



# Macro-moths of Carphin

S.T. Buckland

# Macro-moths of Carphin

S.T. Buckland

I have included images of the species that I have been able to photograph on Carphin Farm. My thanks go to Nigel Voaden for identifying the more difficult species — and some of the less difficult ones!

Steve Buckland

[steve@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:steve@st-andrews.ac.uk)

11/April/2025

# Contents

Anomalous	4	Flame	23	Pale brindled beauty	39
Barred red	5	Green arches	24	Ruby tiger	40
Black rustic	6			Rustic	41
Brindled pug	7	Heath rustic	25		
Broom moth	8	Hebrew character	26	Satin beauty	42
Brown-line bright-eye	9	Hedge rustic	27	Scotch annulet	43
Brown silver-line	10			Six-striped rustic	44
Bulrush wainscot	11	Ingrailed clay	28	Small quaker	45
		Iron prominent	29	Spectacle	46
Chestnut	12			Square-spot rustic	47
Cloaked minor	13	July belle	30	Streamer	48
Clouded drab	14			Suspected	49
Common carpet	15	Large yellow underwing	31		
Common quaker	16			Triple-spotted clay	50
		Map-winged swift	32	True lover's knot	51
Coxcomb prominent	17	March moth	33	Twin-spotted quaker	52
		Mother shipton	34		
Dotted border	18	Mottled grey	35	Water carpet	53
Double-striped pug	19	Muslin footman	36	White-line dart	54
Dusky brocade	20			Wood tiger	55
		Narrow-winged pug	37		
Ear moth	21			Yellow shell	56
Elephant hawkmoth	22	Oak beauty	38		



## Anomalous

A widespread summer species in a range of habitats, although it is uncommon in Fife.





## Barred red

Common, especially in conifer plantations.



## Black rustic

A common autumn species.





## Brindled pug

A spring species, appearing earlier in the year than most pugs. Associated with oak and hawthorn. This one was at Carphin in late March.





## Broom moth

A common species of open habitats.







## Brown-line bright-eye

A common grassland species.



## Brown silver-line

A common species where bracken occurs.



## Bulrush wainscot

Relatively common in areas with bulrushes.





## Chestnut

A common autumn species that overwinters as an adult and reappears in early spring. It can also be seen on mild days through the winter.





## Cloaked minor

A locally-distributed grassland species that occurs mostly at or near the coast. This one was at Black Craig in early July 2023.



## Clouded drab

A common spring species, most numerous in woodland.





## Common carpet

A common species, often occurring in gardens.



## Common quaker

A common spring species in lowland habitats, and can be very numerous in woodland or other areas with trees and shrubs.







## Coxcomb prominent

A fairly common woodland species that also occurs in gardens.



## Dotted border

A common species of late winter and spring, mostly in woodland habitats.





## Double-striped pug

A common species in a range of habitats.





## Dusky brocade

Widespread in grassy habitats.



## Ear moth

Although mostly a coastal species in Fife, these were on Black Craig.





## Elephant hawkmoth

A large, attractive moth that is relatively common.



## Flame

A common species in a range of habitats in Scotland.



## Green arches

A fairly common species of broadleaved woodland.







## Heath rustic

A locally-distributed species of heath and moorland. These were on Black Craig.





## Hebrew character

A spring moth that is common and often abundant.





## Hedge rustic

A scarce grassland species that has seen large declines in recent decades. These were at Black Craig.





## Ingrailed clay

A common species with variable markings. It occurs mostly on moorland.





## Iron prominent

Occurs in broadleaved woodland and heathland where birches or alders grow.





## July belle

A locally-distributed species, mostly on heathland and moorland. This one was at Black Craig in early July 2023.





## Large yellow underwing

The adult is a common summer species, often flushed from grass during the day. This caterpillar was recorded in early April.



## Map-winged swift

A species that is widespread and fairly common in Fife.





## March moth

A common species in spring, most numerous in open woodland.





## Mother Shipton

Not a common moth in Scotland. This one was at Black Craig.



## Mottled grey

A widespread spring species of moorland and other open non-agricultural habitats, though seldom numerous.





## Muslin footman

A sparsely-distributed species.



## Narrow-winged pug

Common on heathland and moorland.





## Oak beauty

A scarce species in Fife, with most records coming from the south-west of the county, where oak is more plentiful. These were at Carphin in late March 2025.





## Pale brindled beauty

A common species of late winter and early spring, mostly in deciduous woodland.





## Ruby tiger

A fairly common species of open habitats.







## Rustic

A common species that is difficult to separate from the appropriately-named uncertain.



## Satin beauty

A woodland species that has increased its range in Scotland in recent decades.





## Scotch annulet

A mountain species. Those above and right were at Black Craig in July and August 2022, the first records for Fife. The unusual black one below right was there in early July 2023, and the one below also there in mid-August 2023.





## Six-striped rustic

A common species, mostly in wet habitats.



## Small quaker

A widespread woodland species but seldom numerous.





## Spectacle

The caterpillars feed on nettles. Adults are sparsely distributed through Fife.





## Square-spot rustic

A common species where grass occurs.





## Streamer

A common spring species where dog roses grow.







## Suspected

A scarce species in Fife, associated with birch. This worn one was at Black Craig in mid-August 2023.





## Triple-spotted clay

A rare species in east Scotland. It is a species of open, wet broadleaved woodland. The above two were at Black Craig in late July 2022, and the one below was at the same site in early July 2023.





## True lover's knot

A common species of heather moorland.





## Twin-spotted quaker

A mostly southern spring species that has spread northwards, and is now widespread in broadleaved woodland through much of Scotland.





## Water carpet

A common spring species where bedstraws or cleavers grow.



## White-line dart

A scarce species away from the coast. This one was at Black Craig in late July 2022.





## Wood tiger

An uncommon species in Fife. This one was at Black Craig in late June 2021.



## Yellow shell

A common species with several sub-species.