

Minimum Temperature

Please remember that the transect method requires the temperature to be **13 C or above**. If it is less than this please don't enter the data as it is invalid. Remember that if the temperature is 13-17 C the % sun has to be at least 60%, but above 17 C the transect can be walked, even with 0% sun, as long as it isn't raining.

Identification

For transects which operate on a rota it is helpful to supply a list of butterflies usually recorded on site to the walkers. Ask walkers if they see a butterfly not on the list, for confirmation of their identification. This can be by a photograph or observation of the butterfly settled making notes/sketches describing its appearance. In addition, it can also be helpful to have a list of the flight times for the species on your site, from previous data, to avoid such species as Small Skipper being recorded too early when it should be Large Skipper.

Data Entry

When entering the data click on the default box entitled, 'all Species' and instead select 'Species Known at this Site'. By doing this you will only have species previously recorded on your transect, so the list is shorter which reduces the risk of entering data in the wrong box. You'll be surprised at the number of Chequered Skippers, Large Heaths, Northern Brown Argus which are unintentionally 'recorded' in Hampshire and Isle of Wight. On completing your data entry double check by looking at your data on 'Annual Summary' under 'Recording'

When to enter data.

A large proportion of transect data is entered weekly which is great. I strongly recommend everyone enters their data weekly or as soon as possible for the following reasons:

- a) The data doesn't mount up becoming a chore in October
- b) Makes life easier for me, if I have a query I can ask you straightaway
- c) Individual walkers can check data from the week before their week so they know what to expect.
Anyone can register with UKBMS to look at the data, but please make it clear who is entering data, and who is just observing, we do not want the data entered more than once
- d) We can observe trends as the season progresses

Day-flying Moths

We would like to generate some Annual Indices for day-flying moths to monitor long term trends. See Andy's Power Point presentation from the Conference on the website to see a set of distinctive moths which you might see. Only record those whose identification you are confident about.

Please note that the Argent and Sable is very rare and is only seen at one site in Hampshire.

Hampshire Branch Website

We have now entered Power Point presentations from the Recorder's Conference held on 17 February 2018, go to www.hantsiow-butterflies.org.uk, >Transects > Recorder's Conference to view and download. The transect page of the Branch website also has up to date 25-year trends for all species uploaded.