Hornbeam woods in southern England

### **1447 *Sciota hostilis***

#### **Ecology**

The larva feeds on Aspen. The adult flies in June and comes to light.

#### **Past Distribution**

Kent, Essex, Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire.

#### **Current Distribution**

One site in Warwickshire and possibly one site in Kent.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- undertake autecological studies to determine precise requirements
- survey the Warwickshire site to determine the extent of occupied areas
- carry out surveys in Orlestone Forest to determine whether the species persists
- ensure that Aspen is protected at the remaining site(s)

### **Rest Harrow *Aplasta ononaria***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed on Common Restharrow and are thought to require a warm microclimate. The adult flies in late June and July, with a partial second generation in late August and September. It comes to light.

#### **Past Distribution**

Two colonies on the east Kent coast.

#### **Current Distribution**

As past distribution, there may be a third colony in north Kent.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- determine range at all sites including north Kent
- undertake autecological studies in conjunction with those on Bright Wave
- ensure favourable management at all sites

### **Sussex Emerald *Thalera fimbrialis***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed on Wild Carrot on sparsely vegetated shingle with some disturbance. The adult flies in July and early August, it comes to light and can be found resting on the stems of False Oat-grass.

#### **Past Distribution**

Dungeness area, east Kent.

### **Current Distribution**

As past distribution, there is some evidence of the colony moving or spreading northwards. A second site in Kent was discovered in 2010.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- liaison with all relevant bodies in relation to the decommissioning of the nuclear power stations
- research into habitat creation methods

### **False Mocha *Cyclophora porata***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed on oak, seemingly preferring coppiced or scrub oaks in warm, sheltered locations. The adult flies in May and June, with a partial second generation in late August and September. It comes to light and occasionally sugar.

#### **Past Distribution**

Widely distributed in southern England and Wales.

#### **Current Distribution**

Recorded since 1990 in the following counties; Warwickshire, Gloucestershire, Surrey, Essex, Hampshire, East Sussex, Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Norfolk.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- compilation of records to determine current status and past distribution
- autecological studies
- encourage survey of previously occupied sites

### **Scarce Pug *Eupithecia extensaria***

#### **Ecology**

The larva feeds on Sea Wormwood on the fringes and higher ground of saltmarshes. The adult flies in June and July.

#### **Past Distribution**

Essex, Norfolk, Lincolnshire and one site in Yorkshire.

#### **Current Distribution**

Predominantly around the Wash, may have been lost from Essex and Yorkshire.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- survey all potential sites to ascertain current status
- autecological studies to determine precise requirements
- liaison with Environment Agency and landowners to protect habitat and enhance it where possible

### **Grey Carpet *Lithostege griseata***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed on Flixweed. The adult flies from late May to early July and is frequently disturbed from its foodplant during the day. It flies naturally from dusk but is rarely recorded at light.

#### **Past Distribution**

The Breckland area of Norfolk and Suffolk.

### **Current Distribution**

As previous distribution.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- compilation of records to determine current status
- autecological studies
- encourage survey of previously occupied sites
- encourage land owners to manage extant sites in a suitable manner

### **Sloe Carpet *Aleucis distinctata***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed on Blackthorn. The adult flies around Blackthorn bushes from dusk in April but rarely comes to light.

#### **Past Distribution**

Essex, Suffolk, Surrey, Hampshire, Sussex, Berkshire and possibly Wiltshire and Oxfordshire.

#### **Current Distribution**

Recently recorded from Essex, East Kent, Surrey, West Sussex and Hampshire.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- compilation of records to determine current status and past distribution
- autecological studies
- encourage survey of previously occupied sites
- provide advice to land managers to prevent destruction of habitat

### **Scarce Vapourer *Orgyia recens***

#### **Ecology**

The larva feeds on a range of plants, particularly hawthorn, oak and willow. The males fly in daytime in June and July, with a partial second generation in late summer and early autumn. The females are wingless.

#### **Past Distribution**

South Yorkshire, north Lincolnshire and Norfolk.

#### **Current Distribution**

As past distribution.

#### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- compilation of previous records
- encourage survey of previous sites and surrounding areas
- autecological studies
- ensure protection and appropriate management of occupied hedgerows

### **Small Dark Yellow Underwing *Anarta cordigera***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed on Bearberry, usually between 200 – 650m on stony glacial moraines and dry gravelly areas. The adult flies in sunshine from mid-May to mid-June and visits the flowers of Bearberry.

#### **Past Distribution**

Perthshire, Inverness-shire, Aberdeenshire, Angus, Banffshire and Moray.

### **Current Distribution**

Recently recorded from South Aberdeenshire, Moray, East Inverness-shire and East Ross.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- compilation of previous records
- encourage survey of previous sites and surrounding areas
- autecological studies

### **Concolorous *Chortodes extrema***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed on Purple Small-reed and Wood Small-reed in the drier parts of fens, marshy open areas and clearings in ancient woodland on clay soils. The adult flies from mid-June to mid-July and comes to light.

#### **Past Distribution**

Huntingdonshire, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Leicestershire.

### **Current Distribution**

Recently found in Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Northamptonshire and Leicestershire. Records from East Kent and East Suffolk probably relate to migrants.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- collate records to determine past and current distribution
- undertake surveys of former sites
- autecological studies
- ensure appropriate management of extant sites

### **White-mantled Wainscot *Archanara neurica***

#### **Ecology**

The larva feeds internally in old stems of Common Reed on the edges of reed beds and reed-lined ditches, on or near the coast. It is thought to be associated with the drier parts of reed beds. The adults fly in July and early August and come freely to light.

#### **Past Distribution**

Known from a 15km stretch of the Suffolk coast from Thorpeness to Southwold and from Pevensey Marshes in East Sussex.

#### **Current Distribution**

Still known from the Suffolk coast.

### **Initial Conservation Priorities**

- undertake surveys at known sites to determine range and population size
- autecological studies
- ensure appropriate management of reed beds

### **Fenn's Wainscot *Chortodes brevilinea***

#### **Ecology**

The larvae feed in the stems of Common Reed. Thought to prefer the drier areas of reed beds and the largest population densities often occur where reed is cut every few years or are growing sparsely. The adults fly from mid-July to mid-August and come to light and sugar.

#### **Past Distribution**

Norfolk Broads and Suffolk coast from Dunwich to Benacre.

**Current Distribution**

As above.

**Initial Conservation Priorities**

- undertake surveys at known sites to determine range and population size
- autecological studies
- ensure appropriate management of reed beds

**Sandhill Rustic *Luperina nickerlii leechi*****Ecology**

The larva feeds on Sand Couch on a sand and shingle bar. The adult flies in August and September and rarely comes to light, more commonly being found at rest on the foodplant.

**Past Distribution**

Known from a single site in Cornwall.

**Current Distribution**

As above.

**Initial Conservation Priorities**

- liaise with land owner to ensure breeding areas are protected

**Shoulder-striped Clover *Heliothis maritima*****Ecology**

The larvae feed on the flowers and unripe seeds of Cross-leaved Heath and Ling. Recent work suggests that plants are most suitable seven years after being burnt. The adult flies in sunshine in late June and July.

**Past Distribution**

Dorset, Hampshire, Surrey and Cornwall.

**Current Distribution**

Has been recorded from Dorset, Hampshire and Surrey since 1990.

**Initial Conservation Priorities**

- collate records to determine past and present distribution
- carry out surveys of present and former sites
- further autecological studies to confirm habitat requirements