

Training Course Programme for Studying Moths in the West Midlands – 2012



Following successful training course programmes in 2010 and 2011, the following programme has been put together to give recorders from Herefordshire, Worcestershire, West Midlands, Shropshire and Staffordshire an opportunity to start up or to improve their knowledge of moths and moth recording. Courses are aimed at total beginners to studying moths and also at recorders of intermediate ability. Whatever your skills, the courses will stretch your knowledge. If you have been on my courses in previous years, then you will be pleased to see courses on some new themes as well, or maybe you fancy a refresher?

May 14th, Monday (T1) – An Introduction to Moth Trapping for Beginners - Introducing moth identification of easier moths, moth traps and books – how to get started with moths! At Severn Valley Country Park, Alveley, Shropshire, (grid ref SO754840) 10am to 4pm. (Maximum of 25 participants – booking essential)

June 10th, Sunday (T2) – Woodland Moths for Intermediates - Moth identification training course for intermediates only, looking at woodland moth species caught the night before. At Woolhope Village Hall, near Haugh Wood, Herefordshire, (grid ref SO611358) 10am to 4pm. (Maximum of 15 participants – booking essential)

June 18th, Monday (T3) – Grassland Moths for Beginners - Moth identification training course for beginners and intermediates, looking at grassland moth species caught the night before. At Severn Valley Country Park, Alveley, Shropshire, (grid ref SO754840). 10am to 4pm. (Maximum of 15 participants – booking essential)

July 29th, Sunday (T4) – Dove Dale Limestone Grassland Moths for Intermediates - Moth identification training course for intermediates only, looking at upland limestone grassland moth species caught the night before. At Peak District venue to be confirmed. 10am to 4pm. (Maximum of 15 participants – booking essential)

July 31st, Tuesday (T5) – Micro Moths for Intermediates - Moth identification training course for intermediates only, looking at micro-moth species caught the night before in the Wyre Forest. At the new Wyre Forest Community Discovery Centre, Worcestershire (grid ref SO750740). 10am to 4pm. (Maximum of 15 participants – booking essential)

August 12th, Sunday (T6) – Wetland Moths for Beginners - Moth identification training course for beginners and intermediates, looking at wetland moth species caught the night before. At Feckenham Village Hall, High Street, Feckenham, near Redditch, Worcestershire (grid ref SP009615). 10am to 4pm. (Maximum of 15 participants – booking essential)

August 14th, Tuesday (T7) – Heathland Moths for Beginners - Moth identification training course for beginners and intermediates, looking at heathland moth species caught the night before. At the John O'Leary Centre, Marquis Drive, Cannock Chase, Staffordshire (grid ref SK006153). 10am to 4pm. (Maximum of 15 participants – booking essential)

You need to book in advance for all courses – please don't just turn up on the day!

Please bring a packed lunch for all courses. Training course places will be offered to applicants who apply first. Trainees can book for just one course, several courses or the whole programme of courses. Trainees that book for all or most of the courses should come out of the programme with a good grounding in moth identification and be able to adequately trap and identify most moths on any site unaided.

Training courses will all be classroom based, but with some examination of live moth specimens (that were trapped the night before). Courses aimed at Beginners or Beginners and Intermediates will include a morning talk introducing macro-moth families to attendees. This is a great introduction for beginners and also a great refresher for intermediates. Courses labelled as being for intermediates only will not include this refresher talk (and therefore would be more of a struggle for beginners to take part in). Instead with these courses there will be more time on the course for hands-on identification practice with live moths. If in doubt as to which course might suit you best, then get in touch with Dave for advice for you.

The 2012 Training Course programme is unfortunately not sponsored (due to environmental spending cuts) and therefore places for participants will need to be charged for all dates. The rate for people attending courses is at £20 per day. Firm bookings for courses will only be accepted on receipt of a cheque for £20 per person per day. Refund of cheques will only be possible if four weeks of notice is given of your cancellation for an event. Please make cheques payable to D. Grundy.

If trainees wish to purchase a moth trap or other moth-ing equipment, then this will be possible on the course if they contact me before the event.

Please book direct with myself, Dave Grundy, by phone, post or preferably email;
DGCountryside, 5, Melrose Avenue, Woodfield Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham, B12 8TG.
Tel: 0121-446-5446 or Mobile: 0777-898-0924 or Email: dgcountryside@btinternet.com

See below for additional courses run by Dave Grundy, outside the West Midlands:

Wetland & Wainscots Training Courses – Sunday July 22nd, or Tuesday July 24th – at Hickling Broad National Nature Reserve, Norfolk - These courses will be jointly run with local Norfolk moth expert Jon Clifton. They are aimed at people with intermediate moth identification skills, who want to learn more about the speciality reed-bed species of this exceptional site. The courses will be held at Hickling Broad NNR classroom next to the Visitor Centre, near Stalham, Norfolk (grid ref TG428222). 10am to 4pm on each date, with a chance to examine the speciality reed-bed species caught on the reserve, from the night before. (Maximum of 20 participants – booking essential). The booking fee for these events is £25, book with Dave as above.

Also Two **Introduction to Moth Trapping for Beginners Courses** – will be arranged soon and jointly run with Norman Lowe, the Breconshire county moth recorder – exact locations and dates to be confirmed. They will probably be in April/May and one in Ceredigion and one in Pembrokeshire. These will be introducing moth identification of easier moths, moth traps and books. 10am to 4pm. (Maximum of 25 participants – booking essential). The booking fee for these events is £25, book with Dave as above.