

Stanford Reservoir Moth Report 2020

2020 was a challenging year for the most part, however the groups regular ventures at Stanford reservoir were not too affected once the 1st lockdown was over so as a group we decided on some ringing sessions we would camp out at the reservoir and run several moth nights.

Moth trapping:

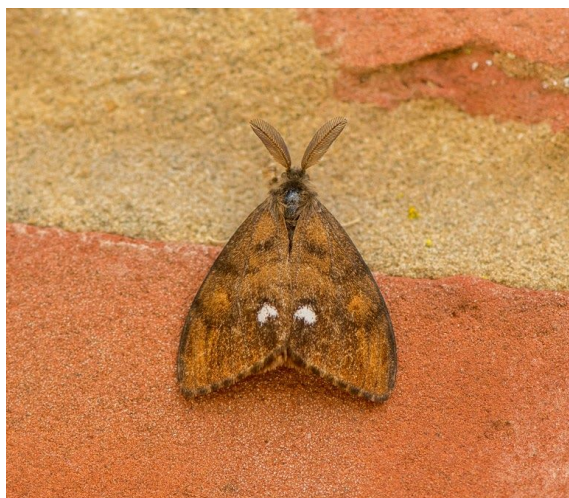
All the group members are avid naturalists however the task of moth trapping and recording was primarily passed to 3 group members - Adam, Theo and Kate. The ringing always takes priority in the group and with it being an impressive year for ringing, we only managed to run 3 moth nights through the summer months on the 12th July, 18th July and 31st August.

The site already has a moth list containing species caught on past moth nights, however the majority of these caught and identified were Macro moths. So Theo in particular took to giving the micro moths a go and we were well rewarded with 50 micro moth species being caught over the 3 nights, 40 of them being new for the site! Highlights of these included *Aethes rubigana* (left) and targeted reedbed specialists *Limnaecia phragmitella* (middle) and *Schoenibus gigantella* (right). Pictured below:



Over the 3 nights we also managed to catch 77 macro species of which 9 species were new for the Reservoir list, Including: Bordered Beauty (top left), Round-winged Muslin (top right) and Vapourer (Bottom Left). This Privet Hawkmoth (Bottom right) was one of the more impressive moths we caught with 2 Elephant and 7 Poplar Hawkmoths also in the traps.





All species recorded were caught using MV moth traps and are listed in the table at the end with the species in bold being new for the reservoir list.

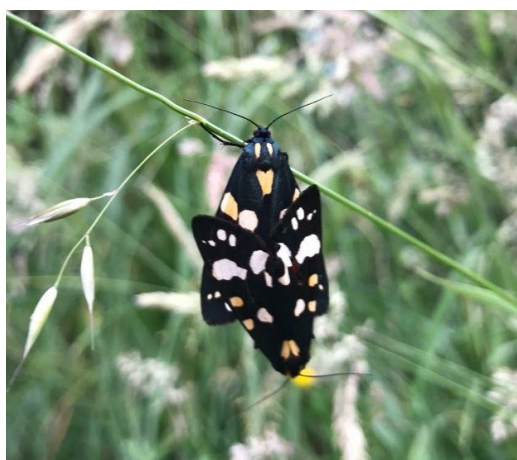
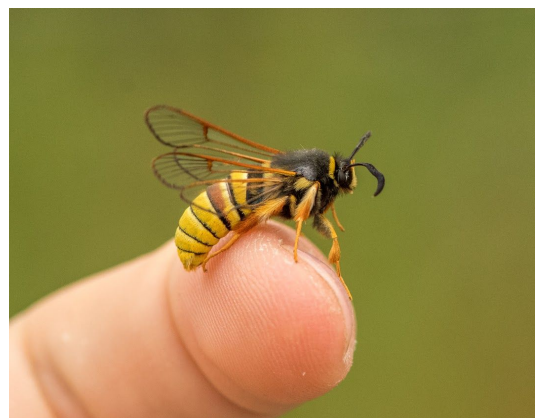
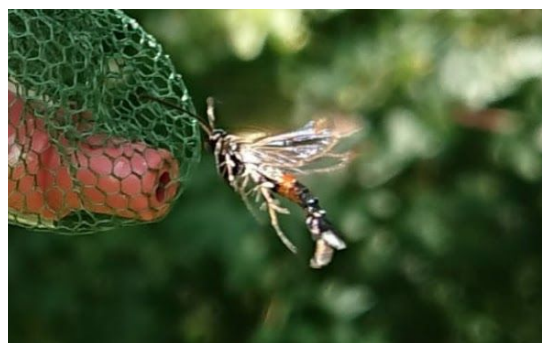
Field records:

One of our group members Simon decided to invest in Clearwing pheromones. Clearwings are a day flying moth that do not respond to light however the best way to see them is by using pheromones which are available from moth equipment suppliers and do not harm the moths.

The pheromones are simply put in a small bag which you can put near/on the moth's food plant and wait for the moths to be attracted. June/July is peak season for these moths, so when the time came Simon decided to try the dam car park where there are plenty of Osiers, Willows and Sallow, ideal for these species.

