



Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity News



Editor: John Newbould 01305 837384 [Johna72newbould\[at\]yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Johna72newbould@yahoo.co.uk)

November 2020 Garden Bird Watch this month 21st – 28th November

Moth Recording 2020 - A staggering 3436 records.

Rita and Colin	1478 records	212 species
Sue and Jon	504 records	134 species
Dave	89 records	55 species
John N	1465 records	225 species
Dot E	2 records	2 species (day flying)



Flame Brocade



Beautiful marbled

Moth traps were operated at four locations within 1km square SY7083 on suitable nights. Sometimes if it is raining with strong winds, we do not bother but on nights with gentle rain there is often a good list. Sue and Jon are quite close to John N but separated by a high conifer hedge, which for Sue and Jon at least produced Cypress carpet – a moth recently new to Britain. From August onwards, there was a strong possibility of rare migrants. The beautiful marbled above is one such, appearing all along the east coast from East Yorkshire to Dorset, although it is possible the Sutton Poyntz one (on two nights) came from Portland, where they have been considered resident in recent years. From August to October, we recorded the migrant micromoth rusty dot-pearl on ten occasions. Sue and Jon recorded yellow belle – another scarce migrant whilst Rita and Colin had Clancy's rustic on two occasions. We did not operate a trap in the Wessex Water property area due to on-going construction work.

Whilst 90 of these moths were only recorded once sixteen species were recorded more than fifty times with common wainscot peaking in John's trap on 12th and 13th August with sixty

individuals on the 12th and 74 on the 13th. Many moths are dependent on a particular plant species. One moth I am currently keeping an eye on is coronet, which was recorded eighteen times in total at all four moth traps. This is a specialist ash feeder and we are concerned about the impact of ash die-back, which is affecting a number of ash trees in our area and indeed across the County.

We recorded a total of 326 species between us. There is more detailed analysis over the winter but here are the species recorded more than fifty times:

Heart and Dart	138	Vine's rustic	57
Large yellow underwing	108	Flounced rustic	57
Common Wainscot	99	Dark arches	54
Uncertain	90	Common footman	53
Lesser & common rustic	88	Shuttle shaped dart	52
Brimstone	74	Rustic	53
Willow beauty	71	Jersey tiger	50
Lesser yellow underwing	69	White point	50



Small-waved umber



Treble-bar.

European eel *Anguilla anguilla*



On the 11th November, Christine was walking by the pond when she spotted this European or common eel. They have been recorded in the pond and along the River Jordan here for many years. Christine was surprised an eel could live out of the water. Our eels have a complex life cycle, living in clean waters in Britain and then moving to the Sargosso Sea located off the eastern seaboard of the United States, to breed.

The fish is classed as critically endangered but a few fishermen on the Norfolk Broads and the Seven Estuary are licensed to catch a small number, mostly shipped to the Far East.

Garden Bird Watch October 2020.

A total of 39 species were seen in fifteen gardens averaging 15 per garden. The undoubted star of the month was a black redstart on Fox Cottage roof seen by Jon and Dave.



Bullfinch with thanks to Janet for these photos Long-tailed tit.

Black redstart, in Dorset, is considered to be an uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor, which occasional stays to breed. So really Portland Bill is the place to see this bird, but possibly as with the moths, the strong winds have blown one inland towards us.



Many people reported grey wagtail by the pond, photographed here by Janet. I think I must be the only person who has not seen this bird despite walking past the pond most days. Pied wagtail has been in my garden along with Rita and Colin seeing ten along the Puddledocks. The latter is a bird, which may be seen in towns in quite large flocks of >100 birds. A few blackcap and chiffchaff have not migrated. No song thrush and no yellowhammer usually seen in the gardens at the top of Plaisters Lane reported? There have been some good flocks of starlings with over fifty seen flying down the Puddledocks roosting in large ash trees and the poplars by the bridge.

Jon did his Wessex Water survey on the 30th October in awful conditions of strong gusty winds with two fieldfares being the best records. Rita and Colin report skylark still present below Chalbury Hill fort.

FUNGI Records from Rita and Colin. – November 2020.

Rita and Colin have been searching the fields below Chalbury Hillfort for waxcap fungi. These are a key indicator of unimproved grasslands with top Dorset sites having between 25 and 30 species out of a UK total of 46 species making them of international importance. However, the fields with the large numbers are usually acid or just neutral grassland. Our calcareous grassland as here is rarely as rich and these fields will be of local importance.

ROUGH PASTURE TO THE WEST OF OLD GRANARY CLOSE

3/11 and 9/11

Snowy waxcap (20), Cedarwood waxcap (15), Blackening Waxcap (6) and *Lepista sordida* (25)

11/11 Cedarwood waxcap (50), Blackening Waxcap (3), *Lepista sordida* (4).

Earth tongue - *Geoglossum cookeanum* (several groups of 20 to 30 Over 200 total)

FIELD IMMEDIATELY EAST and NORTH OF THE RESERVOIR

9/11 Blackening waxcap (40), Cedarwood waxcap (26), Snowy waxcap (4),

Pleated inkcap *Parasola plicatilis* and Bald Inkcap *Parasola leicephala* few singles; *Lepista sordida* (25)

11/11 Blackening waxcap (12) several very young, Cedarwood Waxcap (30)

Earth tongue - (*Geoglossum cookeanum* several groups of 15 to 25 over 100 overall.)

FIELD SURROUNDING RIMBROW COPSE

2/11 12 Blackening waxcap, 1 Meadow waxcap and 7 Golden Waxcap

3/11 Golden Waxcap (2) and possible Glutinous

Lepista sordida (12), Dung roundheads *Stropharia semiglobata*, Turf Mottlegill *Panaeolus fimicola* occasional Brown Mottlegill *Panaeolina foenisecu*, *Cheilymenia fimicola*.

9/11 Cedarwood waxcap (221), Snowy waxcap (30), Blackening waxcaps (55)

Lepista sordida (30); Earth tongue - *Geoglossum cookeanum* (group of 22)



Cedarwood waxcap



Blackening waxcap (John)

WATERWORKS TOP WOOD 6 and 7/11

King Alfreds Cakes *Daldinia centrica* on Ash and Oak; Jelly Ear *Auricularia auricula-judae*

Candlesnuff fungus *Xylaria hypoxylon*; Turkey Tail *Trametes versicolor* on Hazel and Willow

Blushing Bracket *Daedaleopsis confragosa* on Willow; Sheathed Woodtuft *Kuehneromyces mutabilis* on soil

The Miller *Clitopilus prunulus*

Coral spot *Nectria cinnabarrina*

Cobalt crust *Terana caerulea* on Dead Ash

Hairy Curtain Crust *Stereum hirsutum* on dead wood

Root Rot *Heterobosidion annosum* underside of fallen willow

Peeling Oysterling *Crepidotus mollis*

Variable Oysterling *Crepidotus cesatii*

Rusty Pore Crust *Phellinus ferruginosus*

Oak pin *Cudoniella acicularis*

Black Bulgar *Bulgaria inquinans*

Wood Pink Gill *Entaloma rhoda-polium*

Honeyfungus *Armillaria mellea*

Rosy Crust *Peniophora incarnata*

Toothed Crust *Basidioradulum radula*