In 2 visits Simon attracted at least 1 Red-Tipped Clearwing (top) and 3 Lunar Hornet Clearwings (bottom) using the pheromones. Both are new species for the site and for Simon, a childhood dream achieved. (Photo of Red-tipped and video courtesy of Simon

[-https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pdf6tedCnhU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pdf6tedCnhU))



Another field record came courtesy of group member Dawn on a walk around the reservoir on July 1st, when she found a pair of stunning Scarlet Tiger moths. A local scarcity and yet another new species for the reservoir. (Photo courtesy of Dawn)

We aim in 2021 to do more moth nights and more field recording as 2020 gave us a great taster for how rewarding moth recording can be at Stanford Reservoir!

(Photos and report written by Theo de Clermont)

	Macro Sp:	12/07/2020	18/07/2020	31/08/2020		Micro sp:	12/07/2020	18/07/2020	31/08/2020
1	Bordered Beauty		2		78	Accentria ephemerella		1	
2	Bright-line-Brown-Eye	2	2		79	Acleris emargana		1	1
3	Brimstone	2	4	2	80	Acleris forsskaeana	1	1	
4	Broad Bord yellow uwing		4		81	Acrobasis adenella	1	2	
5	Buff footman		1		82	Acrobasis repandanda	1		
6	Buff-tip	4	3		83	Aethes rubigana		2	
7	Buff arches	3	1		84	Aethes smeathmanniana		1	
8	Burnished brass	3	1		85	Agapeta hamana		1	
9	Centre-Barred Sallow			2	86	Agriphila straminea		1	1
10	Chinese Character		3		87	Agriphila tristella		1	
11	Clay	1	2		88	Anania hortulana		1	
12	Cloaked Minor		1		89	Ancylis achatana	1		
13	Clouded border	6			90	Ancylis badiana		1	
14	Clouded silver		1		91	Archips podana		1	
15	Common Footman	14	30		92	Archips xylosteana		2	
16	Common Marbled Carpet			1	93	Argyresthia bonnetella			2
17	Common Rustic agg	7	13		94	Blastobasis adustella			6
18	Coronet		5		95	Carcina quercana	4		
19	Coxcomb prominent		1		96	Calamotropha paludella		1	
20	Dark Arches	13	25		97	Celypha lacuanana		3	1
21	Dingy Footman		21		98	Celypha striana		1	
22	Dingy shears	2			99	Chilo phragmitella		1	
23	Double Square-spot	2	11		100	Chrysoteuchia culmella	3	22	
24	Drinker	3	1		101	Cnephasia agg	3	2	
25	Dun-bar		11		102	Cochylis hybridella	1		
26	Dusky Brocade	1			103	Crassa unitella		3	
27	Dusky Sallow		1		104	Cydia pomonella		2	
28	Early thorn		1		105	Elachista maculicerusella		1	
29	Elephant Hawkmoth		2		106	Epinotia biluniana		1	
30	Engrailed		1		107	Ephesia sp		1	
31	Flame	1			108	Eucosma cana	1	1	
32	Green pug		2		109	Eudonia mercurella	1	4	
33	Heart + dart	3	3		110	Eudonia lacustrata		1	
34	Herald	1			111	Euzophera pinguis		6	
35	July highflyer	4	7		112	Hedya nubiferana	1	1	
36	Lackey		1		113	Hypsophygia costalis		1	
37	Large Twin spot Carpet		1		114	Limnacia phragmitella		2	
38	Large Yellow uwing	8	29	7	115	Notocelia roborana		2	
39	Lesser B-B Yellow uwing		4		116	Paromix sp		1	
40	Lesser yellow uwing		3		117	Pleuroptera ruralis	2	53	
41	Light Arches		1		118	Plutella xylostella		8	
42	Light Emerald		3		119	Prays ruficeps		1	
43	Lunar Spotted pinion		3		120	Rhopobota naevana	1		
44	Marbled minor agg	5	26		121	Schoenibus gigantella		1	
45	Mottled Rustic	2			122	Scoparia ambigua	2		
46	Peppered moth		2		123	Scythropia crataegella	1		
47	Plain Golden y	1			124	Spilonota occelana		3	
48	Poplar Grey	1	1		125	Tinea trinotella		1	
49	Poplar Hawkmoth	2	5		126	Udea Prunalis		6	
50	Privet Hawkmoth	1			127	Yponomeuta evonymella		1	
51	Riband Wave		5		128	Yponomeuta sp		1	
52	Round-winged muslin	13				Total:	24	148	11
53	Ruby tiger	4				Species:	15	42	5
54	Rustic	2	2						
55	Scalloped Oak	1	3						
56	Scarce footman		4			Macro + Micro			
57	Setaceous hebrew character			14		Total:	174	453	56
58	Shaded Broadbar		5			Species:	55	100	15
59	Short-cloaked moth	1							
60	Silver Y		10	1					
61	Single dotted wave	3	1	1					
62	Small Dotted buff		1						
63	Small fan foot wave	1	2						
64	Small Phoenix		3						
65	Small Rivulet	1	3						
66	Smoky Wainscot	12	11						
67	Snout	1	1	7					
68	Spectacle	1							
69	Square-spot Rustic			9					
70	Straw dot		1						
71	Turnip			1					
72	Uncertain	15	8						
73	Vines Rustic	1							
74	White Satin	1	2						
75	Vapourer		1						
76	Yellowshell	1	3						
77	Yellowtail	3	10						
	Total:	150	305	45					
	Species:	40	58	10					